



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**



The International Treaty
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

FIRST MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE FUNDING STRATEGY AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

21 - 24 July 2020

Organisation of the work of the Funding Committee in the 2020-21 biennium: planning phase

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This document contains elements that may assist the Standing Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilization (the Funding Committee) to organise its work for the 2020-21 biennium.
2. It provides information on the requests made of the Funding Committee by the Governing Body through Resolution 3/2019 and its Annexes, concerning the implementation of the Treaty's new Funding Strategy 2020-2025. This includes those requests made by the Governing Body through the text of the Resolution, the text of the Funding Strategy and its Annexes, and as contained in the Funding Committee's Terms of Reference.
3. The document, in Section III, describes possible next steps that could be undertaken by the Committee. Given the new mandate of the Funding Committee, which gives it increased responsibility for providing guidance and decisions on the operations of the Benefit-sharing Fund during the biennium, an update on the operations of the Benefit-sharing Fund is also provided as part of the next steps to be undertaken by the Committee.
4. The information contained in this document is intended to provide a basis for the discussions of the Committee for *Item 4: Organization of the work of the Funding Committee* and *Item 5: Next steps and Future work of the Funding Committee*, of the Provisional Agenda for the meeting, contained in document IT/GB-9/SFC-1/20/1.

II. SUMMARY OF REQUESTS MADE BY THE GOVERNING BODY TO THE FUNDING COMMITTEE THROUGH RESOLUTION 3/2019 FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUNDING STRATEGY 2020-2025

5. At its Eighth Session, the Governing Body adopted the Funding Strategy of the International Treaty for the period 2020 to 2025, through Resolution 3/2019,¹ in order to enhance the availability, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of the provision of financial resources to implement activities under the Treaty.

¹ <http://www.fao.org/3/nb780en/nb780en.pdf>

6. It decided to establish, within the Funding Strategy, a target of USD \$0.9–1.1 billion per year over a period of 10 years with a milestone of 40% to be achieved by 2026 to support the implementation of the International Treaty through a wide range of sources and channels;²

7. It decided to make the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilization a standing Committee and requested it to play a leading role in advancing the realization and monitoring of the Funding Strategy in order to provide the necessary strategic guidance as well as operational oversight of relevant processes and activities relating to the Funding Strategy;³

8. Below, a summary of the requests made by the Governing Body to the Funding Committee through Resolution 3/2019 and its Annexes is detailed in two parts: the implementation of the Funding Strategy; and, the further development of the Funding Strategy.

The implementation of the Funding Strategy

i. Resource Mobilization

1. Develop a strategy to mobilize funds from food processing industries, as called for in Article 13.6 of the Treaty;⁴
2. Develop a range of initiatives to mobilize funds from innovative sources and mechanisms;⁵
3. Provide draft guidance to the Governing Body for the implementation of the Funding Strategy, taking into account the reports on the Funding Strategy and other reports, as well as submissions from Contracting Parties and minimizing extra reporting burdens to Contracting Parties;⁶
4. Develop cooperation for the implementation of the Funding Strategy, and in doing so, Members are encouraged to promote the implementation of the Funding Strategy in their capacity as Funding Committee Members;⁷
5. Strengthen cooperation with the Global Crop Diversity Trust, in its role as an essential element of the Funding Strategy of the Treaty in relation to ex situ conservation;⁸
6. Provide a forum for communication and continued exchange of information among bodies and entities dealing with finance for agrobiodiversity and climate change in order to promote linkages and coherence, as appropriate;⁹

ii. Operations of the Benefit-sharing Fund

1. Provide advice on new prospects for voluntary contributions, donor partnerships for the Benefit-sharing Fund and donor recognition activities;¹⁰
2. Provide guidance and decisions on the operations of the Benefit-sharing Fund during the biennium, as outlined in paragraph 31 a, b, c and d and 34 a, d and f of Section III of the Operational Manual: Benefit-Sharing Fund (Annex 2 of the Funding Strategy);¹¹

² Resolution 3/2019, paragraph 3

³ Resolution 3/2019, paragraph 10 and paragraph 9

⁴ Funding Strategy 2020-2025, Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph 29 h

⁵ Funding Strategy 2020-2025, Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph 29 i

⁶ Terms of Reference of the Funding Committee, Annex 2 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph b

⁷ Terms of Reference of the Funding Committee, Annex 2 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph c

⁸ Terms of Reference of the Funding Committee, Annex 2 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph h

⁹ Terms of Reference of the Funding Committee, Annex 2 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph i

¹⁰ Operations Manual: Benefit-sharing Fund, Annex 2 of Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, Section II, paragraph 29

¹¹ Operations Manual: Benefit-sharing Fund, Annex 2 of Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, Section III, paragraphs 31 a-d, and 34 a, d and f

- iii. Monitoring, review, and reporting on the implementation of the Funding Strategy.
 - 1. Facilitate a process for integrating monitoring, evaluating and learning and for structuring new funding opportunities and identifying and filling in gaps;¹²
 - 2. Monitor and review the implementation of non-monetary benefit-sharing measures, with a view to recommending any additional measures as appropriate, using a methodology agreed by the Committee;¹³
 - 3. Provide expert input, including through independent reviews and assessments on the implementation of the Funding Strategy;¹⁴

The further development of the Funding Strategy

- i. Develop an Operational Plan for implementation of the Funding Strategy.
 - 1. Develop an Operational Plan for the implementation of the Funding Strategy that will be reviewed and updated on a biennial basis and will include considerations related to its implementation, monitoring, review and re-planning as detailed in paragraph 44 of the Updated Funding Strategy;¹⁵
 - 2. Such considerations include biennial reviews of the implementation of the Funding Strategy and a five-year strategic period review;¹⁶
- ii. Strengthen the monitoring and reporting of the Funding Strategy.
 - 1. Strengthen the monitoring and reporting of the Funding Strategy, including by undertaking periodic overviews of finance flows to areas of Treaty implementation by combining existing tools, as well as those of Governing Body and other institutions such as the OECD and FAO, and expert input;¹⁷
 - 2. Regularly monitor and review progress of the Funding Strategy's implementation and make recommendations for adjustments;¹⁸
 - 3. Keep the Governing Body updated on a regular basis on the progress of the implementation of the Funding Strategy and provide a comprehensive review of the Funding Strategy after a 5-year period for the consideration of the Governing Body at its subsequent session;¹⁹
 - 4. Information related to the implementation, monitoring and review of the overall Funding Strategy will be provided by Contracting Parties and other relevant organizations at reporting intervals agreed to by the Committee. The Funding Committee will work in collaboration with the Compliance Committee so as to agree the best way to integrate information in existing reporting formats;²⁰

¹² Funding Strategy 2020-2025, Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph 13

¹³ Terms of Reference of the Funding Committee, Annex 2 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph e

¹⁴ Terms of Reference of the Funding Committee, Annex 2 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph f

¹⁵ Funding Strategy 2020-2025, Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph 44 a-g

¹⁶ Funding Strategy 2020-2025, Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph 44 d

¹⁷ Funding Strategy 2020-2025, Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph 29 j

¹⁸ Funding Strategy 2020-2025, Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph 42

¹⁹ Funding Strategy 2020-2025, Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph 42

²⁰ Funding Strategy 2020-2025, Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph 43

5. Make recommendations on how to improve the coherence, effectiveness and efficiency of the Funding Strategy;²¹
 6. Prepare periodic overviews of finance flows to areas of Treaty implementation, including information on the sources and thematic balance of such flows, and use of the different funding tools, inter alia by continuing to develop the provisionally populated Matrix as contained in the Appendix to the Terms of Reference;²²
- iii. Strengthen the monitoring, evaluation and learning of the Benefit-sharing Fund.
1. The Benefit-sharing Fund's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) framework will be further developed under the guidance of the Funding Committee;²³
 2. An Approach Paper and Terms of Reference for the independent evaluations of the project cycles of the Benefit-sharing Fund will be prepared by the Secretary and the FAO Evaluation Office, in consultation with the Funding Committee;²⁴
 3. The Funding Committee, National Focal Points, donors, and others enabling partners will have responsibility for the wider dissemination of synthesis of lessons learned.²⁵
- iv. Maintain linkages with other relevant subsidiary bodies of the Governing Body.²⁶
- v. Develop relevant policy criteria for specific assistance.
1. Develop relevant policy criteria for specific assistance under the Funding Strategy for the conservation of PGRFA in developing countries, and countries with economies in transition whose contributions to the diversity of PGRFA in the Multilateral System is significant and / or has special needs, as is called for in Article 13.4 of the Treaty;²⁷
- vi. Review of Funding Strategy and Benefit-sharing Fund financial targets.
1. Periodically review the Funding Strategy target through the regular reviews of the overall Funding Strategy;²⁸
 2. Consistent with the overall target for the Funding Strategy, the target for the Benefit-sharing Fund will be periodically reviewed through the regular reviews of the Funding Strategy.²⁹

III. NEXT STEPS AND FUTURE WORK OF THE FUNDING COMMITTEE

Update on the Operations on the Benefit-sharing Fund

9. Through Resolution 3/2019 the Funding Committee is requested to provide guidance and decisions on the operations of the Benefit-sharing Fund during the biennium. The following updates related to the Benefit-sharing Fund will be provided briefly at the meeting:

²¹ Terms of Reference of the Funding Committee, Annex 2 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph a

²² Terms of Reference of the Funding Committee, Annex 2 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph g

²³ Operations Manual: Benefit-sharing Fund, Annex 2 of Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, Section IV, paragraph 41

²⁴ Operations Manual: Benefit-sharing Fund, Annex 2 of Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, Section IV, paragraph 42, i, vi

²⁵ Operations Manual: Benefit-sharing Fund, Annex 2 of Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, Section IV, paragraph 42, j, vi

²⁶ Terms of Reference of the Funding Committee, Annex 2 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph j

²⁷ Funding Strategy 2020-2025, Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph 29 k

²⁸ Funding Strategy 2020-2025, Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph 27

²⁹ Funding Strategy 2020-2025, Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, paragraph 37

- i. Finalization of the third funding cycle and the on-going Independent Evaluation;
- ii. Implementation of the Fourth Call for Proposals;
- iii. Preparations for the launch of Fifth Call for Proposals of the Benefit-sharing Fund.

Proposed meeting schedule, arrangements and priorities for the biennium

10. The provisional plan contained in Table 1 takes into account the current and anticipated constraints to travel arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly in 2020.

Table 1.

Meeting	Mode	Proposed dates	Proposed focus of meeting
First meeting	Virtual meeting	21-24 July 2020	- Introductory meeting
Second meeting	Virtual meeting	September/October 2020	- Operational Plan
Third meeting	Virtual meeting, online check-point or teleconference	January/February 2021	- Benefit-sharing Fund
Fourth meeting	Face-to-face meeting	13-15 April 2021	- Major decisions to be made by the Committee - Finalisation of report to GB-9