

July 2010



# The International Treaty

ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



## SECOND MEETING OF THE *AD HOC* ADVISORY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON THE STANDARD MATERIAL TRANSFER AGREEMENT AND THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM OF THE TREATY

**Brasilia, Brazil, 31 August – 2 September 2010**

### INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

#### 1. Opening

The Second Meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Standard Material Transfer Agreement and the Multilateral System of the Treaty ('the Committee') will be held in Brasilia, Brazil, from Tuesday 31 August – Thursday 2 September 2010.

The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Tuesday 31 August 2010.

A group dinner has been organized for all participants on Monday, 30 August at 20.00. Participants are advised to take this into account when making their travel arrangements. Details will be communicated shortly.

#### 2. Venue

The meeting will be held at EMBRAPA Headquarters:

**CECAT – Centro de Treinamento em Agricultura Tropical**  
**Parque Estação Biológica**  
**70770-901 Brasilia DF**  
**Brazil**

##### Local contacts:

Roberto Lorena - Ministry of Agriculture – cell: +55 61- 84604087  
 Maria Jose Amstalden Sampaio – Embrapa – cell: +55 61- 91768702  
 Rosa Miriam Vasconcelos – Embrapa – cell: +55 61- 92474079

#### 3. Working language of the meeting

The meeting will be held in English only.

#### 4. Documents

Participants are kindly reminded to bring their own copies of the documents issued before the meeting, although efforts will be made to make additional hard copies available on site during the meeting.

For reasons of economy, this document is produced in a limited number of copies. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring it to the meetings and to refrain from asking for additional copies, unless strictly indispensable.  
 Meeting documents are available on Internet at <http://www.planttreaty.org>

## 5. General information on access to Brasilia

Brasilia is serviced by Presidente Juscelino Kubitschek Airport (20 km from downtown). Taxis are available at the airport and takes about 30 minutes..

### Fares in Brazilian Reais

#### Taxis:

Airport /Downtown

Approx R\$ 50

## 6. Visa/customs

Participants from countries that require an entry visa for Brazil are strongly advised to contact the nearest Brazilian diplomatic or consular mission **as soon as possible** in order to secure the required entry visa in a timely manner, prior to departure. It should be noted that, under Brazilian law, it is not possible to acquire a visa upon arrival in Brazil. Furthermore, air line companies **do not allow boarding** in the absence of a valid visa.

To facilitate the issuance of visas, the Secretariat will issue upon request letters to be attached to the visa applications.

## 7. Hotel information

A block-booking has been made for participants at:

Mercure Brasília Líder□

SHN Quadra 5 bloco I

CEP 70705-912 Brasília DF

Tel.: 55 61 3426 4030

Fax: 55 61 3426 4023□

Website: <http://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-3627-mercure-brasilia-lider/index.shtml>

Participants are kindly informed that **they have to pay for their own hotel rooms**. To benefit from the special room rates, participants must mention their affiliation with the United Nations FAO event and may have to provide a credit card number upon arrival.

Transportation will be provided by Embrapa from the hotel to and from the place of the meeting in the mornings and at the end of sessions in the evening.

## 8. Payment of the Daily Subsistence Allowances (DSA)

Sponsored participants will be receiving their DSA through the FAO Representation or UNDP office in their country or region, or upon arrival in Brasilia from the Secretariat Staff.

**9. Official language in Brazil**

The official language in Brazil is Portuguese, however English is widely spoken in Brasilia.

**10. Weather and time zone information**

In July, average temperatures in Brasilia range between 20 – 26°C in the daytime and a 12 – 18°C at night. The standard time zone will be GMT – 3 hours. For more information on weather, go to: <http://www.worldweather.org/136/c00290.htm>

**11. Dress Code**

The dress code at EMBRAPA is casual dressing. Warmer clothing may be needed in the evenings.

**12. Electricity**

220 volts, 60 Hertz. Inlet sockets are either for two-pin, flat and vertical plugs, or two round pins.

**13. Currency**

The currency in Brazil is the Brazilian Reais (R\$). The current exchange rate is roughly US \$1 = R\$ 1.77 and Euro €1 = R\$ 2.30.