



The International Treaty

ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



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FIFTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Muscat, Oman, 24-28 September 2013

RESOLUTION 6/2013

PARTNERSHIPS, SYNERGIES AND COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Cognizant of the importance of enhancing synergies among the relevant international organizations, institutions and partners, whose work or mandate relate to or impact the International Treaty, in particular at the national and regional levels;

Noting the number of activities and initiatives undertaken by the Treaty and its Secretariat aimed at establishing or enhancing partnership and cooperation with a range of relevant international Organizations and Secretariats;

Recalling the significant support to the objectives of the International Treaty by the International Agricultural Research Centers (IARCs) of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), and other international institutions which signed agreements with the Governing Body under Article 15 of the International Treaty;

Cognizant of the need to promote coordination among the IARCs of the CGIAR on policy and operational activities of relevance to the objectives of the International Treaty and *welcoming*, in that regard, the establishment of the CGIAR Consortium Office;

Noting the need to continue providing developing country Contracting Parties with assistance with implementation of the International Treaty and its Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing in particular, through coordinated multi-regional programmes of technical assistance, and *further noting* the progress so far made in the implementation of the Joint Capacity Building Programme;

Recalling Resolution 8/2011, by which the Governing Body requested the Secretary to strengthen cooperation with other international organizations to support implementation of the Funding Strategy of the International Treaty;

Welcoming the decision by the 41st GEF Council to request the GEF Secretariat to organize a meeting of biodiversity-related conventions with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to facilitate the coordination of their priorities for inclusion in the GEF-6 programming strategy, and *noting* that such a meeting has been held;

1. **Stresses** the need to continue the efforts necessary to ensure that the Treaty's objectives and role in the conservation and sustainable utilization of PGRFA are recognized by relevant international institutions, organizations and processes;
2. **Requests** the Secretary to continue to explore areas of cooperation with other relevant international organizations to further develop synergies and mutual supportiveness in the overall implementation of the Treaty and ensure that the Treaty is taken into account in their processes and **requests** the Secretary to seek guidance from the Bureau on prioritisation of major work, and **notes**, in this context, the efforts made to enhance synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, including in areas of joint information management and sharing through the Multilateral Environment Agreements Information and Knowledge Management initiative (InforMEA);
3. **Requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of funds, to consider participation in major meetings of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants and other relevant international organizations, in order to ensure that the work of the Treaty is taken into account in their processes;
4. **Welcomes** the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Secretariats of the Treaty and the United Nations Environment Programme, and **requests** the Secretary to explore with the Secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme, practical means and activities to give effect to this cooperation, in particular regarding the implementation of the Benefit-sharing Fund of the Treaty, capacity building for access and benefit-sharing as related to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, the exchange of experiences in the management and implementation of biodiversity projects, and coordination of technical assistance as well as the exchange of information;
5. **Requests** the Secretary to continue pursuing initiatives for coordination and cooperation with the IARCs of the CGIAR, as well as with other international institutions that are signatories of Articles 15 agreements, on relevant policy and operational activities within the Programme of Work of the International Treaty, including through the CGIAR Consortium Office as appropriate;
6. **Requests** the IARCs of the CGIAR and other International Institutions which signed agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty, to manage and administer the *ex situ* collections within the purview of those agreements in accordance with relevant internationally accepted standards, in particular the revised Genebank Standards for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture as endorsed by the FAO Commission in 2013, as well as to report on a regular basis to the Governing Body on any matters relevant to the implementation of the agreements arising from the use of those and other standards in the management of the collections;
7. **Reaffirms** the need to continue the Joint Capacity Building Programme in the biennium 2014-2015, and **calls upon** Contracting Parties and donors, on a voluntary basis, to provide additional funding to support its continuation;
8. **Encourages** Parties, in the revision of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, to integrate Treaty objectives and priorities in order to facilitate identification of opportunities for Treaty-relevant projects that may be eligible for support by GEF and further supported by other mechanisms of the Funding Strategy such as the Benefit-sharing Fund of the Treaty;
9. **Requests** the Secretary to convey to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP) the Treaty objectives and priorities in support of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020* and the Aichi Targets, and **invites** the CBD COP to take these into account in providing the broad strategic guidance to the GEF;
10. **Requests** the Secretary, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, to explore areas of closer working relationship with the GEF to address elements to

which the Treaty could contribute within the context of the Biodiversity Strategy of GEF, and consistent with the mandates of the Treaty and the GEF;

11. **Invites** the GEF Council to note relevant Resolutions and Decisions of the Governing Body in the development and implementation of the GEF Biodiversity Strategy consistent with the GEF's mandate and the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020* and the *Aichi Biodiversity Targets*.