



15 September 2010

Invitation to the Fourth Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Bali, Indonesia, 14 – 18 March 2011

Reply requested by 31 January 2011

The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has the honour to extend an invitation to attend the Fourth Session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. The Session will be held in Bali, Indonesia, from 14 to 18 March 2011 and will be preceded by two days of consultations, on 12 and 13 March 2011. The opening session will begin at 10.00 hours on Monday, 14 March 2011.

The Governing Body is convened under the provisions of Article 19 of the Treaty and is open to all Contracting Parties to the International Treaty and to observers. Expenses incurred by representatives of Contracting Parties, when attending sessions of the Governing Body, or subsidiary bodies, as well as the expenses incurred by observers at sessions, shall be borne by their respective governments or organizations. Extra-budgetary funds have however, been made available to the Secretariat for the purpose of supporting one representative of developing country Contracting Parties, if they so request. Countries wishing to avail themselves of such support should inform the Secretariat before 14 January 2011, and provide the name and full contact details of the representative.

The session will be conducted in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

... The draft Provisional Agenda is attached. Further documents may be downloaded from the following website: <http://www.planttreaty.org>, as soon as they become available.

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This communication is sent to addressees of selected FAO Members as prescribed in the official channels of communication of FAO, as follows:

For ACTION/INFORMATION, as appropriate:

- Main Addressees (Ministers for Foreign Affairs or Agriculture or other addressees selected by the Government);
- Permanent Representatives to FAO/Embassies.

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

The Director-General would appreciate receiving by 31 January 2011, the name(s) of the delegate, alternate, expert(s) and adviser(s) of each Contracting Party or, in the case of Non-Parties, the name(s) of the observer(s), designated to participate in the Session with their addresses, including telephone, fax number and e-mail addresses. This information should be communicated to:

Mr Shakeel Bhatti
Secretary
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla
00153 Rome
Italy
Tel: +39 06 5705 3554
Fax: +39 06 5705 6347
E-mail: PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org

Any queries or requests for information should also be addressed to the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture at the above address.

Each Contracting Party is kindly asked to submit the credentials of its delegate(s), alternate(s) and expert(s) and adviser(s) designated to attend the meeting to the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, insofar as possible, not later than 25 February 2011.

At the initiative of the Government of Indonesia, a Ministerial segment will be held just before the Governing Body. The Ministerial segment will be open to Ministers from Contracting Parties.

Submission of credentials prior to the meeting would greatly facilitate the advance clearing process by the Secretariat. The credentials should be issued by, or on behalf of, the Head of State or Government, the Minister of Foreign Affairs or the minister concerned, or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization. If credentials are submitted in copy or by fax, the original should be submitted upon registration at the session. An example of credentials, issued by a Minister of Foreign Affairs, ... is attached for your information.

Participants are advised to enquire at the nearest Embassy or Consulate of Indonesia whether visas are required to enter Indonesia, at least 30 days before the date of the meeting.



The International Treaty

ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



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Item 1 of the Provisional Agenda
FOURTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY
Bali, Indonesia, 14 – 18 March 2011
DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable
2. Election of the *Rapporteur*
3. Appointment of the Credentials Committee
4. Establishment of a Budget Committee
5. Report of the Chair
6. Report of the Secretary
7. Financial Rules of the Governing Body
8. Adoption of procedures and operational mechanisms to promote compliance and to address issues of non-compliance
9. Implementation of the Funding Strategy of the Treaty
 - 9.1 Report of the Chair of the *Ad Hoc* Advisory Committee on the Funding Strategy
 - 9.2 Implementation of the Funding Strategy
10. Consideration of the Business Plan of the Governing Body
11. Implementation of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing
 - 11.1. Review of the implementation of the Multilateral System
 - 11.2. Assessment of progress in the inclusion in the Multilateral System of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture held by natural and legal persons
 - 11.3. Review of the implementation and operation of the Standard Material Transfer Agreement and the Multilateral System
 - 11.4. Review of the Material Transfer Agreement being used by the International Agricultural Research Centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and other relevant international institutions, for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture not included in *Annex 1* of the Treaty

12. Operation of the Third Party Beneficiary
 - 12.1 Report of the Chair of the *Ad Hoc* Third Party Beneficiary Committee
 - 12.2 Report on the operations of the Third Party Beneficiary
13. Implementation of Article 9, *Farmers' Rights*
14. Implementation of Article 6, *Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources*
15. Relationship between the Governing Body and the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
16. Relationship between the Governing Body and the Global Crop Diversity Trust
17. Report on the status of cooperation with other international organizations, including Agreements between the Governing Body and the International Agricultural Research Centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and other relevant international institutions
18. Matters relevant to the Treaty arising from the of FAO reform process
19. Adoption of the Work Programme and Budget for 2012/13 biennium
20. Other business
21. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Fifth Session of the Governing Body
22. Date and place of the Fifth Session of the Governing Body
23. Adoption of the Report and Resolutions of the Governing Body

CREDENTIALS
(Sample)

[Name of Ministry]

THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF [STATE]

Considering that it is desirable that the Government of [State] will be represented at the Fourth Session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, to be convened in Bali, Indonesia, from 14 to 18 March 2011,

HAS DECIDED

To appoint a delegation which shall be entitled to take part in the above-mentioned meeting and to designate as:

Delegate

[Name] – [Position]

Alternate

[Name] – [Position]

Adviser(s)/ expert(s)

[Name] – [Position]

[Name] – [Position]

Signed and sealed at [place and date]

MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS