UPDATING THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE: THE NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL CONSULTATION

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Commission), at its Twelfth Regular Session, in October 2009, agreed to update the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (GPA), in accordance with its Strategic Plan 2010-2017 for the implementation of the Multi-Year Programme of Work. The Commission requested the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to prepare the updated GPA based primarily on the Second Report on the State of the World`s Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (SOW-2) and, in particular, to focus on the identified gaps and needs, taking into account further contributions from Governments, as well as inputs received from regional meetings and consultations. It further decided that the updated GPA would be considered at its Thirteenth Regular Session in 2011.

2. A regional consultation for North America to discuss updating the GPA occurred in Beltsville, Maryland, USA on 21 - 22 September 2010. The agenda is presented in Appendix A. It was organized by FAO and the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Agricultural Research Service (USDA/ARS). Representatives from Canada, the United States, FAO, and the Secretariat of the Commission attended (see the list of participants in Appendix B).

3. The consultation began with opening remarks by Mr. Stefano Diulgheroff, FAO; Ms. Eva Hain, FAO Commission; Dr. Brad Fraleigh, AAFC/ISCB; Ms. June Blalock, USDA/ARS; and Dr. Peter Bretting, USDA/ARS. Dr. Fraleigh was elected to Chair the consultation and Ms. Karen Williams was elected Rapporteur.

II. INTRODUCTORY PRESENTATIONS

4. Mr. Diulgheroff delivered a presentation describing the process and timeline for updating the GPA. The gaps and needs identified in the SOW-2, along with input from Governments and from the regional consultations, will be considered in updating the GPA. Mr. Diulgheroff then described changes in conservation and use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) and the challenges for updating the GPA. He stressed that PGRFA is ever more important for global food security.

5. Dr. Bretting described the current status of the US National Plant Germplasm System. Dr. Richards similarly described current developments with Plant Gene Resources of Canada.

6. The attendees agreed that the objectives of the North American consultation should include generating recommendations (as precise as possible) regarding the content and structure of the updated GPA. They noted that the GPA is now a supporting element of the International Treaty on PGRFA (International Treaty), and its Governing Body takes the GPA into account in order to mobilize funding for priority activities, plans and programmes. In this context they discussed how the GPA can serve to guide the International Treaty's Funding Strategy and how the Priority Activity Areas (PAAs) might be prioritized within the updated GPA, so that the GPA can serve as an effective tool for setting priorities for global PGRFA efforts.

7. Throughout the consultation, the attendees referred to the document, "Updating the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture," which included the text of the current GPA, as well as sections of the SOW-2 that identified new information, gaps and needs since the first SOW Report. They also consulted reports of other regional consultations that had already taken place during this cycle.

III. SUMMARY OF RESULTS

A. Review of the Leipzig Declaration and Introduction

8. The consultation emphasized the importance of a new declaration, or its equivalent, as a means for publicizing the adoption of the new GPA. It expressed support for a joint declaration by the Governing Body of the International Treaty and the Commission, if feasible. In any case, the adoption of the revised GPA must be treated as a special occasion deserving international attention. Owing to its historical significance, the Leipzig Declaration should be retained as an appendix to the new GPA.

9. The consultation suggested the following modifications or additions for the **Introduction** section (Paragraphs 1-6):

- State that this is an update of the first GPA.
- In place of Paragraph 6, highlight accomplishments (1 or 2 paragraphs) resulting from the framework established by first GPA. Cite the adoption of the International Treaty, the revision of priorities for the CGIAR genebanks based on the GPA, and the new national PGRFA programs established after the first GPA was adopted (countries could be listed).
- Mention the complementarity of the GPA with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

10. The consultation recommended that the activities of the GPA be prioritized, but it chose not to undertake such a prioritization at this time.

B. Review of the Rationale for a Global Plan of Action

11. The consultation suggested adding an explanation of why it was necessary to update the GPA. The explanation should cite the request from the Commission that FAO prepare the update, which should take into account the gaps and needs identified in SOW-2.

12. The **Rationale** should emphasize the growing global problems of food security, climate change, habitat destruction and a growing urgency to address these challenges. It should elaborate on the fact that PGRFA are both threatened by these problems and can contribute to

solving them. As examples, growing human populations threaten wild areas, and climate change threatens to make current areas of distribution of crop wild relatives unsuitable for their survival. More information is needed on the many contributions of PGRFA to solutions for the many challenges faced by agriculture, including the need for increased production, threats from pests and diseases, climate change, etc.

13. The **Rationale** should include more information about the continuing genetic erosion in plant genetic resources, and increasing concerns about the effects of climate change and other factors. The loss of genetic materials within breeding programs should be highlighted as a separate cause for concern. The genetic vulnerability of many crops should be accorded more attention.

14. The **Rationale** should emphasize the capacity of molecular technologies to increase the contributions of PGRFA to solving problems.

15. The **Rationale** should make it clear that the GPA covers crop wild relatives, as well as crops. The current elements of the **Rationale** discuss crop plants exclusively. The Aims and Strategies section mentions crop wild relatives only in one sentence.

16. The **Rationale** should state that science and technology make important contributions to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources.

C. Review of the Aims and Strategies of the Global Plan of Action

17. Two revisions for Paragraph 9 were recommended. First, the current text in bullet 3 regarding sharing of benefits and capacity building should be replaced by language taken directly from the International Treaty. Second, bullet 5 should be revised as follows: "to strengthen, in particular, national programmes, as well **as increase regional and international cooperation**, including education and training, for the conservation and utilization of PGRFA and to enhance institutional capacity."

18. The consultation recommended deleting entirely Paragraph 10, which addresses strategies, because the content of this paragraph appears in other sections.

D. Review of the Structure and Organization of the Global Plan of Action

19. The consultation suggested that the subsections of **Coordination/administration** and **This activity is closely linked with** be eliminated from all the PAAs.

20. The name of the **Assessment** section should be changed to **Background** or **Current status**.

21. Achievements under the first GPA should be included in the **Background** section for each PAA.

E. Review of the Priority Activity Areas of the Global Plan of Action

22. As a general comment, the consultation recommended that, under the relevant PAA, the updated GPA should highlight progress made toward meeting the goals set by the first GPA.

23. Furthermore, all elements related to benefit sharing should be referenced to the International Treaty.

24. Duplication among PAAs should be reduced as much as possible and should be included only to add emphasis to sections or subjects (e.g., climate change).

In situ Conservation and Development

25. The consultation proposed to change the **title** of this section to "*In situ* Conservation and Management.**"**

26. PAAs 1, 2 and 4 should be retained; merge PAA 3 with PAA18.

PAA 1. Surveying and inventorying plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

27. In Paragraph 15, change "cultivars" to "traditional cultivars" and delete the phrase "especially those that are of anticipated use."

PAA 2. Supporting on-farm management and improvement of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

28. The scientific knowledge of on-farm management of PGRFA has advanced considerably over the past 15 years; therefore, much of the **Background** section should be rewritten to focus on the relevant scientific and technical advances.

29. The policy commentary under **Long-term objectives** should be updated. The text on benefit sharing should refer to the relevant section and text in the International Treaty. An additional objective should be added to cover assisting farmers in dealing with emerging challenges, including climate change.

30. Under **Intermediate objectives**, change "local" to "local and traditional" systems of knowledge.

31. The concept of "plant improvement" should be retained in this PAA.

32. Under **Research/technology**, section (b), change "gene flow" to "gene flow, including of transgenes." Under section (c), include participatory plant breeding as another type of crop improvement approach. Add a new section covering "studies of the dynamic balance between *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation."

PAA 3. Assisting farmers in disaster situations to restore agricultural systems

33. The consultation recommended re-locating PAA 3 with PAA 18 (Developing monitoring and early warning systems for loss of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture) under Institutions and Capacity Building. Wherever this PAA ultimately appears in the GPA, change the **title** to "Assisting farmers in disaster situations to restore crop systems."

PAA 4. Promoting *in situ* conservation of wild crop relatives and wild plants for food production

34. The consultation suggested changing the **title** to "*In Situ* conservation and management of crop wild relatives and wild plants for food production."

35. In the **Background**, include a reference to the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation developed under the CBD, and highlight the importance of wild species for food production.

36. Under **Policy/strategy**, either eliminate section (e) or add the phrase "according to national legislation."

37. If the section **Coordination/administration** is eliminated from all the PAAs, section 74(a) should be moved to the **Policy/strategy** section, and could be rephrased as "Enhance coordination, at both the national and international levels, between organizations in the environment and agricultural sectors."

38. A **Research/technology** section is needed. Types of research which might be included in this section are studies of:
- the dynamic balance between *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation, including direct comparisons of historically conserved vs. existing *in situ* accessions;
- models for assisted migrations of populations of crop wild relatives that may be threatened in their natural habitats by factors including climate change, alien invasive species, encroaching urbanization, etc.;
- the reproductive biology and habitat requirements of crop wild relatives; and
- the taxonomy of crop wild relatives.

Ex Situ Conservation

39. The consultation proposed changing the **title** to "*Ex Situ* Conservation and Management."

40. A new PAA should be added to emphasize the importance of documentation of *ex situ* collection holdings and associated characterization/evaluation data. There should be corresponding follow up in the **Capacity and Implementation** sections.

41. Eliminate PAA 8 and reorder the other PAAs to 7, 5, a new PAA on documentation, and 6. The only reason to maintain PAA 8 is if there is a need to highlight managing "recalcitrant" germplasm.

PAA 5. Sustaining existing *ex situ* collections

42. The consultation proposed a new **title** of "Sustaining existing *ex situ* collections and associated information" or "Maintaining and developing existing *ex situ* collections and associated information."

43. Merge information from PAA 8 related to vegetatively propagated and recalcitrant-seeded plants into this PAA. This PAA should also address the growing importance of managing genetic and genomic stocks. The capacity to distribute germplasm to users should also be discussed.

44. Modifications for the **Background** section include:
- Add the demands and needs associated with managing vegetatively propagated and recalcitrant-seeded plants (originally located in PAA 8), including challenges involved with safety duplication of such accessions.
- Update by mentioning the Global Crop Diversity Trust (GCDT).
- Mention that the unintended presence of proprietary genes in genebank accessions has recently become a genebank management challenge for some crops. Reference the CGIAR recommendations for handling this concern in a practical manner.

45. Under **Intermediate objectives**, re-write the first objective in Paragraph 81 using a more positive tone. The phrase "to promote access to and exchange of information about plant genetic resources for food and agriculture" could begin the sentence. Change the reference to the CBD to a reference to the International Treaty (which did not exist when the first GPA was written).

46. The **Policy/strategy** section should mention the need for greater rationalization of the global system of *ex situ* collections and refer to the ongoing projects supported by the GCDT.

47. Under **Research/technology,** highlight the need for 1) research on the best seed storage conditions for orthodox seeds, and 2) genomic studies/phenotypic studies better linking molecular data with phenotypic descriptor data.

PAA 6. Regenerating threatened *ex situ* accessions

48. The consultation noted that this PAA should include the widespread need for regenerating accessions that are vegetatively propagated and those with recalcitrant seeds.

49. Modify the **Background** section as follows:

- Add an explanation of "threatened" which includes the concepts of viability, health, security, and quantity of accession seeds and other propagules.
- Update with information on advances made in the regeneration of collections, including initiatives by the GCDT.
- Delete the reference to a global coordinating mechanism for regeneration.

50. Re-phrase the **Long-term objective,** replacing the current statement with "to regenerate germplasm to satisfy needs for conservation, distribution and safety duplication."

51. The **Intermediate objectives** should be revised. In the first sentence, the phrase "initiate action" should be deleted because it is out of date. The last sentence should be deleted because it refers to a world-wide regeneration of accessions (by the CGIAR), which was already undertaken.

52. Under **Policy/strategy**, delete the following sentence in Paragraph 102: "Regeneration should not be viewed as a means of maintaining collections in sub-standard conditions on a long-term basis."

53. In the **Research/technology** section, Paragraph 111, add "Applied research is needed to develop additional accession regeneration methods that are appropriate for cross-pollinated species."

PAA 7. Supporting planned and targeted collecting of PGRFA

54. The consultation had two specific suggestions for the **Background** section of this PAA. The third sentence "Global needs for collecting are not as high as 20 years ago…" should be changed to "Global threats to collections are different than they were 20 years ago. Threats to landraces and crop wild relatives now include climate change, alien invasive species, encroaching urbanization, etc. " In Paragraph 117, the text should discuss the growing urgency to collect crop wild relatives due to concerns about the effects of climate change and land-use patterns, and as new technology increases the ease of incorporating these materials into crop breeding programs.

55. Under **Intermediate objectives**, the words "To begin" should be deleted.

56. Add a **Research/technology** section that includes the use of GIS to make field collecting more effective.

57. The **Policy/strategy** section should refer directly to the International Treaty.

PAA 8. Expanding *ex situ* conservation activities

58. The consultation recommended deleting this PAA. The discussion of recalcitrant seeds should be moved from this PAA to PAA 5. Botanic gardens should be covered under Institutions and Capacity Building (PAA 15 or 16).

Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources

59. The consultation suggested a new **title** for this section: "Sustainable utilization of plant genetic resources."

60. This section needs to take into account the Global Partnership Initiative for Plant Breeding Capacity Building (GIPB) and include a brief discussion of participatory plant breeding.

61. Overall, this section might be re-formulated as follows:

- Add a new PAA 10bis that discusses the many and highly diverse users of PGRFA, with an emphasis on plant breeding.

- Merge PAAs 11, 12, and 14. The title for the merged PAA could be "Diversification of crop production and crop use."
- Re-order the revised PAAs as 9, 10, 10bis, merged (11, 12 and 14), and 13.
More details for these changes are provided in subsequent paragraphs.

PAA 9. Expanding the characterization, evaluation and number of core collections to facilitate use

62. Taking into account practical experience with genebank management since the mid-1990s, the consultation recommended that core collections be de-emphasized in this PAA. Wherever core collections are mentioned in the text, the discussion should be broadened to include evaluation subsets and other subsets that facilitate PGRFA use. To reflect this, change the section title to "Expanding characterization and evaluation to facilitate use." In addition, the links between characterization, evaluation and plant breeding should be highlighted in this section. Add that characterization and evaluation data should be documented and made readily available for use.

63. In the **Background** section, clarify the distinctions between characterization and evaluation.

64. Under **Long-term objectives**, Paragraph 148, delete sentence 3 and retain sentence 1, 2 and 4. Sentence 3 would be included in the proposed new PAA 10bis. Delete all of Paragraph 149.

65. The **Intermediate objectives** should include developing high throughput evaluation methods for identifying accessions with valuable traits. Examples include rapid, computerized assays of genetic and metabolic content; new biochemical analyses which require relatively small samples, little time, and few chemicals; and novel methods for rapidly-capturing morphological and structural variation in the field via hand-held computers.

66. In the **Policy/strategy** section, add "recognize that characterization and evaluation data can also help to improve *in situ* management of landraces, crop wild relatives, other wild plants, and forages." Subsection (c) should include the concept of improving access to information.

67. In all sections of **Research/technology**, complement the mentions of core collections with text about a range of evaluation subsets. Additional suggestions for this section were:
- Paragraph 161 – refocus on evaluation; include high throughput evaluation for traits related to adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, nutritive traits, etc.
- Paragraph 161 – include another paragraph on characterization.
- Paragraph 162 – replace "core collections" with "core collections and evaluation subsets for collections."

PAA 10. Increasing genetic enhancement and base-broadening efforts

PAA 10bis. Supporting activities of plant breeders and other users of plant genetic resources

68. The consultation proposed a **new PAA 10bis** with this title. The **Long-term objective** for this new PAA would be "To promote plant breeding and other uses of genetic resources that effectively increase their utilization leading to greater productivity and genetic diversity of crops and agricultural systems overall." One of the **Intermediate objectives** would be: "As appropriate, effectively generate varieties that are widely or specifically adapted."

69. Elements of the **Background** would include:
- Breeders are the principal delivery system by which plant genetic resources are delivered to farmers.
- Plant genetic resource information systems direct breeders and others to relevant germplasm material, evaluation information, and characterization information.
-There are many other scientific disciplines, in addition to plant breeding, that use plant genetic resources, including taxonomy, pathology, genetics, and medicine.
- The GIPB has a role in supporting plant breeding.
- There is a concern in many parts of world about the dwindling numbers of plant breeders.
- Crop genetics and breeding research are interdisciplinary.

70. The **Policy/strategy** section would include:

- encouraging the development of stakeholder groups who provide input to genetic resources systems regarding how to best meet their needs;
- reconsidering national policies and legislation that may affect participatory breeding, including the development of appropriate intellectual property protection and seed certification procedures for varieties developed through participatory plant breeding; and
- incorporating decentralized, participatory, and gender-sensitive approaches to plant breeding in national strategies to address the needs of poor farmers in less favorable environments.

71. The **Capacity** section would include:
- developing expertise to provide sound advice to germplasm users; and
- building plant breeding capacity in advance of addressing the challenge of adapting crop production to climate change.

72. The **Research/technology** section would include:
- making biotechnologies, genomics and other tools more widely available to plant breeding programs.

Merged PAAs 11, 12, and 14. Diversification of crop production and crop use
PAA 11. Promoting sustainable agriculture through diversification of crop production and broader diversity in crops
PAA 12. Promoting development and commercialization of under-utilized crops and species
PAA 14. Developing new markets for local varieties and "diversity-rich" products

73. The consultation recommended merging PAAs 11, 12 and 14 into a new PAA. This PAA should focus on underutilized crops, as well as on specific traits of major crops, both of which are needed to address the challenges of climate change, and nutritional and health concerns. The **Policy/strategy** section of the merged PAA should include the premise that capturing the potential market value of crops requires greater integration of the different segments of the production chain.

PAA 13. Supporting seed production and distribution

74. The consultation's reordering of the PAAs would make this the last PAA for this group. The consultation had no other comments on this activity.

Institutions and Capacity Building

75. The consultation proposed a new title of "Building sustainable institutional and human capacities." As mentioned above, PAA 3 should be incorporated into PAA 18 in this group.

PAA 15. Building strong national programmes

76. The consultation suggested that in the **Background**, Paragraph 220, botanic gardens should be mentioned as a type of institution that is important to a national program. This replaces the discussion of botanic gardens in PAA 8. Botanic gardens are in the mainstream of plant genetic resource conservation and should be treated as such. The **Background** should also state that national strategies and plans for conservation and use of PGRFA are important for setting priorities, distributing roles and responsibilities, and allocating resources.

77. Under **Policy/strategy**, emphasize that one of the elements of a strong national program involves setting national priorities, including priorities for assistance sought from international agricultural development programs. In Paragraph 230, place additional emphasis on effective coordination and collaboration among all the elements of a national program for PGRFA conservation, including ministries, government institutions, universities, private companies, CSOs, farmers' groups, and others. Closer collaboration between institutions in the agriculture and environment sectors is especially needed. Add this phrase: "Enhance coordination, at both the national and international levels, between organizations in the environment and agricultural sectors."

PAA 16. Promoting networks for plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

78. The consultation recommended that the **Background** include a statement according equal weight to regional, crop-specific and thematic networks, depending on their specific contexts and objectives. Networks will also play an important role in safety duplication of genebank accessions.

79. In Paragraph 242 of the **Background**, emphasize the synergy between national programs and networks. Networks support national programs and national programs support networks, making both more effective.

PAA 17. Constructing comprehensive information systems for plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

80. The **Background** section should be updated with information on recent improvements in the accessibility of information describing many collections. It should also be updated with information regarding the new GRIN-Global and Genesys PGR information management systems. This section should note that a global information system is one of the supporting elements of the International Treaty.

81. The **Long-term objectives** and **Intermediate objectives** should emphasize that data must be made more accessible and data formats should be as compatible as possible across different systems.

82. Under **Policy/strategy**, Paragraph 269, add a statement regarding how information is handled by the International Treaty, but the reference to Article 8(j) of the CBD should remain. A new paragraph in this section should reiterate the importance of integrating various information systems to enable global, regional and national assessments for PGRFA.

83. The information under **Coordination/administration** in Paragraph 276 is outdated. The **Coordination/administration** section should be deleted throughout the document, but if similar information were included elsewhere, it must be updated.

PAA 18. Developing monitoring and early warning systems for loss of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

84. The consultation recommended merging PAA3 into this PAA. A possible new title would be "Preparing for and reacting to threats to genetic diversity."

85. The **Background** should incorporate concepts from both the old PAA 3 related to assisting farmers with responses to disasters and the old PAA 18 related to developing monitoring and early warning systems.

86. In discussing the use of material from genebanks to assist farmers in disaster situations, it should be clear that material in genebanks is just one element of the response to a disaster. Other elements, such as locating and utilizing pockets of surviving genetic diversity *in situ* or identifying nearby, less-affected areas with similar environmental conditions, might be even more important. Information on recent work related to indicators useful for monitoring should be included.

87. Under **Policy/strategy**, state that, if needed, an early warning system should be implemented at the national level and, if appropriate, dangers would then be brought to international attention. The extent and nature of possible threats to existing diversity on farm and *in situ* require additional study. Higher-order indicators should be developed for measuring the extent of genetic erosion and genetic vulnerability. A lower number of indicators will be more manageable. Many indicators can be combined and indexed to create fewer major indicators.

88. In the **Research/technology** section, Paragraph 289 should be reformulated and include a need for further research into applying GIS technology to monitoring and predicting the loss of PGRFA and incorporating the resulting information into comprehensive information systems.

PAA 19. Expanding and improving education and training

89. The consultation suggested two additions to the **Background** section**:**

- A decline in taxonomic expertise has limited the ability to conserve and utilize PGRFA.
- In many countries, personnel are inadequately trained to collect, conserve, regenerate, characterize, document and distribute PGRFA. This lack of expertise endangers many valuable PGRFA collections.

90. The **Capacity** section should specifically mention the need to enhance capacity in plant taxonomy and in agronomic practices needed to maintain existing gene bank holdings.

91. Related to the **Policy/strategy** section, the consultation recommended assessing the existing capacity and needs in each country for conserving and using PGRFA, and applying this information to develop national, regional and global strategies for education and training.

PAA 20. Promoting public awareness of the value of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture conservation and use

92. The consultation viewed this PAA as continuing to focus on promoting public awareness rather than on advocacy.

93. The **Background** section should include updated information regarding advances in scientific understanding of on-farm management of PGRFA, increasing awareness of the importance of conserving crop wild relatives *ex situ* and *in situ*, the importance of genetic diversity for reducing risk in production systems, and the growing interest in underutilized crops.

94. Three changes were suggested for the **Policy/strategy** section. First, in Paragraph 316, the last sentence should be revised to read "Public awareness **and the roles that specific target audiences can play in sustaining plant genetic resources activities** should be considered when developing any national programme activity." Second, the section should state that stakeholders who use genetic resources should be encouraged to participate in public awareness activities. Lastly, this section should mention the need to assess the full value of PGRFA and the impact of its use, and to bring this information to the attention of policy makers and the public.

95. Paragraph 322 of the **Capacity** section should mention the important role of botanic gardens in promoting awareness.

Implementation and Financing of the Global Plan of Action

96. The consultation recommended that the **Implementation** section cross-reference relevant sections of the International Treaty, and that it focus on the primary role that national governments play in the implementation of the Priority Activity Areas.

97. Note in this section that different countries will play different roles in the implementation of the GPA. The role each country plays in implementation at the international, regional and national levels will depend on the stage of development of its national program. All countries must play a role if the goals of the GPA are to be achieved.

98. The **Financing** section should reference the funding strategy of the International Treaty.

APPENDIX A

COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization
in collaboration with
the United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Research Service

North American Consultation for the Global Plan of Action on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of PGRFA

21-22 September 2010, George Washington Carver Center, U.S.A.

Agenda

Tuesday 21 September 2010

8.00 – 9.00	Registration	
9.00 – 9.40	Welcome Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) AAFC, Canada USDA/ARS	Stefano Diulgheroff, FAO Eva Hain, FAO CGRFA Secretariat Brad Fraleigh June Blalock, Peter Bretting
9.50 – 10.00	Introduction of participants and Election of the Chair	Peter Bretting
10.00 – 10.10	Agenda and Objectives	Brad Fraleigh
10.10 – 10.30	GPA updating process	Stefano Diulgheroff
10.30 – 10.50	Refreshment break	
10.50 – 11.20	Changes in PGRFA conservation and use: Challenges for the new GPA	Stefano Diulgheroff
11.20 – 11.35	Summary of PGRFA in U.S.A.	Peter Bretting
11.35 – 11.50	Summary of PGRFA in Canada	Ken Richards
11.50 – 12.20	Dynamics of discussions	
12.20 – 14.00	Lunch	
14.00 – 15.40	Preliminary discussion on prioritization within the updated GPA	
15.40 – 16.00	Refreshment break	
16.00 – 17.30	Review of introductory parts of the original GPA	

Wednesday 22 September 2010

8.30 – 10.10	Review of Priority Activity Areas of the original GPA	
10.10 – 10.30	Refreshment break	
10.30 – 12.10	Review of Priority Activity Areas of the original GPA	
12.10 – 14.00	Lunch	
14.00 – 14.30	Review of Priority Activity Areas of the original GPA	
14.30 – 15.00	Discussion on implementation and financing of the next GPA	
15.00 – 15.30	Discussion on any proposed new Priority Activity Areas	
15.30 – 16.00	Summary discussion	
16.00 – 16.30	Refreshment break	
16.30 – 17.00	Summary discussion	
17.00 – 17.30	Closing comments	

APPENDIX B

Participants

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