



# The International Treaty

## ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



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Our Ref.: NCP GB3 Capacity Building

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### NOTIFICATION

#### Announcement of a Capacity Building Project for Developing Countries on Implementation of the Treaty and its Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing

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Dear Madam/Sir,

The Secretary of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture is pleased to inform Contracting Parties of the launching of a project entitled, "Legal and Technical Assistance to Developing Countries on Implementing the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture with Particular Reference to the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing".

The project objective is to develop improved national laws and regulations as well as administrative and information technology arrangements for the operation of the Multilateral System. The project also aims to improve knowledge among national stakeholders of issues underlying the implementation of the Treaty and in particular the Multilateral System.

The project provides technical assistance to developing countries to implement the Treaty, and in particular to initiate the Multilateral System and apply its Standard Material Transfer Agreement. It responds to requests from Contracting Parties for support to establish the legal and information systems of the Treaty and follows the guidance given by the Governing Body in 2007. At its Second Session the Governing Body recognized the importance of collaboration between the Treaty Secretariat and the International Agricultural Research Centers and welcomed cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and Bioversity International.

The generous contribution of the Government of Sweden and of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency has made it possible for the project to commence. The project is supervised by the Secretary of the Treaty and jointly executed with the FAO and Bioversity International.

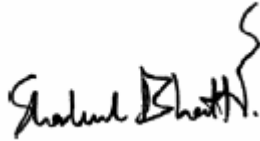
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The project will have a multiplier effect as the experience accumulated in the course of its activities will be synthesized in a series of information products to be considered by the Governing Body for possible endorsement that will enable other countries to benefit from the project.

Based on available funds, the project is designed to assist a limited number of recipient countries that will be selected in a regionally balanced manner and in response to expressions of interest.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shakeel Bhatti', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Shakeel Bhatti  
Secretary  
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources  
for Food and Agriculture