



The International Treaty

ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



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**INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

**FIRST MEETING OF THE AD-HOC OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP TO
ENHANCE THE FUNCTIONING OF THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM**

Geneva, Switzerland, 14-16 May 2014

**ANNOTATED DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND
PROVISIONAL INDICATIVE TIMETABLE**

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. At its Fifth Session, the Governing Body decided to establish the *Ad Hoc* Open-ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing through Resolution 2/2013, which is made available in this meeting in Arabic, English, French and Spanish. Resolution 2/2013 provides for the Terms of Reference, Composition, Structure and Functioning of the Working Group.
2. The first meeting the Working Group is being held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 14 to 16 May 2014. The Working Group will be preceded by one day of informal consultations among stakeholders and regions on 13 May 2014. Facilities will be available for stakeholders and Contracting Parties at the conference venue from 10.00 a.m. until 18.00. The opening session of the Working Group meeting will begin at 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 14 May 2014.

ITEM 2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSONS

3. The Governing Body, through Resolution 2/2013, decided that the Working Group shall elect its Officers as follows:

“The Working Group shall elect two Co-Chairpersons from among the representatives of the Members of the Working Group. The Co-Chairpersons shall preside over the meetings of the Working Group, and exercise such other functions as may be required to facilitate its work.”

4. The Working Group is invited to elect its two Co-Chairpersons under this agenda item.

ITEM 3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND TIME-TABLE

5. The present document annotates the *Provisional Agenda*,¹ and provides a proposed timetable, for the consideration of the Working Group. The list of the documents for this session is contained in the information document, *List of Documents*.²

6. The Working Group is invited to consider the provisional agenda and the indicative timetable suggested in this document, in order to adopt its Agenda and organize its work for this session.

ITEM 4. ENHANCING THE FUNCTIONING OF THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM OF ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING:**BACKGROUND ON THE WORK UNDERTAKEN BY THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE FUNDING STRATEGY, AND ITS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT**

7. Under this agenda item, the Working Group is invited to consider the following sub-items:

4.1 Factors leading to the current short-fall of income to the Benefit-sharing Fund;

4.2 Innovative approaches already identified;

4.3 Further possible innovative approaches;

4.4 The concepts involved in revisiting SMTA Articles 6.7/6.8 and 6.11, and their inter-relationship; and,

4.5 Other measures that can enhance monetary benefit-sharing.

8. The main working document under this agenda item is *Background on the work undertaken by the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on the Funding Strategy, and its further development*.³ This document reviews the work and the outcomes of the deliberations of the *Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on the Funding Strategy*, during the previous biennium, which will now be taken up by this Working Group. Section VII of the document contains a number of matters to be considered by the Working Group in this meeting.

9. The document *Innovative approaches already identified by the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on the Funding Strategy*⁴ provides an excerpt from the Report of the second resumed session of the Seventh Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on the Funding Strategy. It summarizes the existing and ongoing innovative approaches which have already been elaborated or identified by

¹ IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/1, *Draft Provisional Agenda*.

² IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.1

³ IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/3

⁴ IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/4

the Committee in the past biennia and which the Governing Body has taken into account as a basis for the Working Group to conduct its work.

10. Under this agenda item, the Working Group may also wish to take into account information provided in the following documents:

- *Preparation of studies by the Secretariat, as mandated by the Governing Body;*⁵
- *Information from and consultations with relevant stakeholders;*⁶
- *Preliminary considerations on possible procedures to amend the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture - Note prepared by the FAO Legal Office.*⁷

ITEM 5. TIMING AND PREPARATIONS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE WORKING GROUP

11. The document *Preparations for future meetings of the Working Group*⁸ provides an overview of matters that the Working Group may wish to take into account in preparing for its further meetings, based on latest information received about expressions of interest by Contracting Parties in hosting the third meeting. Two further meetings of the Working Group have been planned to fulfil the mandate provided by the Governing Body.

12. The Working Group may wish to provide guidance on inputs and outputs expected for each meeting. The document discusses the timing for both meetings and the support required for holding the third meeting. The document then focuses on the Working Group's consultations with stakeholder groups on innovative approaches during the inter-sessional periods, as foreseen in Resolution 2/2013. Under this agenda item, the Working Group may wish to take into account information provided in relevant information documents.

ITEM 6. OTHER BUSINESS

13. Under this agenda item, the Working Group may address any other business requested by the representatives to this Working Group.

ITEM 7. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

14. This agenda item provides for the approval of the *Report* of the meeting.

⁵ IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.2

⁶ IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.3

⁷ IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.5

⁸ IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.2, IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.3, and IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.5.

PROVISIONAL INDICATIVE TIME-TABLE

Time	Agenda Item	Title	Documents
Wednesday, 14 May 2014			
Morning			
10:00-13:00	1	Opening of the Session	Resolution 2/2013
	2	Election of the Co-Chairs	Resolution 2/2013
	3	Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable	IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/1 IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/2 IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.1 IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.4
	4	Enhancing the functioning of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing: background on the work undertaken by the <i>Ad Hoc</i> Committee on the Funding Strategy, and its further development 4.1 Factors leading to the current short-fall of income to the Benefit-sharing Fund 4.2 Innovative approaches already identified	IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/3 IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/4 IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.2 IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.3 IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.5
Wednesday, 14 May 2014			
Afternoon			
15:00-18:00	4	4.2 Innovative approaches already identified (continued)	

		4.3 Further possible innovative approaches	
Time	Agenda Item	Title	Documents
Thursday, 15 May 2014			
Morning			
10:00-13:00	4	<p>Enhancing the functioning of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing: background on the work undertaken by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Funding Strategy, and its further development (cont.)</p> <p>4.4 The concepts involved in revisiting SMTA Articles 6.7/6.8 and 6.11, and their inter-relationship</p> <p>4.5 Other measures that can enhance monetary benefit-sharing</p>	<p>IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/3 IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/4 IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.2 IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.3 IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.5</p>
Thursday, 15 May 2014			
Afternoon			
15:00-18:00	5	<p>Timing and preparations for future meetings of the Working Group</p> <p>5.1 Identification and scheduling of inputs needed</p> <p>5.2 Working Group's consultations with stakeholders between sessions</p>	<p>IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/5 IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.2 IT/OWG-EFMLS-1/14/inf.3</p>

	6	Other business	
Time	Agenda Item	Title	Documents
Friday, 16 May 2014			
Afternoon			
14:00-17:00	7	Adoption of the Report	