



Our Ref. NCP GB9-22-SGSV

17 June 2022

NOTIFICATION

Invitation to consider depositing safety duplicates of seed collections in the Svalbard Global Seed Vault

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have the honour to draw your attention to [Resolution 12/2019](#) of the Governing Body of the International Treaty, through which the Governing Body renewed its invitation to Contracting Parties, international institutions and other relevant bodies and organizations to consider making use of the Svalbard Global Seed Vault as part of their strategy for securing important seed collections and for the purpose of long-term storage of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.¹

The current global situation and recent developments arising from both climate change and man-made crises have made the need for back-up even more imperative. The Seed Vault is an insurance policy against these risks.

The Svalbard Global Seed Vault offers a secure storage space and location for safety duplicates of seeds that are conserved in genebanks. So far, ninety-one genebanks have already deposited safety duplicates of all or parts of their collections in the Seed Vault and since the opening in 2008, more than 1,1 million seed samples belonging to 5,947 species have been deposited there.

The storage at the Svalbard Global Seed Vault is free of charge, with possible assistance to support any necessary multiplication of seeds and the cost of shipment. The Seed Vault receives seeds two times each year. Regular Seed Vault openings are announced on www.nordgen.org/en/calendar/. More information, including on the details of the depositor agreement, is also available on www.seedvault.no/ and www.nordgen.org/en/depositing-seeds/.

Pursuant to the invitation made by the Governing Body, institutes and public and private genebanks are invited to consider making use of the Seed Vault by depositing duplicates of their valuable germplasm collections into the Seed Vault for long-term storage.

For further information and guidance on the technical aspects of the deposit, such as preparing seeds, signing the depositor agreement, completing the accession list for the deposit and shipping seeds, please contact the Seed Vault Coordinator at NordGen, at: seedvault@nordgen.org

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

Yours sincerely,

Kent Nnadozie

Secretary International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources
for Food and Agriculture

¹ Part III of Resolution 12/2019 available at www.fao.org/3/nb790en/nb790en.pdf

