



FOURTH CALL FOR PROPOSALS **Benefit-sharing Fund of the** **International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and** **Agriculture**

THE HELPDESK FUNCTION

The Governing Body, at its Fourth Session, welcomed the establishment of the Helpdesk function to support the elaboration of pre-proposals and full project proposals during the second round of the project cycle and acknowledged the important contribution of Helpdesk functions, language facilities, as well as support workshops, to ensure an inclusive process to which all regions feel committed.

In light of this, a Helpdesk function will be provided for the Fourth Call for Proposals to facilitate the process of preparing pre-proposals and full project proposals for funding from the Benefit-sharing Fund. The Helpdesk will provide technical support through e-mail and phone during the pre-proposal phase and during the development of full project proposals. To address the special needs of under-represented regions, the Helpdesk will provide language facilities in Arabic during the entire application process, in addition to the official languages of the Benefit-sharing Fund (English, French and Spanish).

Applicants are invited to contact the Helpdesk at Treaty-Fund@fao.org (tel: 0039 06 570 52731) for further elaboration and explanation of the information contained in the Call for Proposals document or to seek answers to any other questions that they may have regarding the submission of pre-proposals or full project proposals.

The Helpdesk of the Fourth Call for Proposals will fulfill the following functions:

- provide technical assistance over the phone and e-mail regarding the preparation of pre-proposals and full project proposals, in Arabic, English, French and Spanish; and
- conduct support workshops focussing on the preparation of full project proposals for applicants invited to prepare full proposals from under-represented regions (Europe, Near East and South West Pacific) including applicants from other regions' Contracting Parties that have not yet received any support of the Benefit-sharing Fund.