



The International Treaty  
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



**FOURTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY**

**Bali, Indonesia, 14 – 18 March 2011**

**RESOLUTION 8/2011**

**COOPERATION WITH OTHER BODIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS,  
INCLUDING WITH THE INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTRES  
OF THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL  
RESEARCH AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS THAT SIGNED  
AGREEMENTS UNDER ARTICLE 15 OF THE TREATY**

**THE GOVERNING BODY,**

**Recalling** that the International Treaty relates to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;

**Recalling** that Article 1.2 of the Treaty provides that the objectives of the Treaty will be attained by closely linking this Treaty to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and that Article 19.3(g) and (l) of the Treaty provides for the Governing Body to establish and maintain cooperation with, as well as take note of the relevant decisions of, the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

**Acknowledging** the ongoing fruitful collaboration between the Treaty and other related international organizations and treaty bodies, in particular the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the World Health Organization, the World Intellectual Property Organization, and the World Trade Organization;

**Noting** the outcomes of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization (the Nagoya Protocol), and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (the Strategic Plan), as well as the various decisions of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity that are of relevance to the Treaty;

**Convinced** of the potential of the Nagoya Protocol and the Strategic Plan for enhancing the synergies and improving the coherent implementation of the Convention and the Treaty;

**Further recalling** that in developing the Global Information System on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, cooperation will be sought with the Clearing House Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in accordance with Article 17.1 of the Treaty;

**Cognizant** of the importance of further enhancing the cooperation and synergies between the Treaty and the Convention on Biological Diversity, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as between their respective intergovernmental bodies and Secretariats;

**Taking into account** the provisions of Article 20.5 of the Treaty that requires the Secretary to cooperate with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

**Cognizant** of the need to establish and maintain cooperation with other relevant international organizations and treaty bodies, on matters covered by the Treaty, including their participation in the Funding Strategy;

**Acknowledging** the positive outcomes of the strategy of cooperation with relevant international organizations to facilitate the implementation of the Funding Strategy, especially its Benefit-sharing Fund;

**Further recognizing** the function of the Joint Capacity Building Programme set up by the Treaty, FAO and Bioversity International to facilitate implementation of the Treaty, and in particular of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing, by developing country Contracting Parties;

**Noting** the need to continue providing assistance under the Joint Capacity Building Programme to developing country Contracting Parties in the process of implementation of the Multilateral System;

**Welcoming** the joint work between the Secretariat and Bioversity International on the development of training materials on the Treaty and recognizing that such training materials can also be utilized for awareness-raising;

**Recalling** the significant support to the objectives of the International Treaty by the International Agricultural Research Centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, and other international institutions that signed agreements with the Governing Body under Article 15 of the Treaty;

**Recalling** Resolution 7/2009 on cooperation with the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;

**Noting** the vision paper, *Policy coherence and complementarity of the work of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and of the Governing body of the International Treaty*, prepared jointly by the two Secretariats;

## **Part I. Relationship with the Convention on Biological Diversity**

1. **Congratulates** the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, on the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol that successfully concluded an important process of negotiations;
2. **Appeals** to Contracting Parties and other States to give priority consideration to the signature and ratification of the Nagoya Protocol, so that it may enter expeditiously into force;
3. **Decides** to establish and maintain cooperation with the Open-ended *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol established by the Conference of Parties to the Convention, and, upon the entry into force of the Protocol, with the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol;

4. **Takes note** of the Memorandum of Cooperation signed between the Secretary and the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity and commends the Secretary for the initiative, and **requests** the Secretary to explore with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, practical means and activities to give effect to this cooperation, in particular through capacity building for access and benefit-sharing, as related to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, including through the organization of workshops, seminars and other events, coordination of technical assistance as well as the exchange of information;
5. **Requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of funds, to continue to participate in relevant meetings of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Open-ended *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol, as well as the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions;
6. **Requests** the Secretary to strengthen collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in the implementation of the Convention's programme of work on agricultural biodiversity, sustainable use of biodiversity, biodiversity and climate change, as well as on the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity and the integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development, in harmony with the work of the Treaty;
7. **Calls on** Contracting Parties to ensure that any legislative, administrative or policy measures taken for the implementation of both the Treaty and the Convention on Biological Diversity (or its Nagoya Protocol), are consistent and mutually supportive;
8. **Requests** the national focal points of the Treaty to enhance their collaboration and coordination with their counterpart national focal points for the Convention on Biological Diversity on all relevant processes, in particular on the Nagoya Protocol and the Strategic Plan;
9. **Requests** the Secretary to convey the present Resolution to both the Open-ended *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol and, upon the entry into force of the Protocol, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol;
10. **Requests** the Secretary to continue to foster collaboration with other treaty bodies, especially with the Convention on Biological Diversity in regard to the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biological diversity, access to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and benefit-sharing in the light of the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, according to the respective mandates, governance structures and agreed programs;
11. **Requests** the Secretary to report on cooperation with the Secretariat of the Convention at each session of the Governing Body;

## **Part II. Cooperation with other organizations**

12. **Requests** the Secretary to continue participating in relevant meetings of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, the World Health Organization, the World Intellectual Property Organization, and the World Trade Organization, and **requests** the Bureau to provide guidance on prioritisation of attendance to these meetings;
13. **Requests** the Secretary to foster cooperation with other international organizations and regional initiatives, including on agrobiodiversity programmes, such as the International Organization of Vine and Wine and strengthen existing cooperative arrangements with a view to

developing synergies and reducing inefficiencies consistent with their respective mandates, governance structures and agreed programs, and based on available resources;

14. **Requests** the Secretary to explore possible areas of cooperation with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, given the connection between climate change adaptation in agriculture and genetic resources, such as the participation of the Treaty as a partner in the REDD initiative;

15. **Acknowledges** the importance and value of building partnerships with international organizations to enhance the impact of the Benefit-sharing Fund, including with regard to resource mobilization, programming and effectiveness of the Fund's operation, including by relying as much as possible on designated implementing entities, which are to fulfil project, financial, management and fiduciary high standards in order to provide services of project formulation, supervision and implementation;

16. **Requests** the Secretary to explore areas of cooperation with other international organizations to further develop and implement the Funding Strategy of the International Treaty and its Benefit-sharing Fund;

17. **Reaffirms** the need to expand the duration of the Joint Capacity Building Programme to the remaining part of the current biennium as well as to the full biennium 2012-2013 and **invites**, on a voluntary basis, additional funding and partners for expanding the Joint Capacity Building Programme;

18. **Requests** the Secretary to further elaborate vision paper on the development of the Global Information System in the context of Article 17 of the Treaty, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders;

### **Part III. Cooperation with the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture**

19. **Requests** the Secretary to continue pursuing initiatives for coordination and cooperation with the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, including through the convening of joint Bureau meetings;

20. **Welcomes** the adoption of the *Joint Statement for Cooperation between the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* by the Commission, at its Twelfth Regular Session;

21. **Emphasizes** the importance of cooperation between the Commission and the Governing Body, in particular with regard to the supporting components of the Treaty, and **welcomes** the publication of *The Second Report on the State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* as well as the on-going process of updating the *Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*;

22. **Notes** with appreciation the on-going cooperation between the Commission and the Governing Body, their Bureaus and their Secretariats;

23. **Requests** the Secretary to provide, in collaboration with the Secretary of the Commission, a paper on the legal, administrative and financial implications of transferring activities or tasks related to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture from the Commission to the Governing Body of the International Treaty;

24. ***Requests*** the Bureau, in consultation with the Bureau of the Commission, to continue exploring options for close cooperation between the Commission and the Governing Body that may gradually lead to an agreed functional division of tasks and activities between the Commission and the Governing Body within the terms of the International Treaty, taking into account the legal, administrative and financial implications;

25. ***Requests*** the Secretary to report to the Governing Body at its Fifth Session on relevant activities undertaken to maintain, strengthen and extend the partnerships, synergies and cooperation under the present Resolution.