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COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Item 4.1 of the Provisional Agenda

INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Eighth Session

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

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I. Introduction

1. The Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Commission), at its Twelfth Regular Session, adopted the *Funding Strategy for the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources*¹ (Funding Strategy) and requested FAO to implement it.²

2. The Funding Strategy covers all known and potential sources of financial resources that support the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources (Global Plan of Action)*. This document provides information on resources under the FAO Trust Account, and gives a brief account of FAO's regular programme and extrabudgetary financial resources dedicated to the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*. It reports on the status of implementation of the first project cycle under the FAO Trust Account, and considers monitoring and evaluation procedures. More detailed information on resources dedicated to the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action* as well as partnerships and alliances pursued by FAO with other international mechanisms and organizations to facilitate the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action* is given in the document, *Detailed FAO Progress Report on the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources*.³

II. Funding Strategy for the Implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources

A. Use of resources under the FAO Trust Account

3. No additional funds have been received since the Government of Switzerland, in December 2012, made USD106,000 available for a possible second call for proposals.

4. Under the first call for proposals under the Funding Strategy, 13 project proposals, involving 30 countries, were approved for funding by the Commission at its Fourteenth Regular Session. Subsequently, 19 Letters of Agreements (LoA) were signed for the implementation of the 13 projects. The number of LoAs prepared exceeds the number of projects because, for budgetary and operational reasons, some multicountry projects have required the development of one LoA per country.

5. All projects are currently being implemented, but the status of the projects varies. By the end of 2014, six projects are scheduled to provide their first (six-month) reports, one project its second report and five projects their third reports. The completion and final reporting for three projects are expected by the beginning of 2015.

6. The administration and monitoring of each project under the Funding Strategy is complex and time consuming. For example, the development of the LoAs required two to eighteen months of negotiation, depending on the project. This delayed the implementation of several projects. Revision of workplans was necessary and implementation and reporting are slightly deferred.

7. The overall management of the implementation of the Funding Strategy was coordinated by a professional staff member funded by Switzerland and supervised by the Chief, Animal Genetic Resources. Four technical officers dedicate part of their time to the negotiation and monitoring of projects, and a general service staff member is in charge of the administrative aspects of the LoAs. The overall staff cost in 2013-14 amounts to USD 420,000, about half of which is provided by FAO's Regular Programme budget. To ensure that more resources from the Trust Account of the Funding Strategy can be used for project work, future calls for proposal under the Funding Strategy should increase the amount of funds per project, so as to decrease the administrative costs per project. The quality of the projects retained would be higher and their implementation could be better monitored.

¹ CGRFA-12/09/Report, Appendix C.

² CGRFA-12/09/Report, paragraph 43.

³ CGRFA/WG-AnGR-8/14/Inf.3.

B. FAO Regular Programme

8. In the PWB 2012–2013,⁴ work on animal genetic resources contributed to Organizational Outputs B03 – *Better management of natural resources, including animal genetic resources, in livestock production*; F03 – *Policies and programmes are strengthened at national, regional and international levels to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity for food and agriculture and the equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources*; and F05 – *Countries have strengthened capacities to address emerging environmental challenges, such as climate change and bioenergy*.⁵

9. In the PWB 2014–2015⁶ under FAO's new Strategic Framework and Medium Term Plan, work on animal genetic resources, including implementation of the Global Plan of Action, contributes to one Outcome of Strategic Objective (SO) 1 – *Contribute to the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition*, four Outcomes of SO 2 – *Increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner*, and in particular the major area of work on ecosystem services and biodiversity; one Outcome of SO 3 – *Reduce rural poverty*; and one Outcome of SO 4 – *Enable more inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems at local, national and international levels*. Work on animal genetic resources also contributes to Objective 6 “Technical quality, knowledge and services”. TCP funds were made available by FAO and IAEA.

C. Voluntary contributions to FAO

10. FAO received funds to support the implementation of the Global Plan of Action at global level from France, Germany, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland (total of approximately USD1.9 million) and for regional and country projects from India, Mongolia, Mauritania, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, the World Bank, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the African Development Bank and International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), through the Joint FAO/IAEA Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture (total of approximately USD15.3 million). The funds under these programme cooperation agreements helped FAO provide catalytic funds for special activities at all levels. FAO is also associated with several European Commission-funded projects that provide stipends for developing-country participants and support the generation and dissemination of knowledge. FAO has also prepared a multi-donor trust fund programme to facilitate the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*, which has so far not received any contributions.

D. Resources not under FAO control

11. The Funding Strategy lists four different types of relevant resources, including resources that are not under FAO control. FAO has a facilitating role in enhancing countries' access to information on funding, in that it continues to provide information on funding sources and grants through the DAD-Net discussion network and through the Funding Strategy web site.⁷

12. The Commission invited countries and international organizations to report to FAO on financial resources used for the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*.⁸ The document *Synthesis progress report on the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources – 2014*,⁹ the Country Progress Reports and the International Organization Progress Reports provide insight into various policies, programmes and activities undertaken at different levels to promote the wise management of animal genetic resources as a means to improve food security and sustainable development. All reports will be made available on the Implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*

⁴ C 2011/3.

⁵ CGRFA/WG-AnGR-7/12/4 and CGRFA/WG-AnGR-7/12/Inf.2 Annex 5.

⁶ C 2013/3 Medium Term Plan 2014-17 and Programme of Work and Budget 2014-15; CL 148/3 Adjustments to the PWB 2014-15, Annex 5 Rev.1 updated May 2014 in PC 115/2 Annex 1: Results Framework – MTP 2014/17 / PWB 2014-15.

⁷ http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/programmes/en/genetics/Funding_strategy.html.

⁸ CGRFA-13/11/Report, paragraph 88.

⁹ CGRFA/WG-AnGR-8/14/Inf.5.

web-site.¹⁰ While 30 percent of countries reported an increase in national funding since the adoption of the *Global Plan of Action*, only 12 countries provided funding to other countries, and 25 countries received external funding for the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*. The country experiences imply that they have made strategic use of national, bilateral and multilateral resources to advance the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*. AU-IBAR and Heifer International reported in the International Organizations Progress Reports that they provided funding to countries for the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*, and many other organizations supported a wide range of capacity-development activities. Four international organizations (AU-IBAR, IAEA, International Livestock Research Institute, SAVE Foundation) stated that their own budget for activities supporting animal genetic resources programmes has increased since the adoption of the *Global Plan of Action*.

III. Guidance sought

13. The Working Group may wish to recommend that the Commission to
- Review the administrative costs of the Funding Strategy and consider, for any future call for proposals under the Funding Strategy, to increase the budget per project; and
 - Invite donors to contribute to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action.

¹⁰ http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/programmes/en/genetics/Reporting_system.html.