# Item 3.1 of the Provisional Agenda

## COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

### Sixth Session

**Rome, 24-26 November 2010**

## FAO PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Commission, at its Twelfth Regular Session, requested FAO to prepare a progress report on FAO activities related to animal genetic resources and the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources (Global Plan of Action) and requested its Working Group to review progress made and action taken to implement the Global Plan of Action. This document provides an overview of FAO activities since the Twelfth Regular Session of the Commission. The activities are grouped according to their relevance for the four Strategic Priority Areas of the Global Plan of Action. More detailed information is given in the document, Detailed FAO Progress Report on the Implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources. Information related to the programmatic and financial aspects of the implementation of the Global Plan of Action is available in the document, Funding Strategy for the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources, including administrative arrangements for the FAO Trust Account.

II. REPORTING AND AWARENESS RAISING ON THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION

2. The Russian version of the State of the World’s Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (State of the World) was published electronically and in print in January 2010 with significant in-kind contribution from the Russian Federation. The Spanish version of the State of the World was published electronically and in print in June 2010 with financial support from the Government of Spain and a FAO Special Allocation for Implementation of the Language Policy.

3. FAO has prepared and widely distributed a significant number of communication products to raise awareness of animal genetic resources issues. These products have been made available to a number of international conferences and meetings. In addition, National Coordinators for Animal Genetic Resources from various countries as well as sub-regional organizations have requested materials for national workshops and seminars. Since 2007, more than 54,000 copies of the different products in various languages have been distributed.

III. FAO SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION

4. The Global Plan of Action describes the essential role of the FAO in supporting country-driven efforts to implement the Global Plan of Action, in particular, in continuing to facilitate global and regional collaboration and networks; supporting the convening of intergovernmental

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1. CGRFA-12/09/Report, Appendix G (Strategic Plan), paragraph 10.
2. CGRFA-12/09/Report, paragraph 46.
3. CGRFA-12/09/9
4. CGRFA/WG-AnGR-6/10/Inf. 2.
5. CGRFA/WG-AnGR-6/10/Inf. 2.
8. CGRFA/WG-AnGR-6/10/Inf. 2.
meetings; maintaining and further developing the Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS); developing communication products; providing technical guidelines and assistance, and coordinated training programmes; promoting the transfer of technologies relating to sustainable use, development and conservation of animal genetic resources; and coordinating future preparation of global status and trends reports on animal genetic resources. A summary of FAO’s activities and partnerships and projects directed at supporting implementation of the Global Plan of Action is presented below. More detailed information is given in the document, Detailed FAO Progress Report on the Implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources.9

Strategic Priority Area 1. Characterization, inventory and monitoring of trends and risks

5. The Commission, at its Twelfth Regular Session, noted the strong linkages between the management of animal genetic resources and other aspects of livestock management. It encouraged characterization and inventories of breeds, and requested FAO to emphasize these linkages in its livestock programme10.

6. FAO, with support from the Government of Germany, has conducted a project to promote strategies for the prevention and control of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in Cambodia, Egypt and Uganda. The project focused on smallholder livelihoods and biodiversity. In the project’s poultry diversity component, production systems were described and local poultry populations were characterized phenotypically and genetically.11 FAO, with support from Australia, and in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, has supported the characterization of pig and chicken breeds in six countries of the South Pacific. The molecular characterization for these studies was performed by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). Metastudies with other existing consortia and diversity studies are envisaged.

7. To promote and facilitate global analysis of breed diversity through molecular genetic characterization, FAO has continued to promote the international use of standard microsatellite marker sets for the various species of livestock. This is done in partnership with the International Society of Animal Genetics (ISAG)/FAO Advisory Group on Animal Genetic Diversity and the European Commission-funded project “A Global view of livestock biodiversity and conservation” (GLOBALDIV)12. This partnership has contributed extensively to the preparation of the Draft guidelines on molecular genetic characterization.13

8. The Global Focal Point, with extra-budgetary funding from the Governments of Norway and Sweden, has continued the development of the guidelines on phenotypic characterization of animal genetic resources and their production environment. The guidelines were discussed and evaluated by 100 participants from 28 countries at three workshops in Argentina, Senegal and Italy. The draft guidelines are available to the Working Group in document Draft guidelines on phenotypic characterization14.

9. The Global Focal Point has collaborated with projects from the AGRI GEN RES 200615 of the European Union. Officers have served as invited experts to GLOBALDIV16 and hosted a
joint workshop between GLOBALDIV and EurReCa\textsuperscript{17}. FAO contributed to four GLOBALDIV review articles on characterization for a special issue of the scientific journal “Animal Genetics” and distributed copies to all National Coordinators and their alternates.

10. The Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture (AGE), with the participation of national institutions (e.g. CAAS), CGIAR-Centres (e.g. ILRI) and several farmer associations, has undertaken various activities to promote international cooperation in the characterization of animal genetic resources, including coordinated research projects such as “Gene-based technologies in livestock breeding: characterization of small ruminant genetic resources in Asia”. The data collected will be integrated with information from previous characterization studies in other regions to allow for a global analysis of small ruminant diversity. AGE has developed a web-accessible database for storage and exchange of microsatellite and nucleotide polymorphism data for molecular characterization of animal genetic resources. In addition, AGE hosted three training courses on the technical aspects of molecular characterization, which targeted Eastern European countries and provided technical and financial support to the “International bovine hapmap project”\textsuperscript{18} and the “International sheep hapmap project”\textsuperscript{19}. On a national level, AGE is supporting Technical Cooperation Projects (TCP) involving the characterization and utilization of animal genetic resources.

11. The Commission requested at its Twelfth Regular Session\textsuperscript{20} that status and trends reports on animal genetic resources be prepared by FAO every two years and that these reports include the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) headline indicator. FAO, as one of the partners in the 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership project, is responsible for coordinating the development of the headline indicator for “Trends in genetic diversity of domesticated animals, cultivated plants, and fish species of major socioeconomic importance”. To this end, FAO convened the “Expert meeting on indicators for animal genetic resources”, in February 2010. The background paper to the workshop and the workshop report are provided in the document \textit{Report of a workshop on indicators}\textsuperscript{21}. In order to calculate all proposed indicators, a system for classifying breeds as “native” and “non-native” must be developed and implemented in DAD-IS, and National Coordinators should classify their breeds accordingly. The other indicators are already reflected in document, lication on animal genetic resources – 2010\textsuperscript{22}.

12. To aid member countries in their inventory and monitoring of trends and risks, FAO has produced the document \textit{Draft guidelines on surveying and monitoring}\textsuperscript{23} for review by the Working Group.

13. The Commission stressed that FAO should further develop the DAD-IS and that Members of the Commission needed to regularly maintain their national data and information. FAO has continued to maintain and develop DAD-IS, with extra-budgetary funding from the Governments of Norway and Sweden. Countries have increased their activities to update their national data in 2009 (20 countries) and 2010 (38 countries). A module has been developed for DAD-IS enabling geo-referencing the geographic distribution of national breed populations and describing their production environments. The textual information describing geographic breed distribution has been transferred to geo-referenced data for validation by National Coordinators (funded by Government of Norway and European Regional Focal Point (ERFP)). Case studies are being implemented with the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) for testing and validation.

\textsuperscript{17} www.regionalcattlebreeds.eu
\textsuperscript{18} www.bovinehapmap.org
\textsuperscript{19} www.sheephapmap.org
\textsuperscript{20} CGRFA-12/09/Report.
\textsuperscript{21} Report of a workshop on indicators.
\textsuperscript{22} CGRFA/WG-AnGR-6/10/Inf.3
\textsuperscript{23} CGRFA/WG-AnGR-6/10/Inf.5
14. Training in the use of DAD-IS was provided at several regional National Coordinator workshops, including for Central Asia (hosted by Kazakhstan), Asia (hosted by China), Central and Eastern Europe (hosted by Ukraine). The Government of the Republic of Moldova requested FAO’s assistance (Technical Cooperation Project-Facility, TCPF) in the development of a national information system on animal genetic resources. The project will commence in late 2010.

15. The DAD-IS manual24 has been translated to French and Spanish. The manual has not been updated yet due to the expected release of the module describing production environments of breed populations and geo-referencing the breed distribution.

16. FAO has provided inputs on animal genetic resources for the 2010 issue of the “Global Biodiversity Outlook”25, the flagship publication of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

### Strategic Priority Area 2. Sustainable use and development

17. In response to the demand for technical assistance to ensure the better use and development of animal genetic resources, FAO further invested in providing technical assistance to countries, directly and through cooperation with other organizations. TCPs in Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal and Sri Lanka were aimed at genetic improvement of dairy cattle through the establishment of pedigree and performance recording schemes, rehabilitation, support to the artificial insemination service, and improved animal feeding.

18. AGE supported a Regional Coordinated Research Project (CRP) with mainly Asian participating countries and a Regional TCP on cattle breeding in Asia. Participants from 13 Asian and 22 African countries received technical support for the establishment and management of animal genetic resources, with an emphasis on sustainable utilization of local breeds. AGE has developed methodology for the identification of candidate genes for traits of economic importance. The data generated through different AGE projects on animal genetics are already being utilized to identify and characterize genes that could have economic or environmental importance such as heat or helminth resistance traits, increased milk production or improved meat quality and quantity. Building on this basis, AGE has also initiated a new CRP on “Genetic variation on the control of resistance to infectious diseases in small ruminants for improving animal productivity” with 14 countries participating.

19. FAO participates as a technical advisor in the “Regional project on sustainable management of endemic ruminant livestock in West Africa” (PROGEBE), jointly financed by the Global Environment Facility and the African Development Bank and based at the International Trypanotolerance Centre with technical support from ILRI. The objective of the project is to ensure sustainable management of four endemic ruminant breeds in four West African countries.

20. FAO serves on the steering committee of and is providing an in-kind contribution of technical support to the GEF-funded project on “Development and application of decision support tools to conserve and sustainably use genetic diversity in indigenous livestock and wild relatives”. The project involves promoting the sustainable use of animal genetic resources in four Asian countries.

21. FAO contributed to various courses organized by partner organizations, including the “International master in animal breeding and reproduction biotechnology” organized by two Spanish universities and the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM), and GLOBALDIV Summer Schools. It was also a partner in the “European master in animal breeding and genetics”. FAO collaborated with the ILRI-Swedish University of


Agricultural Sciences (SLU) project (funded by the Government of Sweden) on capacity building for sustainable use of AnGR in developing countries. An assessment in Eastern and Southern African countries contributed to the jointly organized workshop “Synthesis of institutional issues and developing innovative frameworks for sustainable use of AnGR: How to make a difference”. The workshop, in Tanzania, was attended by participants from 10 countries. Presentations on the State of the World report and the Global Plan of Action were also given at the FAO-ILRI-SLU Follow-up Workshop for South Asia organized 2009 in Nepal, which was attended by participants from six countries.

22. FAO collaborated with the French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA) for the joint organization of the “FAO-INRA Workshop on animal genetic resources and their resistance/tolerance to diseases”, with special focus on parasitic diseases in ruminants. The report of the workshop is contained in Report of a workshop on disease resistance.26

23. The Commission, at its Twelfth Regular Session, endorsed guidelines for breeding strategies for sustainable management of animal genetic resources, and encouraged countries to make full use of these guidelines. FAO has published the guidelines Breeding strategies for sustainable management of animal genetic resources27 in English, French (in print) and Spanish (in print) and distributed the English version widely. An Arabic version is in preparation. The guidelines were used as support material in a regional training workshop “Formulation of policies and strategies for development and management of animal genetic resources in Latin America”, held in Colombia, and attended by participants from six countries.

24. FAO, through membership in the board of the International Committee for Animal Recording (ICAR), continued to lead the ICAR Task Force for Animal Identification and Performance Recording in Developing Countries. The task force conducted a survey to assess the current status of animal identification and recording systems in 33 developing countries. Guidelines for animal identification, traceability and performance recording in low and medium input production systems are under preparation.

25. FAO participated in two international conferences on animal identification and traceability, organized by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) in Argentina and by the European Commission in Belgium. Each was attended by more than 400 persons. On both occasions, officers presented FAO’s multipurpose and global approach for animal identification, traceability and performance recording as a livestock development tool, which involves all stakeholders in the livestock sector, as well as FAO’s capacity building activities and support to countries for relevant policy development, drafting of legislation and strategic planning, and technical assistance for the implementation of relevant Codex Alimentarius and OIE standards.

26. FAO coordinated the organization of a training workshop on animal identification and recording systems, within the framework of the project “Modernization and development of the dairy cattle sector in Iraq”. The workshop took place in Jordan and had participants from three countries.

27. FAO, in collaboration with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Livestock Technical Committee, organized a regional workshop on “Animal identification, traceability and performance recording in the SADC region” in 2009. The workshop was held in Botswana with participants from 20 countries.

28. In collaboration with the League For Pastoral Peoples and Endogenous Livestock Development (LPP), LIFE Network and International Union for Conservation of Nature–World Initiative for Sustainable Pastoralism (IUCN-WISP) a publication titled “Adding value to
livestock diversity - Marketing to promote local breeds and improve livelihoods” was published in English. French and Spanish versions of the publication are being prepared.

29. FAO contributed to the development of “Pastoralism, nature conservation and development”, published in Arabic, English and French by the CBD in its “Good Practice Guide” series.

30. A symposium entitled “Strategies to add value to local breeds” was organized by the Working Group for Animal Genetic Resources of the European Association for Animal Production (EAAP), FAO, and the ERFP in Greece in 2010. The symposium consisted of 11 presentations and 9 posters. More than 110 participants including 22 National Coordinators participated in the symposium. A number of practical issues related to the protection of special products from animals of local breeds were discussed.

**Strategic Priority Area 3. Conservation**

31. In response to the request by the Commission that FAO continue updating and further developing technical guidelines on the management of animal genetic resources, the Global Focal Point, with financial support from the Government of Sweden, has prepared document *Draft guidelines on cryoconservation*. This document was validated in a series of workshops, which were also used to build capacity in member countries for conservation of animal genetics resources. The workshops were held in Tunisia, Ecuador and the Netherlands with assistance from the national governments. Participants were from 54 countries. Guidelines for *in vivo* conservation are in preparation; a validation workshop was held in India.

32. FAO, supported by Turkey, Japan and Norway, undertook a global survey on the current arrangements for existing regional storage systems, including existing health and other relevant regulations for the exchange of genetic materials among countries. The results are summarized in the document, *Current arrangements for existing national and multi-country storage systems for the conservation of animal genetic resources*. The majority of countries expressed willingness to participate in multi-country gene banks for animal genetic resources, but frameworks for formal collaboration are required to address issues such as ownership of germplasm, differences between countries in technical capacity and health and sanitary standards, and funding.

**Strategic Priority Area 4. Policies, institutions and capacity-building**

33. The Thirty-sixth FAO Conference recommended that FAO, in its livestock programme, emphasize the linkages between the management of animal genetic resources, animal health, livestock policies and institutions for poverty alleviation, biodiversity and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

34. The Global Focal Point contributed to the FAO expert meeting, “The role of biodiversity for food and agriculture in feeding the world and in light of global changes,” and prepared a scientific paper on the link between biodiversity and sustainability. Other scientific papers and presentations at international conferences were prepared on the interactions between animal
genetic resources and climate change, covering positive and negative effects of livestock on the environment and environment-related threats to livestock biodiversity.

35. AGE organized a “Symposium on sustainable improvement of animal production and health” in Austria. The Symposium included sessions on the management of animal genetic resources and how these resources could improve the quality of livestock. The Global Focal Point assisted in the preparation of the programme, selection of speakers and review of the conference proceedings and presented a lecture on the interactions between animal genetics resources and climate change which will be published as part of the symposium proceedings.

36. In response to CBD COP decision IX/4, “In-depth review of ongoing work on alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species” and considering the gaps and inconsistencies identified by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Gaps and Inconsistencies in the International Regulatory Framework in Relation to Invasive Alien Species, the Global Focal Point prepared a scientific paper on the role of livestock diversity and invasive alien species.

37. Already at its Third Session, the Working Group had raised the issue of disease factors – including the effects of emergencies and the need to identify disease-resistance. The Global Plan of Action indicates a need for a review of the impact of zoosanitary standards on the conservation and use of animal genetic resources. FAO, in collaboration with the World Trade Institute, Switzerland, developed a study “Effects of international legal regimes and policy measures aimed at the protection of human, animal or plant life or health on animal genetic diversity”. The study concluded that current zoosanitary standards do not pose an immediate threat for the conservation and use of animal genetic resources but that their conservation should be a crucial component of contingency plans.

38. At its Twelfth Regular Session, the Commission endorsed guidelines for the preparation of national strategies and action plans for animal genetic resources and encouraged countries to make full use of these guidelines. FAO published and distributed the guidelines Preparation of National Strategies and Action Plans for Animal Genetic Resources in English, French, Russian and Spanish.

39. Supporting guidelines on the development of an institutional framework for the management of animal genetic resources were developed and actively discussed in an e-conference involving all subscribers of the Domestic Animal Diversity Network (DAD-Net). The guidelines are available for review by the Working Group in document, Draft guidelines on development of the institutional framework for the management of animal genetic resources.

40. The Global Focal Point participated in the 2009 and 2010 annual meetings of National Coordinators within the ERFP. Training on the development of national strategies and action plans was provided at several regional workshops to National Coordinators and their alternates. These workshops have also been used to initiate the establishment of new (Sub-) Regional Focal Points for Animal Genetic Resources. The workshops were held in Central Asia (Kazakhstan), Asia (China), West Africa (Senegal), Eastern Europe (Ukraine) and Latin America (Costa Rica) and were attended by participants from more than 60 countries. These workshops were supported by funds from Norway and Sweden.

34. http://www-pub.iaea.org/Mtcd/Meetings/Announcements.asp?ConfID=35424
37. CGRFA/WG-AnGR-3/04/REPORT, paragraph 17.
40. CGRFA-12/09/Report para. 41.
42. CGRFA/WG-AnGR-6/10/Inf.9.
41. The regional workshop for Central Asia resulted in a project proposal responding to the call for the FAO/Turkey Partnership Programme (FTPP). The project aims at initiating a Sub-regional Focal Point for animal genetic resources for five countries of Central Asia, Azerbaijan and Turkey and assisting with the development of national strategies and action plans. The concept note has been accepted by the donor, and a full project is being developed.

42. A meeting of the enlarged steering committee of the RFP Latin America and Caribbean was co-organized in Chile with the collaboration of FAO-Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (RLC). The Steering Committee prepared three regional projects which were submitted to donors but, unfortunately, without success so far. However, Chile, Colombia and Peru are formulating their national action plans for animal genetics resources, supported by FAO-RLC through TCPFs.

43. Through a TCPF project, a national strategy for sustainable use and development of farm animal genetic resources was formulated in Armenia. The resulting document was published in English and Armenian. Another TCPF project originally aiming to support the development of a national policy and strategy for the management and improvement of animal genetic resources in Burundi was redirected to establishing a livestock development strategy, as a complement to the national agriculture strategy.

44. FAO invited National Coordinators, Regional Coordinators and international non-governmental organizations (INGOs) to prepare posters on “Implementation of the Global Plan of Action for animal genetic resources” for an exhibition at this Sixth Session of the Working Group. It also invited an informal survey on Global Plan of Action implementation, results of which are presented in document Results of informal surveys on progress in country implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources.43

45. The Commission, at its Twelfth Regular Session44 and the Thirty-sixth FAO Conference45 stressed the importance of addressing the particular needs of small-scale livestock keepers and pastoralists, custodians of much of the world’s animal genetic resources, and encouraged their full and effective participation in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action.46 In response, FAO prepared and widely distributed the publication “Livestock keepers – guardians of biodiversity”47. Furthermore, FAO, in collaboration with the NGOs LPP and Natural Justice, piloted biocultural protocols and tested their potential for strengthening indigenous communities to continue stewarding their animal genetic resources and their eco-systems. Biocultural protocols aim to create a link between articles 15 and 8(j) of the CBD and the Global Plan of Action. A booklet “Biocultural community protocols for livestock keepers” summarizing the experiences with the first four protocols was widely distributed and the results presented to the CBD.

46. FAO continued its interaction with various scientific organizations and the breeding industry. It hosted a meeting of the European Forum of Farm Animal Breeders (EFFAB) and the Industry days of the EU-funded SABRE and EADGENE projects. A Poultry Leadership Think Tank meeting was held in Germany with representatives of the poultry breeding industry, the World Poultry Science Association (WPSA) and FAO to discuss social equity and sustainability issues relating to the present systems employed globally in poultry production. A wider stakeholder one-day symposium “Guidance for the poultry sector – issues and options” was then organized by FAO in France, in conjunction with the European Poultry Conference.

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43 CGRFA/WG-AnGR-6/10/Inf.10.
44 CGRFA-12/09/Report para. 44.
45 C 2009/REP, para. 67.
46 C 2009/REP, para. 68.
47. FAO is collaborating with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) on a patent landscape study; representatives from governments, research and industry are being contacted to contribute.

48. Representatives from the Global Focal Point have participated as invited speakers at a number of scientific conferences and meetings addressing animal genetic resources and raising awareness of the importance of their proper management.

49. The Global Focal Point served as the FAO Focal Point for Livestock in association with FAO’s “International conference on agricultural biotechnologies in developing countries”\(^{48}\), held in March 2010 in Mexico. The conference was attended by approximately 300 persons from 68 member countries.

50. As part of the Ninth World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production, a particular session was jointly organized with FAO and titled “Genetic improvement programmes: management of Animal Genetic Resources. Quo vadis after the state of the world report?”. This session contained 18 papers. Moreover, 600 copies of the conference proceedings (on CD-ROM) have been made available to FAO for distribution to the global network for the management of animal genetic resources.

51. The Global Focal Point continues to maintain DAD-Net as an informal forum for the discussion of issues relevant to the management of animal genetic resources at national, regional and international levels. DAD-Net has proved to be an effective means of sharing experiences, enabling participants to request information and facilitating informal discussions among individuals involved in various aspects of the management of animal genetic resources. FAO has continued to produce the journal “Animal Genetic Resources” (previously AGRI); issues 44 to 46 were published during the current reporting period. Issue 47 of “Animal Genetics Resources” – a special issue dedicated to the International Year of Biodiversity containing invited papers is currently being finalized for publication.

**IV. IMPLEMENTATION AND FINANCING OF THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION**

52. The Commission, at its Twelfth Regular Session, had adopted the *Funding Strategy for the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources*\(^{49}\) and requested FAO to implement it and to establish a FAO Trust Account. The Funding Strategy was published as an FAO document\(^{50}\) and made available in the official FAO languages. The Commission requested FAO to report to the Working Group on the administrative arrangements for the FAO Trust Account for the Funding Strategy.\(^{51}\) Such a report is available in document, *Funding Strategy for the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources, including administrative arrangements for the FAO Trust Account*\(^{52}\).


\(^{49}\) CGRFA-12/09/Report, Appendix C.

\(^{50}\) [www.fao.org/docrep/012/i1674e/i1674e00.htm](http://www.fao.org/docrep/012/i1674e/i1674e00.htm)

\(^{51}\) CGRFA-12/09/Report, paragraph 43.

\(^{52}\) CGRFA/WG-AnGR-6/10/4.
V. GUIDANCE SOUGHT

53. The Working Group may wish to recommend to the Commission that it:

   (i) request FAO to continue providing technical advice to support country implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*;

   (ii) invite member countries and international organizations to complete the appropriate questionnaires for the preparation of 2011 Country Progress Reports and International Organization Progress reports, respectively, on implementation of *Global Plan of Action*;

   (iii) stress the need for countries to regularly update their national data and information in DAD-IS or FABIS-net to ensure that the best available data and information are available to enable informed decisions in the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*;

   (iv) invite FAO to propose a universal definition of “native” and “non-native” breeds of livestock and to request countries to classify their breeds according to this definition, for eventual insertion of this data into DAD-IS for the purpose of calculating indicators for monitoring agricultural biodiversity;

   (v) request countries to begin or continue to characterize their animal genetic resources both phenotypically and genetically and to collaborate with regional and international organizations in meta-analyses of data across countries, for improved management of transboundary breeds and local breeds with genetic similarities to breeds in other countries;

   (vi) request FAO and IAEA to continue with their joint efforts to establish a genetic resources database (with open access) to support national genetic resource programmes;

   (vii) encourage countries to collaborate with regional organizations in the improved management of animal genetic resources;

   (viii) invite countries to initiate the development of policies and protocols for exchange of animal genetics resources for the purpose of multi-country conservation activities, including gene banking;

   (ix) request FAO to continue to pursue partnerships and alliances with other international mechanisms and organizations to enhance mobilization of financial resources for implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*. 