



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



The International Treaty
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Item 12 of the Provisional Agenda

EIGHTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Rome, Italy, 11 – 16 November 2019

Report on the Implementation of Farmers' Rights

Executive Summary

This document contains the report on activities related to the implementation of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty, undertaken or facilitated by the Secretariat during the current biennium. It summarises the relevant aspects of the preparations for and the support provided to the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights (Expert Group). The document also provides information on other initiatives, partnerships and collaboration, and on related discussions in other relevant fora and processes.

The report of the Expert Group to the Eighth Session of the Governing Body is provided in the document, IT/GB-8/19/12.2, *Report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights to the Eighth Session of the Governing Body*. The draft inventory prepared by the Expert Group is contained in the document, IT/GB-8/19/12/Inf.1, *Draft Inventory of National Measures, Best Practices and Lessons Learned from the Realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty*.

Guidance Sought

The Governing Body is invited to take note of the information provided in this document on activities undertaken during the biennium related to Farmers' Rights, and provide any further guidance it deems appropriate for the effective implementation of the Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the Treaty. The Governing Body is further invited to reconvene the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights, as proposed by the Expert Group, to enable it to conclude its tasks as established by the Governing Body at its Seventh Session.

To assist its deliberations, draft elements for a possible Resolution are provided in the *Appendix* to this document for the consideration of the Governing Body.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its Seventh Session, the Governing Body adopted Resolution 7/2017 on the implementation of Article 9, Farmers' Rights, through which it established the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights (Expert Group). It also requested the Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to facilitate the process and to assist the Expert Group.
2. This document reports on relevant aspects of the preparations for and the support provided to the work of the Expert Group, as well as on activities related to the implementation of Article 9, Farmers' Rights, undertaken or facilitated by the Secretariat during the current biennium. It also provides information on other initiatives, and reports on discussion within, and partnerships with, other relevant fora and processes.
3. This document should be considered in conjunction with the document, IT/GB-9/19/12.2, *Report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights to the Eighth Session of the Governing Body*. A number of information documents have also been prepared to provide further background and information to the Governing Body.¹
4. This document also seeks further guidance from the Governing Body on possible future activities for the effective implementation of the Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the Treaty, and provides draft elements for a possible Resolution on Farmers' Rights for the consideration of the Governing Body.

II. THE AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON FARMERS' RIGHTS

5. In establishing the Expert Group, the Governing Body requested it to:
“produce an inventory of national measures that may be adopted, best practices and lessons learned from the realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty”; and
“based on the inventory, develop options for encouraging, guiding and promoting the realization of Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty”.
6. Prior to the first meeting of the Expert Group, the Bureau of the Eighth Session designated certain members and representatives of relevant stakeholder groups, as requested by the Governing Body, as well as a number of observers. The Bureau also appointed Ms. Svanhild-Isabelle Batta Torheim (Norway) and Mr. Rakesh Chandra Agrawal (India) as the Co-chairs of the Expert Group, whose membership were considered to be outside the regional membership quota.
7. In order to assist the Expert Group in fulfilling its tasks, the Secretary issued a Notification inviting Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholders to submit best practices/measures for implementing Farmers' Rights, or to submit views, experiences and best practices as examples of possible options for national implementation of Article 9 of the International Treaty.²

¹ IT/GB-8/19/12/Inf.1, *Draft Inventory of National Measures, Best Practices and Lessons Learned from the Realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty*; IT/GB-8/19/12/Inf.2, *Report of the First Meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights*; IT/GB-8/19/12/Inf.3, *Report of the Second Meeting of the Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights*

² The notification of 8 May 2018, available at: www.fao.org/plant-treaty/notifications/detail-events/en/c/1128388/

8. A substantial volume of submissions from Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholders was received and published on the website of the International Treaty. The submissions were compiled, and a synthesis and brief analysis prepared, by the Secretary to support the work of the Expert Group.

9. The Expert Group held two meetings in Rome, Italy, from 11 to 14 September 2018, and from 20 to 23 May 2019.³ Following the outcomes and recommendations of the Expert Group at its meetings, the Secretary issued further Notifications,⁴ requesting updates or the provision of additional information.

10. In the process of producing the Inventory of National Measures, Best Practices and Lessons Learned from the Realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty (the Inventory), the Expert Group discussed and agreed on the structure and elements of the Draft Inventory. The Draft Inventory is contained in the document, IT/GB-8/19/12/Inf.1, *Draft Inventory of National Measures, Best Practices and Lessons Learned from the Realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty*.

11. With regard to developing Options for Encouraging, Guiding and Promoting the Realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty (the Options), the Expert Group agreed on elements to be covered in the introductory section, such as background and rationale, objective, nature and scope, intended users/target groups. It also agreed on an Outline for developing the Options.

12. The Report of the Expert Group to the Eighth Session of the Governing Body is presented in document IT/GB-8/19/12.2. The full reports of the two meetings are also provided, for the information of the Governing Body, in documents IT/GB-8/19/12/Inf.2, *Report of the First Meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights*, and IT/GB-8/19/12/Inf.3, *Report of the Second Meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights*.

III. DEVELOPMENTS AND DISCUSSIONS IN OTHER FORA OF RELEVANCE TO FARMERS' RIGHTS

13. At its thirty-ninth session, the United Nations Human Rights Council adopted *the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and other People Working in the Rural Areas* (Declaration), after several years of discussions and negotiations.⁵ The Declaration was subsequently adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.⁶

14. In its preamble, the Declaration recognizes the contribution of farmers to the conservation and management of biodiversity, as well as to food security:

“Recognizing also the past, present and future contributions of peasants and other people working in rural areas in all regions of the world to development and to conserving and improving biodiversity, which constitute the basis of food and agricultural production throughout the world, and their contribution in ensuring the right to adequate food and food

³ www.fao.org/plant-treaty/meetings/meetings-detail/en/c/1173567/

⁴ The second notification was issued on 19 December 2018, following the outcomes of the first meeting of the Expert Group, available at: www.fao.org/plant-treaty/notifications/detail-events/en/c/1175270/, and the last one on 25 June 2019, following the second meeting of the Expert Group, available at: www.fao.org/plant-treaty/notifications/detail-events/en/c/1199587/

⁵ A/HRC/RES/39/12 http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/RES/39/12

⁶ Adopted on 19 November 2018, through decision A/C.3/73/L.30, available at <https://undocs.org/en/A/C.3/73/L.30>

security which are fundamental to attaining the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” (recital 7).

15. The preamble also explicitly refers to the International Treaty in the context of FAO’s extensive work on the right to food, tenure rights, access to natural resources, and other rights of peasants (recital 29). It is also noteworthy that Article 19 of the Declaration on the ‘right to seed’ includes all provisions of Farmers’ Rights as addressed in Article 9 of the International Treaty.
16. At its seventy-second session, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 2019–2028 the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (UNDDFF).⁷ In May 2019, the UNDDFF Joint Secretariat⁸ officially launched the United Nations Decade of Family Farming, presenting its objectives and the Global Plan of Action.⁹ The Joint Secretariat called for the engagement of various stakeholders through concrete action at country level to support family farming, including through enabling policies and investments, and to increase understanding of the multidimensional potential of family farming, and its contribution to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.
17. In its latest report,¹⁰ *Agroecological and other Innovative Approaches for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems that Enhance Food Security and Nutrition*, the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE)¹¹ on Food Security and Nutrition highlighted the importance of maintaining heterogeneity in farmer managed seed systems, which is critical to securing future food supplies. Further, the HLPE recommends that States and Intergovernmental Organizations should explore “*building adaptation of international agreements and national regulations on genetic resources and intellectual property to better take into account farmers’ access to diverse, traditional and locally adapted genetic resources, as well as farmer-to-farmer seed exchange.*”¹²
18. In support of the work of the Expert Group on Farmers’ Rights, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) provided specific inputs articulating Article 9 of the International Treaty *vis-à-vis* Article 8(j) and related provisions of the CBD, as well as some of the decisions taken by the CBD Conference of the Parties (COP),¹³ and recommendations¹⁴ to COP 14, of relevance to Farmers’ Rights.
19. Regarding the process established by the Council of International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) to review frequently asked questions (FAQs) on the interrelations between the UPOV Convention and the International Treaty, the Secretary issued a notification

⁷ A/Res/72/239 <https://undocs.org/A/RES/72/239>

⁸ FAO and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

⁹ The Global Plan of Action was divided into seven pillars that define the areas of action in which policies, programmes and regulations in support of family farmers, such as indicative actions from global to local level – e.g. support to conservation – sustainably use, exchange and dynamically manage biodiversity (including native seeds, farmers’ varieties, landraces, and neglected and underutilized species).

¹⁰ HLPE Report no. 14 Published in July 2019, available at: www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/hlpe/hlpe_documents/HLPE_Reports/HLPE-Report-14_EN.pdf

¹¹ The science-policy interface of the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS), created in October 2009 as an essential element of CFS reform. The HLPE aims to facilitate policy debates and inform policy-making by providing independent, comprehensive and evidence-based analysis and advice at the request of CFS.

¹² HLPE Report 14, Item a)iii of Recommendation 2: Support Transitions to Diversified and Resilient Food Systems.

¹³ Such as: COP Decision XI/14, B, paragraphs 17–21; COP XII/12, CBD’s Global Plan of Action on Customary Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity and the Programme of Work on Agricultural Diversity; UNEP/CBD/COP14 e.g. Rec. 10/1.

¹⁴ CBD/WG8J/10/11, Rec. 10/1, *The Rutzolijirisaxik Voluntary Guidelines for the Repatriation of Traditional Knowledge Relevant for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity*; Rec. 10/4, *Resource Mobilization: Assessing the Contribution of Collective Actions of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and Safeguards in Biodiversity Financing Mechanisms*.

inviting those Contracting Parties who are also members of UPOV, as well as those stakeholders who are accredited observers to the UPOV Council, to contribute to the process.¹⁵

20. Furthermore, the Secretary is exploring the means to facilitate exchanges of experiences and information, both on possible areas of interrelations between the International Treaty, especially its Article 9, and the UPOV Convention, and on the ongoing process to review the FAQ on these interrelations, and possibly, to explore the participation of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

21. The UPOV Office also contributed to the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights, while the Proceedings of the Symposium on Possible Interrelations between the Treaty and the UPOV Convention were made available to the Expert Group at its first meeting.

22. With regard to relevant processes within the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), following Resolution 7/2017, the Secretary has been working with WIPO's Traditional Knowledge Division to identify possible areas of interrelations between the International Treaty, in particular its Article 9, and relevant instruments of WIPO, in an inclusive and participatory manner.

23. A representative of the WIPO Secretariat participated, as an observer, in the meetings of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights held in September 2018 and May 2019. It also submitted several publications to the Expert Group that might be of interest to its work, and of general use to relevant Contracting Parties and stakeholders.

IV. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

24. In an effort to continue outreach and communication on Farmers' Rights, with the support of relevant FAO Offices, the Secretariat facilitated three regional training initiatives on conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) and Farmers' Rights in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean regions. The objectives of the regional training workshops included enhancing implementation of the International Treaty through greater understanding of the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA and Farmers' Rights. They also sought to stimulate ideas and identify areas and opportunities for mainstreaming 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. In addition, they provided a platform for the sharing of experiences and lessons learned on the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA and implementation of Farmers' Rights.

25. As requested by the Governing Body, the Secretariat continued to disseminate and promote the use of the Educational Module on Farmers' Rights.

26. Within the framework of FAO South-South Cooperation, the Secretariat of the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) organized three regional meetings in 2018,¹⁶ aimed at (i) identifying national legislation, challenges and best practices for the implementation of Farmers' Rights; (ii) identifying common features of national legislation in the regions; and (iii) proposing options for the implementation of Farmers' Rights within national contexts. The Secretariat participated in one of the regional meetings, and the outcomes of all three regional meetings were submitted to the Secretariat and included in the background documentation for the first meeting of the Expert Group on Farmers' Rights.

¹⁵ NCP-GB8- 03 ITPGRFA/UPOV – FAQ available at: www.fao.org/plant-treaty/notifications/detail-events/en/c/1115185/

¹⁶ Civil society organizations (CSOs) Latin America and the Caribbean Consultation on Farmers' Rights, held in Seberí, Brazil from 17–20 April 2018; CSOs Asia and the Pacific Consultation of Farmers' Rights, held in Kederi, Indonesia from 10–13 July 2018; and CSOs Africa Consultation on Farmers' Rights, held in Nyeleni, Mali from 17–20 July 2018.

V. PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

27. The Secretariat continued to collaborate with a broad range of stakeholders and partners to promote capacity-building activities and identify practical ways of realizing the rights of farmers, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty.
28. Within the context of FAO technical development cooperation,¹⁷ the Secretariat collaborated with FAO Country offices to support capacity-building of farmers for *in situ*/on-farm conservation activities, e.g. the establishment of community seed banks, the collection and depositing of traditional crop varieties into national seed banks, and the organization of seed and market fairs.
29. The Secretariat collaborated with the Interdepartmental Working Group on Indigenous Peoples through a series of special events,¹⁸ regular meetings and the provision of inputs of relevance to Farmers' Rights. These included the High-Level Expert Seminar on Indigenous Food Systems¹⁹ organized within the framework of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition, and in the context of the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages. The FAO Indigenous Peoples Team helped to disseminate the Educational Module on Farmers' Rights, and invited indigenous farming communities to submit their experiences and lessons learned to the Secretariat.
30. Together with Bioversity International and partners, the Secretariat collaborated on a number of training and capacity-building activities, aimed at enhancing understanding of Farmers' Rights and its practical implementation. The Secretariat also collaborated with Bioversity International on the Indigenous Partnership for Agrobiodiversity and Food Sovereignty Fellowship, an initiative specifically designed for the indigenous youth and matrifocal societies.
31. The Secretariat of the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) has supported the participation of farmers' and indigenous peoples' organizations in relevant processes within the International Treaty. The IPC Secretariat has continued to promote its programme on Training and Capacity-Building on Farmers' Rights and Sustainable Use, and to assist the Secretariat of the International Treaty in disseminating an invitation to submit measures, best practices and lessons learned on the implementation of Farmers' Rights.²⁰

VI. POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FARMERS' RIGHTS

32. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights made significant progress in carrying out the tasks assigned to it by the Governing Body. However, due to time constraints the Expert Group was unable to complete the tasks. The Expert Group has, accordingly, recommended to the Governing Body that it be reconvened to finalize its tasks during the next biennium.²¹
33. The Expert Group further recommended that, should it decide to reconvene the Expert Group, the Governing Body should also request the Secretary to prepare relevant working documents to

¹⁷ For example, through the FAO-GEF-funded project: Dynamic Conservation and Sustainable Use of Agro-Biodiversity in Traditional Agro-ecosystems of the Philippines, specific training about implementation of Article 9 of the International Treaty was provided in March 2018, followed by a series of workshops to mainstream Farmers' Rights in drafting proposals to amend the national seed policy law and associated programmes.

¹⁸ Indigenous Youth: A New Generation from the Matrifocal Societies Revitalizing their Indigenous Food Systems, July 2019.

¹⁹ Held at FAO Headquarters from 7–10 November 2018. Available at: www.fao.org/indigenous-peoples/ifs-seminar/en/

²⁰ FAO South-South Cooperation Gateway – Regional consultations on Farmers' Rights: www.fao.org/south-south-gateway/en/

²¹ The Report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights is provided in the document, IT/GB-8/19/12.2.

facilitate the work of the Expert Group, including populating the outline for Options for further consideration by the Expert Group.

34. In this context, the Expert Group requested the Secretary to prepare draft elements for a possible Resolution for the consideration of the Governing Body at its Eighth Session, based on past Resolutions on Farmers' Rights, and incorporating the relevant recommendations and issues the Group had agreed on.

35. There is a growing awareness of the need to promote the implementation of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty. Through a variety of consultations and workshops – and based on the submissions received by the Secretariat – a number of Contracting Parties and stakeholders have consistently highlighted the issue of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty, and their contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources. In order to respond to the various requests for capacity building, and knowledge and information sharing, a set of concrete objectives and targeted actions would be helpful to sustain the progress achieved during this biennium.

36. Should the Governing Body decide to reconvene the Expert Group, it may also wish to request the Expert Group to suggest other measures and possible concrete activities to support the implementation of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty. Such suggestions could take into account the submissions received in the course of the work of the Expert Group.

VII. GUIDANCE SOUGHT

37. The Governing Body is invited to take note of the information provided in this document on activities undertaken during the biennium related to Farmers' Rights, and provide any further guidance it deems appropriate for the effective implementation of the Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the Treaty. The Governing Body is further invited to reconvene the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights, as proposed by the Expert Group, to enable it to conclude its tasks as set out in the Terms of Reference established by the Governing Body at its Seventh Session.

38. To assist its deliberations, draft elements for a possible Resolution are provided in the *Appendix* to this document for the consideration of the Governing Body.

APPENDIX

DRAFT ELEMENTS FOR RESOLUTION **/2019

IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 9, FARMERS' RIGHTS

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling the recognition, in the International Treaty, of the enormous contribution that the local and indigenous communities and farmers of all regions of the world have made, and will continue to make, to the conservation, development and use of plant genetic resources as the basis of food and agriculture production throughout the world;

Recalling its Resolutions 2/2007, 6/2009, 6/2011, 8/2013, 5/2015 and 7/2017;

1. **Welcomes** the *Report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights* (Expert Group), and thanks the Expert Group for the significant progress so far made by it in fulfilling its tasks;
2. **Takes note** of the officials and members of the Expert Group appointed or designated by the Bureau of the Eighth Session of the Governing Body;
3. **Welcomes** the *Inventory of National Measures, Best Practices and Lessons Learned on the Realization of Farmers' Rights* (the Inventory), recognizing that it is a rolling document that will be continuously updated and periodically reviewed, as necessary;
4. **Endorses** the structure of the Inventory and the template for collecting information, as developed by the Expert Group for inclusion or for further updating of the information in the Inventory;
5. **Welcomes** the establishment of an online electronic version of the Inventory, and **requests** the Secretary to continue soliciting more information to be included or to update existing information in the Inventory;
6. **Takes note** of the outline of the *Options for Encouraging, Guiding and Promoting the Realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty*, which will form the basis for the completion of the task of the Expert Group in this regard;
7. **Decides** to reconvene the Expert Group for the 2020–2021 biennium in order to complete its tasks based, *mutatis mutandis*, on the Terms of Reference established at the Seventh Session of the Governing Body.
8. **Decides** that the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group may hold up to two meetings in the biennium 2020–2021, as currently constituted, and report to the Ninth Session of Governing Body on its work for further consideration;
9. **Requests** the Expert Group, with the support of the Secretary, to suggest other measures to support the implementation of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty, which may include future short- and medium-term activities or programmes.
10. **Requests** the Secretary to prepare the relevant documentation to facilitate the work of the Expert Group, including by populating the template for the Options, for further consideration by the Expert Group;
11. **Requests** the Bureau of the Ninth Session of the Governing Body, working with the relevant region or stakeholder group, to fill any relevant vacant positions that may arise in the membership of the Expert Group.

12. **Thanks** the Governments of Italy and Norway for their generous financial support to the meetings of the Expert Group and **appeals** to Contracting Parties and other donors to provide additional financial resources for the work of the Expert Group, including to cover the costs of interpretation and the translation of documents into relevant languages;
13. **Invites** Contracting Parties to consider developing national action plans for the implementation of Article 9, as appropriate and subject to national legislation, in line with implementation of Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty, and to share information regarding progress with the development and implementation of such action plans;
14. **Invites** Contracting Parties to engage farmers' organizations and relevant stakeholders in matters related to the realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty, the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, and to promote awareness-raising and capacity-building towards this aim;
15. **Invites** Contracting Parties to promote sustainable biodiverse production systems and facilitate participatory approaches such as community seed banks, community biodiversity registries, participatory plant breeding and seed fairs as tools for realizing Farmer's Rights, as set out in the Article 9 of the International Treaty, as appropriate;
16. **Invites** Contracting Parties and relevant organizations to take initiatives to convene further regional workshops and other consultations with a broad range of stakeholders, including with farmers' organizations, particularly those in the centres of origin and crop diversity, for the exchange of knowledge, views and experiences on the realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty, and present the results at the Ninth Session of the Governing Body;
17. **Requests** the Secretary to facilitate such initiatives upon request, and subject to the availability of financial and human resources;
18. **Invites** Contracting Parties and all relevant stakeholders, especially farmers' organizations, to continuously submit or update views, experiences and best practices as examples of possible options for national implementation of Article 9 of the International Treaty, as appropriate and subject to national legislation, for inclusion in the inventory, and requests the Secretary to collect them;
19. **Requests** the Secretary to continue to disseminate and promote the use of the Educational Module on Farmers' Rights, and invites Contracting Parties and other relevant stakeholders to use it along with the catalogue of measures contained in the Inventory, as appropriate;
20. **Requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial and human resources, to consider organizing capacity development workshops and, to the extent feasible, in collaboration with relevant FAO units and other partners;
21. **Notes** the ongoing review process of the FAQ on the interrelations between the UPOV Convention and the International Treaty and exchange of experience and information on implementation of the UPOV Convention and the International Treaty, and requests the Secretary to continue exploring how Contracting Parties of the Treaty could further contribute to these processes, and to continue the dialogue with UPOV on these matters;
22. **Invites** each Contracting Party that has not already done so, to consider reviewing, and, if necessary, adjusting national measures that affect the realization of Farmers' Rights, in particular regulations concerning variety release and seed distribution, to protect and promote Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty, as appropriate and subject to national legislation;
23. **Takes note** of the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and other People Working in Rural Areas by the United Nations General Assembly;
24. **Appreciates** the participation of farmers' organizations in activities to support the realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty, and invites them to continue to actively participate in sessions of the Governing Body, and in relevant intersessional meetings of relevant subsidiary bodies established by the Governing Body, as appropriate and according to the

Rules of Procedure of the International Treaty, and giving due consideration to the FAO Strategy for Partnerships with Civil Society;

25. **Encourages** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to continue outreach and communication on Farmers' Rights, to relevant stakeholders as an important measure to advance the realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty;
26. **Requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to follow processes of relevance to Article 9 of the International Treaty, within and outside FAO, in order to promote the consideration of Farmers' Rights;
27. **Calls upon** Contracting Parties to support the activities outlined in this Resolution, including through the provision of financial resources;
28. **Requests** the Secretary to report to the Governing Body, at its Ninth Session, on the implementation of this Resolution.