



Our Ref.: NCP GB7-009 DOIs Consultation

Rome, 8 June 2016

NOTIFICATION
Update and inputs for the implementation of the
Global Information System

Dear Madam/Sir,

The purpose of this notification is to update you on the recent developments related to the implementation of the Global Information System and invite interested Contracting Parties and Stakeholders to participate in a technical consultation process.

At its Sixth Session, the Governing Body adopted the Vision and the Programme of Work of the Global Information System¹. The third objective of the Programme deals with common standards applied to Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) and the development of an operational mechanism to promote and adopt Digital Object Identifiers for germplasm samples.

As a first step, the Secretariat is pleased to announce the publication of the *Report of Global survey on descriptors required to register material in the Global Information System on Plant Genetic Resources*², carried out in 2015. The Survey was circulated to the Treaty's National Focal Points and interested stakeholders and collected the responses from 219 experts from national and international research centres, genebanks, informatics initiatives, crop networks and the private sector.

The Secretariat is pleased to inform that based on the results of the survey, a Task Force of experts from different communities is currently being defined to validate the *Data required for the assignation of Digital Object Identifiers in the Global Information System - v.1* document, recently developed.

The Secretariat is also pleased to announce the current development of the *Guidelines for the adoption and optimal use of DOIs* to assist users during the registration process to determine when to assign them and which descriptor to use according to the type of material they hold. They will also provide information on the modalities in which the information can be uploaded.

Should you need any additional information, please contact us at PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Dr. Shakeel Bhatti

Secretary of the Governing Body of the International Treaty
on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

¹ [Resolution 3/2015](#)

² [Report and Analysis of the Global Survey on Descriptors required for PGRFA materials](#)

