



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**



The International Treaty
**ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

Item 11 of the Provisional Agenda

EIGHTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Rome, 11–16 November 2019

Report on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Executive Summary

Through Resolution 6/2017, the Governing Body endorsed the Programme of Work 2016–2019 and reconvened the *Ad Hoc* Technical Committee on Sustainable Use (the Committee).

During the biennium, an electronic consultation among members and experts of the Committee was organized from 8 April to 5 May 2019, serving as its fourth meeting. The documents and report of the meeting are available on the website of the International Treaty, as is the list of participants.

This document contains the information on relevant activities related to the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use, as well as a synopsis of the outcomes of the electronic consultation, and the advice received from the Committee to the Secretary on the following issues:

- i) implementation of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) and Supporting Initiatives;
- ii) cooperation with other international processes and institutions in the field of sustainable use of PGRFA;
- iii) identification of additional activities and synergies within the Programme of Work, and between the Programme of Work and other areas of work of the International Treaty.

Guidance Sought

The Governing Body is invited to take note of the activities undertaken to implement the Programme of Work 2016–2019, and consider and adopt a new Programme of Work 2020–23, which provides a more comprehensive linkage between ‘conservation’ and ‘sustainable use’, with a revised draft ‘Vision, Mission and Goals’, and a new table of components and outcomes.

In recognition that sustainable use should be closely linked to the conservation of PGRFA, the Governing Body is also invited to rename and re-convene the *Ad Hoc* Technical Committee on Conservation and Sustainable Use of PGRFA, taking into account the draft Terms of Reference included in the draft elements for a Resolution provided for its consideration in the *Appendix* to this document.

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*Appendix: Draft Resolution **/2019 – Implementation of Articles 5 and 6, Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Through Resolution 6/2017,¹ the Governing Body reconvened the *Ad Hoc* Technical Committee on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (‘the Committee’).
2. In accordance with its Terms of Reference, the Committee shall provide advice to the Secretary on:
 - implementation of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and Supporting Initiatives;
 - cooperation with other international processes and institutions in the field of sustainable use of PGRFA;
 - identification of additional activities and synergies within the Programme of Work, and between the Programme of Work and other areas of work of the International Treaty.
3. The Governing Body also decided that the Committee “...will work electronically and, if needed, may hold one meeting in the biennium 2018–2019, subject to the availability of financial resources”.
4. Following an online call for nominations and election, the Committee unanimously reconfirmed Mr Riccardo Bocci (Italy) and Mr William Wigmore (Cook Islands) as Co-Chairpersons of the Committee.

II. THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE (Electronic Consultation)

5. Pursuant to Resolution 6/2017 of the Governing Body, an electronic consultation among members and experts was organized from 8 April to 5 May 2019. In order to facilitate the consultation, an online platform was established where, within the given time frame, members and experts shared or posted views, documents, and/or responses to questions.²
6. Members and experts, in addition to their Terms of Reference, were invited to consider and advise on:
 - The proceedings of the Informal Meeting of Experts ‘Exploring possible elements of a Joint Programme on Biodiversity in Agriculture for Sustainable Use of PGRFA 2020–2030’.
 - A draft Proposal for a new Programme of Work on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and Supporting Initiatives 2020–2023.
 - A draft survey on Technology Transfer.
7. In accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Committee, the Secretary reports to the Governing Body at its Eighth Session on the results of the Committee’s work. The report of the Electronic Consultation of the Committee (IT/GB8-/19/11 Inf. 1) includes some conclusions and suggestions on possible next steps, which are also reflected in the guidance sought in Section V of this document.

¹ Resolution 6/2017 www.fao.org/3/a-mv086e.pdf

² Available at: <https://dgroups.org/fao/itpgrfa/Committee>

III. THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON SUSTAINABLE USE OF PGRFA AND SUPPORTING INITIATIVES 2016 –19

8. Since 2016, significant progress has been made in implementing the Programme of Work 2016–2019, with in-kind contributions and financial support provided by the Government of Italy.

9. Annex 1, Table 1 of Resolution 4/2015 summarizes different sets of activities carried out by stakeholders, divided into programmes agreed by the Governing Body (Part A), and supporting initiatives to be undertaken by Contracting Parties and other stakeholders on a voluntary basis (Part B).

A. PART A: ACTIVITIES AGREED TO BY THE GOVERNING BODY

A1. Report on activities, projects, and programmes on sustainable use of PGRFA

10. The Secretariat continues to collaborate with a broad range of partners, institutions and initiatives in implementing the Programme of Work and related activities. These include the Secretariat of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Global Crop Diversity Trust, the CGIAR Centres, the Global Forum on Agricultural Research and Innovation, etc. The Secretariat is also cooperating with a number of other existing initiatives/projects at international level.³

11. Through a notification issued on 24 October 2018, the Secretary invited submissions from Contracting Parties, other governments, relevant institutions, organizations and stakeholders on the promotion and further improvement of measures for the sustainable use of PGRFA, while reducing the reporting duplication for Contracting Parties, which already report on implementation of the Second Global Plan of Action for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

12. Only very few Contracting Parties and stakeholders provided information on activities and programmes on implementation of Article 6 of the International Treaty.⁴

A2. Toolbox for Sustainable Use of PGRFA

13. At its Third Meeting, the Committee reaffirmed the necessity of developing the Toolbox as a practical instrument to assist Contracting Parties with the implementation of Article 6 of the International Treaty. The Committee acknowledged the progress made in defining the functions and contents of the Toolbox, and proposed that it should initially focus on a few priority areas, and be developed further over time to address all elements of the PGRFA use system.

³ These include:

- Diversifood: www.diversifood.eu/
- Dynaversity: <http://dynaversity.eu/project/>
- Farmers Pride: www.farmerspride.eu
- G2P-Sol – Tomato, potato, eggplant, and pepper: <https://sostenibilita.enea.it/projects/g2p-sol>
- Linkages: www.diversifood.eu/?s=Linkages
- European Evaluation Network (EVA) on wheat/barley: www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/resources/european-evaluation-network/eva-workshop-on-wheatbarley/
- Bresov (Brassica and Phaseolus): <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/find-connect/projects/bresov>
- FAO South-South Cooperation- Regional consultations on Farmers' Rights: www.fao.org/south-south-gateway/en/
- GenRes Bridge 'Joining forces for genetic resources and biodiversity management': www.euforgen.org/about-us/events/event/genres-bridge-project-kickoff-meeting/

⁴ Ecuador, Farmers' Pride Project (EU), Jordan, International Seed Federation, Republic of Congo, Sweden and Switzerland. Available at: www.fao.org/plant-treaty/areas-of-work/sustainable-use/information-and-submissions/en/

14. The Toolbox has two primary components – web pages highlighting and summarizing key areas of relevance in promoting and enhancing the sustainable use of PGRFA, and a database facilitating access to a selection of resources to aid users in the development of sustainable use initiatives.⁵ Resources are classified according to the relevant subject area(s) and specific subject categories, as well as by the primary geographical area of relevance, language, publication date and format.

15. Users can access resources via a search function in each subject area web page (to find resources related to that area), or use the ‘Search for resources’ page to undertake free-text or structured searches of the entire database. To further aid users in navigating the database, the resources are also classified according to eight types. More than 200 entries in English, French and Spanish are now available on the web page.

B. PART B: SUPPORTING INITIATIVES UNDERTAKEN BY CONTRACTING PARTIES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS VOLUNTARILY

B1. Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technologies in the context of non-monetary benefit-sharing

16. The Platform for the Co-Development and Transfer of Technology (Platform) was launched by interested institutions in 2011.⁶ In line with the provisions of the International Treaty, technology transfer under this initiative is primarily a form of non-monetary benefit-sharing related to the management and use of PGRFA.

17. A programme of work was prepared in a strategy paper for a programmatic approach of the Platform for the biennium 2018–19, and was presented at the Seventh Session of the Governing Body. On 20 February 2019, the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural Research and Development (Agency) communicated with the Secretary of the Treaty, indicating that Indonesia will no longer be able to continue supporting or presiding over the Platform, and requested the Secretariat “...to take an advanced role” in managing the Platform. Since then, no further action or activity has been undertaken in regard to the Platform.

18. In advancing the role of the Platform, topics discussed during the electronic consultation of the Committee included the launching of a survey to identify the gaps between ‘available’ and ‘needed’ technologies for implementation of Article 6. The majority of the Committee’s members and experts considered the survey to be unnecessary, instead suggesting that efforts should focus on furthering the role of the Platform, such as by facilitating partnerships and increasing collaboration in technology co-generation and technology transfer.

B.2 Training workshops on conservation, sustainable use of PGRFA and Farmers’ Rights

19. The need for capacity building has been highlighted repeatedly by the Governing Body as a key activity to carry out in order to provide effective support to Contracting Parties in the implementation of the main provisions of the International Treaty. Accordingly, the Secretariat facilitated or organized a series of regional training workshops in the relevant areas. The overall goal of the workshops was to enhance implementation of the International Treaty through greater understanding of the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA and Farmers’ Rights, and to contribute to the achievement of zero hunger and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). More specifically, the workshops aimed to:

⁵ Toolbox for Sustainable Use of PGRFA www.fao.org/plant-treaty/tools/toolbox-for-sustainable-use/overview/en/

⁶ The Platform contributes to the objectives of the International Treaty by:

- i) empowering stakeholders to utilize technologies for the conservation, characterization, evaluation and sustainable use of PGRFA; and
- ii) increasing opportunities for technology transfer, information sharing and capacity development.

- provide an overview of the global challenges of crop diversity loss, food security and climate change, and to understand how these challenges are interlinked;
- update participants on recent developments in international policy and governance, technological advances, and information on dynamic conservation of agricultural biodiversity and plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;
- stimulate ideas and identify areas and opportunities to mainstream the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA and Farmers' Rights in the context of national plans and programmes on food security and sustainable agriculture, and other relevant sectoral programmes;
- provide a platform for the sharing of experiences and lessons learned on the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA and implementation of Farmers' Rights;
- serve as a venue for networking between and among participants for developing future collaboration on conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA.

20. A first Regional Training Workshop on Conservation and Sustainable use of PGRFA and Farmers' Rights was held from 5 to 8 March 2019 in Manila, the Philippines, attended by 55 participants from 12 Contracting Parties of the International Treaty. Two additional regional workshops on the same subject were organized in Africa (Dakar, Senegal from 29 July to 1 August 2019), and in Latin America (Montevideo, Uruguay from 5 to 8 August 2019).

B.3 Raising awareness of the actual and potential value of crop wild relatives, landraces and underutilized species of local and regional importance for food security and sustainable development

21. The Secretariat is collaborating with different departments and units in FAO to implement activities in support of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use, in particular implementation of the *Second Global Plan of Action for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*, and preparation of the *Third Report on the State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*.

22. Relevant information and requests are also included in the Report of the Ninth Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and in the documents discussed during the Seventeenth Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. These recognized the importance of on-farm management of farmers' varieties/landraces and *in situ* conservation of crop wild relatives and wild food plants.

IV. EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A JOINT PROGRAMME ON BIODIVERSITY IN AGRICULTURE FOR SUSTAINABLE USE OF PGRFA

23. Through Resolution 6/2017, the Governing Body requested the Secretary to “explore the possibility of establishing a Joint Programme on Biodiversity in Agriculture for Sustainable Use of PGRFA (Joint Programme) involving relevant international organizations and other stakeholders, with a view to enhancing the mission and goals of the Programme of Work beyond 2019 through the establishment of a long-term programme 2020–2030, for consideration by the Governing Body at its Eighth Session”.

24. As a contribution to the process of exploring the possibilities of establishing such as a Joint Programme, an informal meeting of experts on implementation of the sustainable use of PGRFA and the Joint Programme was organized in Bari, Italy, from 23 to 25 May 2018, with the generous support

of the Government of Italy and the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (CIHEAM).⁷ The meeting advised that possible objectives of the proposed Joint Programme could, inter alia, be to:

- promote awareness and capacity-building of stakeholders, such as decision-makers, farmers' organizations and other relevant institutions and sectors, scientists, local farmers, agribusinesses, and the general public;
- create an enabling environment for sustainable use of PGRFA through coherent policies, legislation, strategies and action plans;
- strengthen market and financial mechanisms towards the sustainable use of PGRFA through support and guidance to governments and relevant stakeholders;
- facilitate the coordination, synergy and management of scientific and traditional knowledge for the sustainable use of PGRFA;
- boost sustainable use activities on the ground through an integrated approach to in situ, on-farm and ex situ strategies.

25. The informal meeting of experts also developed four potential thematic areas for a Joint Programme, which would cross-cut with the work of other organizations and stakeholders/potential partners, thereby providing a platform for collaboration:

- Disaster relief and the conservation of natural capital;
- PGRFA and an attractive rural life;
- A food-system approach to food and nutrition security and ensuring resilience to climate change;
- Systemic and holistic approaches to the sustainable use of PGRFA in an enabling legal and institutional environment at all levels.

26. The Secretariat has facilitated further consultation, in order to reach more stakeholders, through an online survey. The analysis of the survey results is contained in the document, ACSU–Electronic Consultation 1/19/Inf.4.⁸ The results showed strong support for the overall objectives, as well as for all four thematic areas identified by the Expert Group, which were widely seen as providing promising platforms for collaboration in a joint programme of work.

27. Consequently, a component referred to as the “Joint Programme on Biodiversity in Agriculture for Sustainable Use of PGRFA” has been inserted in the proposed The Programme of Work on Conservation and Sustainable Use of PGRFA (2020–2023).⁹ It could further support other processes and engagement with partners where there are important synergies and PGRFA connections, in particular, for implementation of Articles 5, 6 and 9 of the International Treaty.

V. PROGRAMME OF WORK ON CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE AND SUPPORTING INITIATIVES (2020-2023)

28. It will be recalled that, since the entry into force of the International Treaty, Article 5, on Conservation of PGRFA, has not been an express item on the Agenda of the Governing Body, and has

⁷ Proceedings, Informal Meeting of Experts 23–25 May 2018, CIHEAM, Bari, Italy “Exploring possible elements of a Joint Programme on biodiversity in agriculture for sustainable use of PGRFA 2020-2030”; available at: www.fao.org/3/ca4973en/ca4973en.pdf

⁸ *Results of the Online Consultation Exploring the Possibility of Establishing a Joint Programme of Work on Biodiversity for Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* www.fao.org/3/ca4977en/ca4977en.pdf

⁹ Component 4, Annex II to the draft Elements for a Resolution contained in the *Appendix* to this document

never benefitted from the dedicated inputs of any subsidiary body or intersessional work. It has only been considered indirectly in the agenda on Article 6, and sporadically by different subsidiary bodies.

29. At its second meeting in March 2019, the Bureau of the Eighth Session of the Governing Body approved the Provisional Agenda for the Eighth Session of the Governing Body, and included an agenda item on ‘Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture’, in recognition of the close links between Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty.

30. The current Programme of Work 2016–2019 will expire this year, providing an opportunity for the Governing Body to consider future work on Conservation and Sustainable Use including, possibly, a new multi-year programme to succeed the current one.

31. The proposed Programme of Work 2020–2023 is based on the experience gained so far in implementing the current one. Its elements provide a more comprehensive linkage between ‘conservation’ and ‘sustainable use’ of PGRFA, in recognition that sustainable use should not be considered as a stand-alone activity, but rather be closely linked to the conservation of PGRFA.

32. Consequently, the ‘Vision, Mission and Goals’, and the ‘Components and Outcomes, GB 9–2021 and GB 10–2023’, have been adapted accordingly, as contained in *Annex I* and *Annex II*, respectively, to the draft Elements for a Resolution in the *Appendix* to this document. The six Components of the Programme of Work 2020–2023 are listed without making any distinction between those adopted by the Governing Body and those to be undertaken by the Contracting Parties and other voluntary stakeholders.

VI. GUIDANCE SOUGHT

33. The Governing Body is invited to take note of the activities undertaken to implement the Programme of Work 2016–2019 and consider and adopt a new Programme of Work on Conservation and Sustainable Use of PGRFA 2020–2023, which provides a more comprehensive linkage between the ‘conservation’ and ‘sustainable use’, with a revised ‘Vision, Mission and Goals’ and a new table of components and outcomes. These are as contained in *Annex I* and *Annex II*, respectively, to the draft Elements for a Resolution in the *Appendix* to this document.

34. In recognition that sustainable use should be closely linked to the conservation of PGRFA, the Governing Body is also invited to rename and re-convene the Committee as the “Ad Hoc Technical Committee on Conservation and Sustainable Use of PGRFA”, taking into account the draft Terms of Reference included as *Annex III* to the draft elements for a Resolution provided for its consideration in the *Appendix* to this document.

APPENDIX

Draft Elements for Resolution **/2019**Implementation of Articles 5 and 6, Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture**

The Governing Body,

Recalling Resolutions 7/2013, 4/2015, 5/2015 and 6/2017, and **taking note** of the Report of the First Electronic Consultation of the *Ad Hoc* Technical Committee on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;

Reaffirming the key role of the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA and the link between Farmers' Rights under Article 9 and the provisions on conservation and sustainable use of Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty;

Taking into account that the *Ad Hoc* Technical Committee on Sustainable Use of PGRFA advised the Secretary to structure and update the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture 2020–2023, and to create synergies within the Programme of Work, and between the Programme of Work and other areas of work of the Treaty;

Recognizing that sustainable use should not be considered a stand-alone activity, but rather be closely linked to conservation of PGRFA;

1. **Endorses** the Vision, Mission and Goals of the Programme of Work on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (2020–2023), as contained in *Annex I* to this Resolution;
2. **Adopts** the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture 2020–2023, as contained in *Annex II* to this Resolution;
3. **Requests** the Secretary, in collaboration with other stakeholders, and subject to the availability of financial resources, to:
 - continue cooperating with all relevant units within FAO, other entities and institutions, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and International Agricultural Research Centres, as well as the private sector and civil society, for the effective implementation of activities in support of the Programme of Work 2020–2023;
 - cooperate with the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in organizing International Symposia aimed at sharing experiences and best practices and discussing possible future activities, including the creation of possible information exchange and networking mechanisms, and in the preparation of the Third Report on the State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.
 - facilitate and monitor the activities carried out by Contracting Parties, stakeholders and international organizations in support of the Programme of Work 2020–2023;
 - continue inviting and collecting submissions from Contracting Parties, other governments, relevant institutions, organizations and stakeholders on the promotion of, and ways of further improving measures for the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, while reducing the reporting duplication for Contracting Parties, which already report on implementation of the Second Global Plan of Action for PGRFA;
 - facilitate or organize regional training workshops on topics such as participatory plant breeding, community seed bank development, sustainable biodiverse production systems

- and promoting the value of farmers' varieties, and produce documentation and reporting thereon;
- support national programmes in policy development for sustainable use of PGRFA, and in building partnerships and mobilizing resources;
 - continue collaborating with other relevant initiatives, in particular, of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, on the interaction between genetic resources, community- and farmer-led system activities and protected area systems;
 - further develop collaboration with CGIAR Centres and other relevant organizations, on training and capacity-building for the sustainable use of PGRFA, including through efforts for joint resource mobilization.
4. **Thanks** the Government of Italy for the generous financial and in-kind support it has been providing to the implementation of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of PGRFA, and **calls on** Contracting Parties and other donors to provide additional financial resources for the implementation of the Programme of Work on Conservation and Sustainable Use of PGRFA.
 5. **Requests** Contracting Parties and stakeholders to continue reporting on their implementation of, and acknowledges the contribution of these initiatives to, the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;
 6. **Decides** to reconvene the *Ad Hoc* Technical Committee on Conservation and Sustainable Use of PGRFA with the Terms of Reference contained in *Annex III* this Resolution.

Vision, Mission and Goals of the Programme of Work on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (2020–2023)

VISION

Plant genetic resources for food and agriculture are conserved and used sustainably in accordance with Articles 5 and 6, to enable more inclusive and sustainable agricultural and food systems at local, national and international levels.

MISSION

To enhance the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture through effective measures that translate Articles 5 and 6 of the Treaty into country-level impact.

GOALS

Monitoring, implementing and ensuring technical support

Goal 1: To support and monitor efforts to implement the provisions of Articles 5, 6 and 9 by Contracting Parties of the Treaty and stakeholders that are relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, based on national priorities and needs.

Goal 2: To provide guidance by monitoring implementation of the Treaty in relation to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

Goal 3: To continue enhancing and monitoring the technical support and expertise provided by FAO in the area of conservation and sustainable use, as foreseen in Articles 5 and 6 of the Treaty.

Cooperating and improving partnerships

Goal 4: To strengthen collaboration and partnerships among stakeholders participating in projects and programmes relevant to conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, taking into account the Sustainable Development Goals and the Convention on Biological Diversity's post 2020 global biodiversity framework.

Goal 5: To implement the objectives of non-monetary benefit-sharing, and the Priority Activities of the *Second Global Plan of Action*, regarding the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

Annex II

The Programme of Work on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (2020-2023)

(Subject to the availability of resources)

Partners: Contracting Parties, international organizations and relevant interested stakeholders

<i>N.</i>	<i>Components</i>	<i>Outcomes GB 9 (2021)</i>	<i>Outcomes GB 10 (2023)</i>	<i>Goals of the PoW 2020–2023</i>
1	Training and capacity-building on conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA and Farmers' Rights. ¹⁰	<p>Sharing experiences and lessons learned on conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA and implementation of Farmers' Rights.</p> <p>Exploring new ideas to identify areas and opportunities to promote the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA and Farmers' Rights.</p> <p>Analysis of the Benefit-sharing Fund (BSF) projects, and their initial impacts on stakeholders' involvement, information dissemination and technology sharing.</p>	<p>Dissemination of existing national plans and programmes on conservation and sustainable agriculture, even through the Toolbox.</p> <p>Capacity-building events and tools focusing on particular techniques and technologies that can support conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA (e.g. participatory breeding, evolutionary breeding, generation and use of digital sequence information for PGRFA and effective use).</p>	2, 3 and 4
2	Toolbox for Conservation and Sustainable Use of PGRFA.	<p>Populating, expanding and disseminating the Toolbox on the Treaty website.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluating actual usage of the Toolbox.</p>	<p>Collection of available information, activities, programmes and additional elements arising for the Programme of Work in the Toolbox.</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluating actual use of the Toolbox</p>	1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
3	Implementing the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, as per Articles 5 and 6 of the Treaty.	The Secretariat monitors technical and policy developments, and reports to the Governing Body.	The Secretariat monitors technical and policy developments, which are referred to the Governing Body for guidance.	1, 2 and 5

¹⁰ In this table, 'Farmers' Rights' refers to Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the Treaty.

4	Joint Programme on Biodiversity in Agriculture for Sustainable Use of PGRFA. ¹¹	<p>Developing a concept note or notes based on the four thematic areas identified for discussion with potential partners and funders.</p> <p>Identifying partners and sources of funding, leveraging resources, expertise, and in-kind contributions for implementation of a Joint Programme on Biodiversity in Agriculture for Sustainable Use of PGRFA.</p> <p>Selecting experiences, practices and mechanisms on the sustainable use of PGRFA, as well as the complementarity of <i>in situ</i>, on-farm management and <i>ex situ</i> conservation of PGRFA.</p>	<p>Involving other organizations and stakeholders, to enhance joint programme implementation.</p> <p>Contracting parties and stakeholders receive technical support for the development of strategies and action plans to promote and enhance the sustainable use of PGRFA, including the conservation and utilization of crop wild relatives, involving all stakeholders.</p> <p>Analysis of financial strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA at national level.</p>	1 and 4
5	Promoting the development and implementation of friendly agricultural policies for the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA.	Collection of public policy measures adopted by contracting parties for supporting and facilitating the use of PGRFA in food systems (from crop innovation to food markets).	Comparative analysis of public policy measures adopted and their impact.	1 and 2
6	Access to and transfer of technology in the context of non-monetary benefit-sharing.	<p>First analysis of technologies, results of technical, scientific and socio-economic research, including characterization, evaluation, and utilization of PGRFA under the Multilateral System.</p> <p>Collection and dissemination of good practices and crop-specialized networks in relation to building partnerships, knowledge sharing and technology transfer.</p>	<p>First catalogue of inventories, information on technologies, results of technical, scientific and socio-economic research, including characterization, evaluation and utilization of PGRFA under the Multilateral System.</p> <p>Supporting the exchange of information, technologies and good practices among contracting parties and other stakeholders.</p>	1,2,3 and 5

¹¹ Five objectives were identified by the Informal Expert meeting on the Implementation of the Sustainable Use of PGRFA and the Joint Programme on Biodiversity in Agriculture www.fao.org/plant-treaty/meetings/meetings-detail/en/c/1111361

Terms of Reference for the *Ad Hoc* Technical Committee on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

1. The Ad Hoc Technical Committee on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (the Committee) will provide advice to the Secretary on:
 - the implementation of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and Supporting Initiatives;
 - cooperation with other international processes and institutions in the field of sustainable use of PGRFA;
 - the identification of additional activities and synergies within the Programme of Work, and between the Programme of Work and other areas of work of the International Treaty.
2. The Committee will comprise up to two members from each FAO region, and up to ten technical experts designated by the Bureau, in consultation with the regions and all relevant stakeholders, in particular farmers' organizations, taking into account the required range of technical expertise, and a regional and gender balance. Two Co-Chairpersons from Contracting Parties of the International Treaty will form part of the Committee – one from a developing country and one from a developed country. The Co-Chairpersons will be elected by members of the Committee designated by the regions.
3. The Secretary will continue maintaining and updating the list of experts for further reference. This will be made available to Contracting Parties with a possible view to expanding the pool of experts on sustainable use.
4. The Committee will work electronically and, if needed, may hold one meeting in the biennium 2020–2021, subject to the availability of financial resources. The Committee will prepare a report at the end of its meetings.
5. The Secretary will report to the Governing Body at its Ninth Session on the results of the Committee's work.