



Our Ref.: NCP GB8-26 – GB8 Invitation

26 June 2019

## NOTIFICATION

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

**Rome, Italy, 11 – 16 November 2019**

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Dear Sir/Dear Madam,

Following the publication of the dates of the Eighth Session of the Governing Body in January, I am now pleased to inform you that the invitation letters have been dispatched through the official channels of communication.

The Session will be held at FAO headquarters in Rome, from 11 to 16 November 2019 and will be preceded by regional and inter-regional consultations, and related events on 9 and 10 November 2019. The opening session will begin at 10.00 hours on Monday 11 November 2019.

The Session will be conducted in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. The Provisional Agenda can be downloaded at <http://www.fao.org/plant-treaty/meetings/meetings-detail/en/c/1111365/>

The Governing Body is convened under the provisions of Article 19 of the International 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 **20 August 2019**, and provide the name and full contact details of their representative.

We would appreciate receiving, **by 20 August 2019**, the name(s) of the delegate(s), alternate(s), 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.

Online registration is accessible for **FAO Members** through the password-protected area of the FAO Members Gateway at: <http://www.fao.org/members-gateway/home/en/> Instructions for online registration can be downloaded from the website. Please note that online registration requires the uploading of a recent passport-size digital photograph. Pursuant to Article 27, the International Treaty is open for accessions by all Members of FAO and any States that are not Members of FAO but are Members of the United Nations, or any of its specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency. You can download a model instrument of accession at: <http://www.fao.org/plant-treaty/countries/en/>



**Observers**, including international organizations, designated to attend the meeting are requested to forward their names, official titles and addresses by email to [PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org](mailto:PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org), together with a recent passport-size photograph.

Each Contracting Party is asked to kindly submit the credentials, as indicated below, of the delegate(s), alternate(s), expert(s) and adviser(s) designated to attend the Session to the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, insofar as possible not later than 20 August 2019. The credentials for national delegations should indicate which member is the delegate, the alternate and the adviser(s).

**Mr Kent Nnadozie**

Secretary International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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Please note that credentials of Members and Associate Members of the Organization shall be valid if they:

- i. bear the signature of, or are signed on behalf of, one of the following authorities: Head of State, Head of Government, Minister for Foreign Affairs or Minister for the Department concerned;
- ii. are letters signed by an Ambassador, Chief of Mission or Chargé d'Affaires, which contain a phrase confirming that they are acting upon instruction from their governments;
- iii. are "Ordres de Mission" if specific mention is made of the current session and if they are signed by the Minister concerned;
- iv. are Notes Verbales; and
- v. are scanned copies of the original credentials.

An example of credential is attached to the official letter and can be provided upon request. If credentials are submitted in copy, the originals should be submitted upon registration.

Before travelling, participants should check with the competent Italian Consulate if they need a visa to enter Italy. Kindly note that visas can be requested in the country of origin (country in which the participant holds citizenship) or in the country of residence (country in which the participant resides at the time of visa application). Those participants who do not have an Italian Consulate in their countries, may apply at the corresponding Italian Consulate in a neighbouring country, or at any other Consulate which belongs to a Schengen or European country. Visa applications should be submitted to the Italian Consulate one month before arrival in Italy.

It is the responsibility of participants to request their visa applications personally, arrange for an appointment and present all the necessary documentation to the Italian Consulate. Participants who do not need an entry visa to enter Italy should ensure that their passports are valid for at least three months after the intended date of departure from the Schengen area. In these cases, upon entering Italy, border authorities may require the participants to show evidence for the reason and the duration of their stay in Italy. Participants with non-direct flights to Rome should check whether a transit visa is necessary to enter the transit area of international airports.

The Secretariat of the International Treaty will publish additional information on logistics and on the event as it becomes available at: <http://www.fao.org/plant-treaty/eighth-governing-body/en/>

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

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

**Kent Nnadozie**  
Secretary  
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources  
for Food and Agriculture