



Our Ref.: NCP- GB8 – 022 - SMTA Reporting/MLS

18 April 2019

NOTIFICATION

Reporting on PGRFA transfers and material available in the Multilateral System

Dear Madam/Sir,

At its Seventh Session, the Governing Body requested the Secretary “to provide, for the Eighth Session of the Governing Body, information on the germplasm distribution within the Multilateral System”.

The report containing the information requested by the Governing Body will be prepared in early June 2019. Consequently, national focal points and holders of plant genetic resources are encouraged to provide information, as soon as possible, on the germplasm they hold that is available in the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing (MLS), and on the transfers they have made as Providers.

In this context, Providers of Material can continue to report online, through Easy-SMTA, on all transfers made with the Standard Material Transfer Agreement (SMTA).¹ To date, Providers have reported, through the Easy-SMTA, about 5.3 million samples transferred within the Multilateral System.

Easy-SMTA is available at: <https://mls.planttreaty.org/itt/> and can be used by Providers of the Material to:

- compile and generate SMTAs in the six official languages of the International Treaty; and
- report SMTAs concluded in accordance with the guidance given by the Governing Body.

The Secretariat has set up a Helpdesk function to assist users of the Multilateral System with various issues regarding SMTA operations, including the notification, at accession level, of the of material available in the Multilateral System and reporting material transferred with the SMTA. Through the Helpdesk, the Secretariat also offers information on other *ad hoc* synchronization solutions for providers with a large number of transactions

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¹ Transfers of material with SMTAS must be reported to the Governing Body within two years.



Finally, I would be grateful if national focal points could circulate this notification widely, encouraging providers of Material to report online by **3 June 2019**, so as to provide the Governing Body with accurate information of the germplasm flow in the new report.

The Help-desk remains at your disposal to provide any additional information and respond to any query:

E-mail: SMTA-Support@fao.org and PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org

Phone: +39 06 57056343

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kent Nnadozie', written over a horizontal line.

Kent Nnadozie

Secretary

International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources
for Food and Agriculture