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COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

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IMPLEMENTATION AND FINANCING OF THE *GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES*

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IMPLEMENTATION AND FINANCING OF THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its last session, the Working Group agreed that it was appropriate to reflect the need for financial resources at the national level in the *Strategic Priorities for Action* which should be contained within the *Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources*. The Working Group also recommended that the Commission and the International Technical Conference consider the need for additional financial support,¹ and whether the *Global Plan of Action* should include a section on implementation and financing.²
2. The Working Group also considered the relationship between the *Global Strategy for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources*, which the Commission has overseen, and the future *Global Plan of Action*. The Working Group recommended the Global Strategy remain as technical programme, until FAO Regular Programme support currently available for the further development of the Global Strategy can be shifted to the new *Global Plan of Action*.³ The Global Strategy would be replaced by the *Global Plan of Action*, as FAO realigned support for the latter. The Global Strategy contains a number of components and elements which have provided a framework for implementing activities on animal genetic resources over the past fourteen years. Given the recommended transition from the Global Strategy to the *Global Plan of Action*, the Commission may wish to review the components and elements of the Global Strategy (see *Appendix 2*), in order to determine which, if any, of them need to migrate to the *Global Plan of Action*.
3. *Appendix 1* of the current document contains draft text on implementation and financing to assist the Commission to consider
 - the need for, and content of, a section on implementation and financing within the *Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources*; and
 - how specific constituent elements and components of the Global Strategy could be reflected in such a section on implementation and financing.
4. The Commission has previously provided guidance on priority activities on animal genetic resources within the context of the Global Strategy. Section III, paragraph 11 of this document requests further guidance from the Commission on activities to be implemented under the Global Strategy, until the next Regular Session of the Commission. In future, guidance would be sought on activities related to the *Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources*.
5. The Commission may wish to review the draft text on implementation and financing, revise it as necessary, and forward it to the International Technical Conference for consideration as a part of the *Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources*.

II. IMPLEMENTATION ELEMENTS OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF FARM ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES

6. *Appendix 2* shows the components and elements of the *Global Strategy for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources*. The Global Strategy includes the

¹ CGRFA-11/07/3, paragraph 16.

² CGRFA-11/07/3, paragraph 27.

³ CGRFA-11/07/3, paragraphs 26-27.

Intergovernmental Mechanism, which indicates the governance structure for overseeing implementation of the Global Strategy. The Reporting and Evaluation component is a key function of the governance structure. These interrelated components have been taken into account in the draft text, paragraphs 3-6 of *Appendix 1*. The text indicates that overall monitoring of implementation would be through the Commission. The Commission would review both status and trends reports and reports on implementation of the *Global Plan of Action* progress, as requested by the Commission.

7. The Global Strategy has a Country-based Planning and Implementation Infrastructure component that includes a Global Focal Point, Regional Focal Points, National Focal Points, Donor and Stakeholder Involvement Mechanism and information and communication system (DAD-IS) This component of the Global Strategy outlines that processes for animal genetic resources are country-driven with supporting regional and global structures and functions. This structural component is reflected in the draft text, in paragraphs 7-9 of *Appendix 1*.

8. The Global Strategy includes a Technical Programme of Work component, which includes National Management Plans for Animal Genetic Resources, Sustainable Intensification, Characterization, Conservation, Communication and Emergency Plans and Response. In addition, the Global Strategy has two elements that address Capacity-Building and Technical Assistance. All of these elements are addressed in the *Strategic Priorities for Action*. This component is reflected in the draft text, in paragraphs 10-12 of *Appendix 1*.

9. The Global Strategy does not include a financing component, as it has served as a framework for technical work on animal genetic resources. A donor and stakeholder involvement mechanism was included in the Global Strategy. Paragraphs 2 and 13-16 of the draft text in *Appendix 1* address financing, collaboration and the need to involve stakeholders in the implementation process.

III. GUIDANCE SOUGHT FROM THE COMMISSION

10. With regard to whether the *Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources* should include a section on implementation and financing, the Commission might wish to:

- (i) Invite the International Conference to consider including a section on implementation and financing as a part of the *Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources*, and to forward draft text to the Conference.
- (ii) Request the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources to consider, at its next session, the approach to evaluating progress in the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources*, and to make recommendations to the next Regular Session of the Commission on the format for receiving progress reports and potential criteria and indicators to assess implementation progress.

11. With regard to activities on implementation of the Global Strategy during the transition period, the Commission might wish to request:

- (i) Donors to support the establishment of a follow-up mechanism led by the Global Focal Point, as recommended by the Commission at its Tenth Regular Session, to better facilitate country-driven implementation of the *Strategic Priorities for Action*.
- (ii) FAO, to provide periodic reports on the status and trends of animal genetic resources, to serve as the early warning system for animal genetic resources.
- (iii) The Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources to consider at its next session, the form and content of status and trends reports on animal genetic resources, and to examine options for responding to the identification of breeds as being at risk.

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- (iv) FAO to continue to further develop methods for improving inventory and characterization of animal genetic resources, and to provide a progress report to the next session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources, so that the Working Group can advise the Commission on future work in these areas.
 - (v) FAO to continue to develop technical guidelines in relation to the sustainable use and development of animal genetic resources in low- and medium input production systems, and to provide a progress report to the next session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources, so that the Working Group can advise the Commission on future work in this area.

*Appendix I***DRAFT TEXT ON IMPLEMENTATION AND FINANCING OF THE *GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES* FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMISSION**

1. The Conference recognized that the *Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources* provides an important and effective international framework for advancing efforts to ensure the sustainable use, development and conservation of animal genetic resources for food and agriculture, and will contribute to efforts to achieve world food security and to eradicate poverty.
2. Implementation of the *Global Plan of Action* will require substantial, long-term strategic investments and incentives for national, regional and international animal genetic resources programmes. The process should encourage and support the participation of farmers, pastoralists and breeders; local and indigenous communities; organizations and institutions; the private sector; and civil society. Regional and international collaboration will be crucial.
3. Overall progress in the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action* would be assessed by national governments and Members of FAO, through the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. In order to discharge this function, the Commission would need to address the priority areas of the *Global Plan of Action* in an organized and focussed manner, within the context of the Commission's Multi-Year Programme of Work.
4. The Conference recognized that the *Global Plan of Action* will assist the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture to fulfil its mandate, and that overall progress in its implementation and of related follow-up processes would be monitored and guided by Members of FAO, through the Commission. In order to discharge this function, the Commission will need to develop a phased programme within its Multi-Year Programme of Work for reviewing progress in the implementation of the rolling *Global Plan of Action* to facilitate updating. To this end, Members are encouraged to agree, through the Commission, on the format for progress reports from all parties concerned and criteria and indicators to assess implementation progress.
5. The Conference recognized the need to periodically assess the status and trends of animal genetic resources, especially in light of the large number of breeds that are at risk of being lost globally. The Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture should regularly receive status and trends reports on animal genetic resources and factors influencing change, providing an early warning system for animal genetic resources.
6. In light of the findings of reports on progress in implementation and reports on status and trends, the conclusions of the Commission should be brought to the attention of concerned governments and international institutions to fill gaps, rectify imbalances or lack of coordination, and to consider new initiatives or activities.
7. The Conference recognized that the main responsibility for implementing the *Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources* rests with national governments and acknowledged the need for effective National Focal Points for Animal Genetic Resources, noting the importance of national networks to mobilize and engage stakeholders in the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*. Each country will determine its own priorities in light of those agreed in the *Global Plan of Action* and within the framework of its food and agriculture development needs, and as appropriate, cooperate with other nations and international organizations.
8. The Conference acknowledged that international networks for animal genetic resources should be encouraged and strengthened through implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*, noting the important role of Regional Focal Points and regional networking to build collaborative partnerships, to coordinate regional management efforts in animal genetic resources, to further develop information sharing, and for cost-effective technical cooperation, training and research.

9. The Conference acknowledged the essential role of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in supporting country-driven efforts to implement the *Global Plan of Action*, especially to support developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Continuing to facilitate global and regional collaboration and networks, supporting the convening of intergovernmental meetings, maintaining and further developing the Domestic Animal Diversity Information System, mobilizing donor resources for animal genetic resources, establishing a portfolio of country and regional projects, developing communications products, and coordinating future preparation of global status and trends reports on animal genetic resources, were affirmed as key functions for the Organization.

10. The Conference acknowledged the importance of developing and transferring technologies related to the inventory, characterization, sustainable use, development and conservation of animal genetic resources, and other aspects related to the management of these resources. The *Strategic Priorities for Action* underline the need for technical development and collaboration. Implementation of the four Priority Areas require collaborative involvement, and coordination among governments, international agencies, non-governmental organizations and others, to organize and conduct training and research initiatives throughout the world.

11. The Conference recognized the need to promote the provision of technical assistance, especially to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, either bilaterally or through appropriate national and international organizations, with the objective of facilitating implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*. Developed countries should undertake to facilitate access of appropriate technologies, in order to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to implement their national programmes for animal genetic resources, while respecting applicable property rights and access laws.

12. The Conference acknowledged that technical guidelines and assistance, and coordinated training programmes prepared by FAO had been instrumental in advancing work on animal genetic resources, and that this essential role should continue in future to assist all countries to implement the *Global Plan of Action*.

13. The Conference acknowledged that significant, but indeterminate, funding for animal genetic resources for food and agriculture is currently provided by national governments and other domestic sources of funds, as well as from multilateral and bilateral organizations and regional sources. The Conference recognized that full implementation of the *Global Plan of Action* would require significant increases in activities and investments, commensurate with the scope of the *Global Plan of Action*.

14. The Conference recognized the need for additional funding, to support priority activities, and to overcome gaps in capacity, and that implementation would need to be progressive. The Conference strongly recommended that each country make every effort to provide, in accordance with its capacities, financial support and incentives with respect to national strategic priorities that are intended to achieve the objectives of the *Global Plan of Action*, in accordance with national plans, policies and programmes.

15. The Conference reaffirmed that international cooperation should be strengthened to facilitate the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*, in particular to support and complement the efforts of developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

16. The Conference recommended that the major multilateral and bilateral funding and development institutions should be invited to examine ways and means of supporting the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*. Every effort should be made to seek new and innovative sources of funding and the leveraging of available financial resources. Non-governmental organizations and the private sector should be encouraged to participate and support implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*.

*Appendix 2***CONSTITUENT ELEMENTS OF THE *GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF FARM ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES***

Components:	Intergovernmental Mechanism	Country-based Planning & Implementation Infrastructure	Technical Programme of Work	Reporting & Evaluation
Elements:	<p>The Commission on Genetic Resources for Food & Agriculture</p> <p>Intergovernmental Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources</p> <p>National Governments</p>	<p>Global Focal Point</p> <p>Regional Focal Points</p> <p>National Focal Points</p> <p>Donor & Stakeholder Involvement Mechanism</p> <p>DAD-IS</p>	<p>National Management Plans for AnGR</p> <p>Sustainable Intensification</p> <p>Conservation</p> <p>Communication</p> <p>Emergency Plans & Response</p>	<p>First Report State of the World's AnGR</p> <p>Country Reports</p> <p>Country & Global Monitoring</p> <p>World Watch List – Early warning System</p>

Capacity Building	<p>Training and Education</p> <p>Technology Transfer</p>	<p>Guidelines</p> <p>Research</p>	<p>Data & Information Management</p> <p>Communication & Coordination</p>
Technical Assistance	<p>FAO Experts</p> <p>Expert Meetings</p> <p>Research</p>	<p>Informal Panel of Experts</p> <p>Advanced Data & Information Software</p>	<p>Cadres of Experts</p>