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Our Ref.: NCP GB8-018 – MLS – reviews/assessments

Rome, 29 January 2019

NOTIFICATION

Reviews and Assessments under the Multilateral System – Invitation to send inputs

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have the honour to draw your attention to <u>Resolution 4/2017</u>, Operations of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing, by which the Governing Body decided to undertake the reviews and assessments foreseen under Articles 11.4 and 13.2(d)(ii) of the International Treaty, at its Eighth Session and requested the Secretary to prepare the relevant documentation.

Three reviews and assessments are foreseen under these two Articles of the International Treaty:

- Assessment of progress in the inclusion of material by natural and legal persons and decision on continued facilitated access for natural and legal persons Article 11.4;
- Assessment of whether the mandatory payment requirement shall be extended Article 13.2d(ii)
- Review of payment levels Article 13.2d(ii); and

I invite Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholders to provide information, in particular, on progress made with the inclusion of material in the Multilateral System by natural and legal persons.

This could include, for example, information on measures taken to encourage natural and legal persons who hold plant genetic resources for food and agriculture listed in *Annex I* to include such plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in the Multilateral System (Article 11.3 of the International Treaty) and on experiences made by natural and legal persons to include their plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in the Multilateral System.

The review of payment levels and the assessment of whether the mandatory payment requirement shall be extended are being discussed, as part of the revision of the Standard Material Transfer Agreement (SMTA), by the *Ad Hoc* Open-ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System (Working Group). The outcomes of the revision of the SMTA will be provided in the report of the Working Group to the Eighth Session of the Governing Body.

To facilitate the preparations of the Eighth Session of the Governing, I would appreciate receiving such information by **15 March 2019** at PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org .

For any query or request for further information, please contact the Secretariat of the International Treaty at:

Kent Nnadozie Secretary International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations 00153 Rome, Italy PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org



Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Kent Nnadozie

Secretary
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources
for Food and Agriculture