



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**

**FOURTH MEETING OF THE AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON
FARMERS' RIGHTS (PART II)**

23 – 27 August 2021

**ADDENDUM TO THE ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND
TIMETABLE**

INTRODUCTION

1. The first part of the fourth meeting of the Expert Group was convened from 4 to 7 May 2021.¹ Due to the fact that the Expert Group, despite making significant progress, was unable to complete its task within the available time and resources, it agreed to reconvene and resume its fourth meeting to finalise its work.²
2. This document is an *addendum* to the document, IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR-4/21/1.1, *Annotated Provisional Agenda and Timetable*, and they should therefore be considered together. It annotates the Agenda further by providing some updates, recalling certain important elements of the process and providing additional information on the practical arrangements for the resumption of the fourth meeting of the Expert Group.
3. The fourth meeting of the Expert Group will resume at **14:00 (CEST)**, on **Monday, 23 August 2021**. Precise time zone conversions based on the location of each of the participants will be communicated in due course.

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

4. As this is an expert group, as established the Governing Body,³ the Co-Chairs wish to, again, recall that members should only provide their expert views and inputs that respond to the tasks assigned to the Expert Group by the Governing Body and not express regional, national or sectoral positions. Consequently, discussions and modalities of work of the Expert Group are arranged accordingly.
5. Given that the outputs of the work of the Expert Group will consist in advice and recommendations to the Governing Body for its consideration, members of the Expert Group are called upon to share their knowledge, expertise and experience on Farmers' Rights in order to carry out the mandate given to them by the Governing Body. This reflects the understanding that they were appointed in their expert capacity and that they are expected to contribute in this capacity to finalising the options for encouraging, guiding and promoting the realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty, rather than to negotiate any of the outputs requested by the Governing Body.

¹ [IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR-4/21/Report](#).

² [IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR-4/21/Report](#), para. 19.

³ See also: [IT/GB-8/AHTEG-FR-2/19/Report](#), para. 2; [IT/GB-8/AHTEG-FR-1/18/Report](#), para. 3.

6. The resumed fourth meeting of the Expert Group will be held virtually, from **23 to 27 August 2021**, using the Zoom platform. Given some of the specific challenges of virtual meetings, it is proposed that the meeting will have only one session of three hours each day, with the possibility of an extra session, should they need arise, for the consideration and adoption of the Report.

7. A detailed information note on the precise schedule and how to remotely access the virtual meeting will be sent separately to the members and observers, closer to the date of the meeting.

8. Thanks to the generous extra-budgetary contributions by the Governments of Italy and Norway, the meeting will be conducted in English with simultaneous interpretation into Arabic, French and Spanish. The working documents are also made available in all four languages.

9. An indicative timetable is contained in the *Appendix* to this document for the consideration of the Expert Group, so that it could organize its work for this meeting.

ITEM 1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

10. The Expert Group adopted its Agenda at the commencement of the fourth meeting. Given that the main working document prepared for the meeting is still before the Expert Group and is the basis of its continued work, no additional working documents have been prepared for the resumed meeting.

ITEM 2. OPTIONS FOR ENCOURAGING, GUIDING AND PROMOTING THE REALIZATION OF FARMERS' RIGHTS AS SET OUT IN ARTICLE 9 OF THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY

11. Pursuant to its Terms of Reference, the Expert Group is mandated to develop options for encouraging, guiding and promoting the realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty, based on the *Inventory*.

Progress made by the Expert Group at its fourth meeting

12. At the first part of its fourth meeting, the Expert Group revised the introductory part of the *Options*, as given in *Appendix 2* of the Report, and the titles of most of the options, as provided in *Appendix 3* of the Report.⁴

13. *Appendix 2* of the Report thus represents the second revision of the introductory part, as prepared by the Expert Group. The first revision had been prepared by the Secretary based on inputs received from the Expert Group at its third meeting.

14. *Appendix 3* of the Report contains the second revised version of the titles of the options, as prepared by the Expert Group. These revisions followed discussions of the titles of all options at the third meeting of the Expert Group, which had been the basis for the first revision of titles by the Secretary.

Further work

15. The Expert Group made significant progress at the first part of its fourth meeting, as recorded in the document, IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR-4/21/Report, especially its *Appendices 2* and *3*.

16. In order to facilitate focused discussions and make the most efficient use of the limited time available for the meeting, the Co-Chairs have requested for written inputs from members on the outstanding issues prior to the commencement of the meeting.

⁴ [IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR-4/21/Report](#), Appendices 2 and 3.

17. The Expert Group is invited to continue its work from where it stopped on finalizing *the Options* based on the document, IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR-4/21/2, *Options for encouraging, guiding and promoting the realization of Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty*.

18. In particular, the Expert Group is invited to:

- a. Finalize the introductory part of *the Options*, starting from paragraph 13;⁵
- b. Finalize the remaining titles of some of the options in Category 10 (issue D1);⁶
- c. Finalize the descriptions of the options, as explained in Part D2 of the document, IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR-4/21/2, *Options for encouraging, guiding and promoting the realization of Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty*;⁷
- d. This will also include the issue how to highlight gender in the description of the *Options* (issue B1.3).⁸

ITEM 3. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

19. Under this agenda item, and time permitting, the Expert Group may wish to discuss any other relevant matters that may be raised by its members.

ITEM 4. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

20. Pursuant to Resolution 6/2019, the Expert Group is to report to the Ninth Session of the Governing Body on its work for further consideration.⁹

21. Under this agenda item, the Expert Group is invited to adopt its consolidated report, containing both the proceedings of the fourth meeting and its report to the Ninth Session of the Governing Body.

22. Due to financial and time constraints, the draft report will be available in English only, while interpretation into the other languages will be provided during the report adoption session.

23. The draft report will be shared with participants electronically and adopted as orally amended under this agenda item.

⁵ [IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR-4/21/Report](#), para. 11.

⁶ [IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR-4/21/Report](#), para. 16.

⁷ [IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR-4/21/Report](#), para. 16.

⁸ [IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR-4/21/Report](#), para. 16.

⁹ [Resolution 6/2019](#), paras. 9 and 12.

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

Time	Agenda Item	Title	Relevant documents
Monday, 23 August 2021			
14:00 – 17:00 Rome Time zone (CEST)		Opening of the meeting and Organizational matters	Resolution 7/2017 Resolution 6/2019 IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR-4- R/21/1 IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR-4- R/21/1.1 IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR-4- R/21/1.1 Add.
	2	Options for encouraging, guiding and promoting the realization of Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty	IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR- 4/21/2 IT/GB-9/AHTEG-FR- 4/21/Inf.2
Tuesday, 24 August 2021			
14:00 – 17:00 Rome Time zone (CEST)	2 <i>(cont'd)</i>	Options for encouraging, guiding and promoting the realization of Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty <i>(cont'd)</i>	
Wednesday, 25 August 2021			
14:00 – 17:00 Rome Time zone (CEST)	2 <i>(cont'd)</i>	Options for encouraging, guiding and promoting the realization of Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty <i>(cont'd)</i>	
Thursday, 26 August 2021			
14:00 – 16:45 Rome Time zone (CEST)	2 <i>(cont'd)</i>	Options for encouraging, guiding and promoting the realization of Farmers' Rights as set out in	

		Article 9 of the International Treaty <i>(cont'd)</i>	
16:45 – 17:00 Rome Time zone (CEST)	3	Any other business	
Friday, 27 August 2021			
12:00 – 18:00 Rome Time zone (CEST)	4	Adoption of the Report, including the report to the Ninth Session of the Governing Body	