NOTIFICATION

Approval of new project on descriptors for in situ Crop Wild Relatives documentation

Dear Madam/Sir,

The Secretariat is pleased to announce the approval of a new project under the Programme of Work on the Global Information System (GLIS) titled ‘Development of a globally agreed list of descriptors for in situ Crop Wild Relatives documentation’.

The main objective of the one-year project is to improve global food security through effective conservation and increased use of in situ Crop Wild Relatives (CWR) material, and enhanced capacity to use information to support their conservation and sustainable utilization. The new project, funded by the Government of Germany through the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL), will contribute to the implementation of Articles 17 and 5 of the International Treaty.

An international language for CWR in situ data will be developed to enable experts to compile and exchange data held by different national and international organizations, advanced research institutes and other bodies known to possess relevant data. The project will review existing descriptors and will request for inputs at the global level through a survey and consultation with experts on different crops and regions in order to consolidate and promote global standards in this area of work.

The project, which will be operational until May 2020, is expected to have a positive effect, in the medium and long-term, on in situ conservation of CWR and wild plants for food production, including in protected areas. It will also contribute to the implementation of Article 6 on sustainable use of plant genetic resources.

For any query or request for further information, please contact the Secretariat of the International Treaty at:

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

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