



## Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

### Implementation of the Multi-Year Programme of Work

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has the honour to refer to the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Commission) established in accordance with Article VI.1 of the Constitution of the Organization. The Commission is an intergovernmental forum for discussion and negotiation by Governments on matters related to biodiversity for food and agriculture.

The Commission's Fifteenth Regular Session will be held at FAO Headquarters in Rome from 19 to 23 January 2015. Documents may be downloaded, as they become available, from the Commission's website:

<http://www.fao.org/nr/cgrfa>

The Commission operates under a Multi-Year Programme of Work or MYPOW, a planning tool to schedule and review its work, with a rolling horizon of five Commission sessions (i.e. ten years). The MYPOW was adopted by the Commission in 2007 and revised at its last session in 2013. The report of the Fourteenth Regular Session of the Commission is available on the Commission's website.

In the context of its MYPOW, the Commission has welcomed the proposal to reduce routine reporting, in favour of focused consultations with international organizations. The Organization therefore wishes to invite relevant international organizations to provide focused information on their programmes, activities and policies relevant to the prioritized themes of the Commission's Fifteenth Regular Session:

#### Animal genetic resources

- Presentation of *The Second Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*

#### Forest genetic resources

- Follow-up to the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources

#### Plant genetic resources

- Review of implementation of the updated Global Plan of Action

#### Micro-organisms and invertebrates

- Review of work on micro-organisms and invertebrates

#### Cross-sectorial matters

- *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*: Consideration of the internalization of the ecosystem approach to biodiversity management in agriculture, forestry and fisheries;
- *Access and benefit-sharing for genetic resources for food and agriculture*: Consideration of draft elements to facilitate domestic implementation of access and benefit-sharing for different subsectors of genetic resources for food and agriculture;
- *Biotechnology*: Review of the work of the Commission's Working Groups on the application and integration of biotechnologies for the conservation and sustainable utilization of genetic resources for food and agriculture;
- *Climate Change*: Draft guidelines to support the integration of genetic diversity into national climate change adaptation planning.

It would be appreciated if any inputs to these themes, which should not exceed 800 words, could be sent by e-mail to the Secretary of the Commission, Ms. Linda Collette, at [cgrfa@fao.org](mailto:cgrfa@fao.org) by 20 September 2014. The Commission Secretariat will collate the reports into a single document which will subsequently be submitted to the Commission.

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This communication is being sent to heads of selected international organizations.