

September 2021



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 STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE
FUNDING STRATEGY AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION**

20-22 September 2021

**DRAFT OUTLINE OF THE REPORT OF THE FUNDING COMMITTEE
TO THE NINTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY**

NOTE BY THE SECRETARY

This document sets out and annotates a draft outline of the report of the Standing Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilization (the Funding Committee) to the Ninth Session of the Governing Body, for the Funding Committee's consideration and agreement.

The full draft report will be prepared for the Funding Committee's finalisation at its fifth meeting in early 2022.

DRAFT OUTLINE OF THE REPORT OF THE FUNDING COMMITTEE TO THE NINTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This section will provide an introduction to the report of the Funding Committee to the Ninth Session of the Governing Body. It will describe the structure and content of the report and that it details the work undertaken by the Funding Committee since the Eighth Session of the Governing Body, in advancing the implementation of the Treaty's updated Funding Strategy 2020-2025.
2. It will recall a number of key decisions made by the Governing Body at its last session, including:
 - a. The decision to adopt the Funding Strategy of the International Treaty for the period 2020 to 2025, as contained in Annex 1 to Resolution 3/2019, in order to enhance the availability, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of the provision of financial resources to implement activities under the Treaty.
 - b. The decision 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.
 - c. The decision to postpone establishing a target for the Benefit-sharing Fund.
 - d. The decision to make the Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilization a standing Committee.
3. It will provide an overview of procedural information related to the Funding Committee, including how it is composed, the election of its Co-Chairs, the number of times it has met and the hyperlinks to the meeting Proceedings of the Funding Committee.
4. It will note that the work of the Funding Committee has taken place in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and will highlight the progress made by the Committee since the Funding Strategy's adoption, as further detailed in Section II. This will include highlighting the following achievements:
 - Development of an Operational Plan for the Funding Strategy for the period 2020-2025;
 - Development of a draft strategy to mobilize funds from food processing industries;
 - Development of a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework for the Benefit-sharing Fund;
 - Organising of a special webinar for the finalization of the Independent Evaluation of the Third Cycle of the Benefit-sharing Fund;
 - Providing guidance and decisions on the Fourth Cycle of the Benefit-sharing Fund related to COVID-19 impact analysis undertaken;
 - Development and anticipated launch of the Fifth Cycle of the Benefit-sharing Fund;
 - Engagement of external expertise and active observers to inform the Committee's work, including representatives from the European Union, the Global Crop Diversity Trust, agribusiness research and analysis specialists, FAO's Resource Mobilization and Private Sector Partnerships Division, FAO's GEF Unit, as well as receiving briefings from the Secretary in relation to the Compliance Committee so as to coordinate and streamline future reporting.

II. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUNDING STRATEGY

5. This section will recall the dynamic and synergistic programmatic approach developed for the Funding Strategy that was welcomed by the Governing Body, and that is expected to:

- a. Improve funding opportunities for the implementation of the International Treaty by making the case to national decision-makers and development agencies of the importance of PGRFA as well as the interlinkages with other development issues;
- b. Strengthen linkages between different funding sources and partners relevant to the International Treaty, by pursuing collaborative planning and co-spending opportunities and identifying appropriate channels to make such linkages;
- c. Provide for a process for monitoring, evaluating and learning from lessons, experiences and information gained in previous implementation phases, and to structure new funding opportunities and identify and fill in gaps, including through the engagement of Treaty stakeholders.

6. It will recall the request made by the Governing Body through Resolution 3/2019 for the Funding Committee to develop an Operational Plan for the implementation of the Funding Strategy. It will provide an update on the development of this tool, and the hyperlink to where it is published.

7. In providing the update on the development of the Operational Plan, it will explain that it is a multi-year plan designed to guide the Funding Committee on the implementation of the Funding Strategy over the period 2020-2025, and encompasses the requests made by the Governing Body through Resolution 3/2019 and its Annexes.

8. It will further explain that three key areas have been identified in the Operational Plan to focus efforts on (Resource Mobilization, Benefit-sharing Fund Operations and Monitoring and Review) and that the following sub-sections of the report are structured under these thematic areas.

A. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

9. This sub-section will describe the work that has been undertaken related to resource mobilization since the Eighth Session of the Governing Body, including what has been planned by the Funding Committee for the entire 2020-2025 strategic period, as contained in the Operational Plan.

10. It will note that the requests made by the Governing Body related to Resource Mobilization fall into the below seven work-streams, as reflected in the Operational Plan. A brief update on progress made and activities planned will be provided under each thematic area:

- i. National budgets and priorities
- ii. Bilateral programs
- iii. Multilateral mechanisms
- iv. Food processing industry Resource Mobilization strategy
- v. Innovative Funding
- vi. Provision of criteria as called for in Article 13.4 of the Treaty
- vii. Visibility, outreach and communication

11. Under the thematic area *Food Processing Industry Resource Mobilization Strategy*, it will recall the request of the Governing Body through Resolution 3/2019 that the Funding Committee develop a strategy to mobilize funds from food processing industries, as called for in Article 13.6 of

the Treaty. It will provide an overview of the process the Committee undertook in developing the draft strategy and will note that the draft is provided to the Governing Body for its consideration as an appendix to the report.

12. It will provide any additional information or updates related to resource mobilisation that may become available or relevant.

B. BENEFIT-SHARING OPERATIONS

13. This sub-section will describe the work that has been undertaken related to the operations of the Benefit-sharing Fund (BSF) since the Eighth Session of the Governing Body, including what has been planned by the Funding Committee for the entire 2020-2025 strategic period.

14. It will recall that through Resolution 3/2019, the Governing Body requested it regularly receive a Report on the BSF and will note that such a report, which provides greater detail on the operations of the BSF, is provided to the Governing Body through the relevant document for the Session.

15. It will note that the requests made by the Governing Body in relation to the BSF operations encompass activities concerning individual BSF cycles as well as the broader BSF program and operations for the 2020-2025 period. A brief update on progress made and activities planned will be provided under each of the following headings:

- i. BSF-3-6
- ii. BSF program and operations 2020-25

16. Under *BSF program and operations 2020-25*, the request made of the Funding Committee by the Governing Body through Resolution 3/2019 to guide the further development of the Benefit-sharing Fund's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Framework will be recalled. It will provide an update on the development of the MEL Framework, and the hyperlink to where it is published.

C. MONITORING, LEARNING AND REVIEW

17. Given the early stage of the Funding Strategy's implementation, this sub-section will largely be forward looking, describing future planned activities and milestones related to the monitoring, learning and review of the Funding Strategy.

18. It will describe what has been established and planned since the Eighth Session of the Governing Body and will be largely informed by the monitoring, learning and review cycle set out in the Operational Plan which encompasses the entire 2020-2025 strategic period.

19. It will note that the requests made by the Governing Body, through Resolution 3/2019 and its Annexes, in relation the monitoring and review of the Funding Strategy and its components, fall into the below three work-streams. A brief update on progress made and activities planned will be provided under each:

- i. Monitoring
- ii. Review and learning
- iii. Reporting

III. FUTURE WORK AND GUIDANCE

20. This section will describe the future work of the Funding Committee for the 2022-25 period, with a particular focus on the major milestones and outputs set out in the Operational Plan for the 2022-23 biennium.

21. It will also recall the request made by Governing Body to the Funding Committee through its Terms of Reference, contained in Resolution 3/2019, to provide draft guidance to it 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. It will provide to, and seek guidance from, the Governing Body on such matters, as is relevant, and as will be further described in the elements for a draft resolution in the following section of the report.

ELEMENTS FOR A DRAFT RESOLUTION

22. This section will contain elements for a draft Resolution to be considered for inclusion in this Report of the Standing Committee to the Ninth Session of the Governing Body.

23. The Funding Committee will consider the elements for a draft resolution at its fifth meeting.