



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

E

Item 13 of the Draft Provisional Agenda

INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

FIRST SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Madrid, Spain, 12-16 June 2006

ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS IN THE INCLUSION OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE HELD BY NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS IN THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Under Article 11.3 of the Treaty Contracting Parties agreed

“to take appropriate measures to encourage natural and legal persons within their jurisdiction who hold plant genetic resources for food and agriculture listed in Annex I to include such plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in the Multilateral System”.

2. Article 11.4 requires that

“Within two years of the entry into force of the Treaty, the Governing Body shall assess the progress in including the plant genetic resources for food and agriculture referred to in paragraph 11.3 in the Multilateral System. Following this assessment, the Governing Body shall decide whether access shall continue to be facilitated to those natural and legal persons referred to in paragraph 11.3 that have not included these plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in the Multilateral System, or take such other measures as it deems appropriate”.

For reasons of economy, this document is produced in a limited number of copies. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring it to the meetings and to refrain from asking for additional copies, unless strictly indispensable. The documents for this meeting are available on Internet at <http://www.fao.org/ag/cgrfa/gb1.htm>

II. DISCUSSION

3. The Treaty entered into force on 29 June, 2004. When the Governing Body meets for its second session it is clear that the deadline established by Article 11.4 – within two years of the entry into force of the Treaty – will have passed. It will, therefore, be necessary for the Governing Body to address this issue at its first session.

4. The Multilateral System will only become operational once the Standard Material Transfer Agreement has been adopted. There is, therefore, no basis for the Governing Body, at its first session, to make the assessment required of it by Article 11.4. The Governing Body may, therefore, wish to defer making this assessment to a future session. In order to be able to make an informed assessment, it may consider that it should be undertaken at some point after the adoption of the Standard Material Transfer Agreement. This could, for example, be at the session immediately following the adoption of the Standard Material Transfer Agreement or some other future session.

III. RECOMMENDATION AND GUIDANCE SOUGHT FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

5. It is recommended that the Governing Body defer the assessment required by Article 11.4 of the Treaty to a future session. Should the Governing Body decide to do so, its guidance is sought as to the session in which the assessment should be made.