

April 2023



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



**International Treaty
on Plant Genetic Resources
for Food and Agriculture**

**INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

**FIFTH MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY
COMMITTEE ON THE GLOBAL INFORMATION SYSTEM**

Rome, Italy, 8–9 May 2023

NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

I. MEETING INFORMATION

1. The fifth meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee on the Global Information System will be held at FAO Headquarters in Rome on 8 and 9 May 2023. The meeting will open Monday, 8 May, at 10:00 CEST (Rome time).
2. The meeting will be held in the Malaysia room (B-227) located on the 2nd floor of building B. The meeting will be conducted in English.
3. Information about the mandate and composition of the Committee can be found in the Provisional Annotated Agenda and online at www.fao.org/plant-treaty/overview/governing-body/committees/sac-glis
4. The Secretariat will facilitate the remote participation of the regional nominated experts upon request. Please note that the proceedings of the meeting will be recorded.
5. The FAO Headquarters is located in the city centre of Rome, near the Circo Massimo and close to the Colosseum. The address is Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, located directly above the Circo Massimo metro station. It is also serviced by buses/trams 3, 75, 81, 160, 628 (for additional information on transit see atac.roma.it). When you arrive at FAO, please use the main entrance and go to the reception desk in the security pavilion. We kindly ask you to bring your identity card or passport with you. Once you have received the building pass, you will be able to enter and exit the building without going to the reception desk. The building pass is valid for the duration of the meeting and must be worn at all times. Admission to FAO premises will at all times require the presentation of your building pass.

II. PARTICIPATION AND IDENTIFICATION

6. All participants should have received an invitation. The meeting is also open to the participation of observers. Registration can be requested at PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org. For the fifth meeting, the Secretariat has received requests for the participation of observers from Contracting Parties and relevant international organizations.
7. Should you need any assistance in relation to participation in this meeting from the International Treaty Secretariat, please send an e-mail to pgrfa-treaty@fao.org and to Natalie.nicora@fao.org and Fabrice.Mongin@fao.org.

III. PRE-SESSION DOCUMENTS

8. The Provisional Agenda for the meeting and other meeting documents are available on the International Treaty's website at: www.fao.org/plant-treaty/meetings/meetings-detail/en/c/1628020/

IV. ACCOMMODATION

9. Financially supported participants have been booked in various hotels close to the FAO, following the FAO Preferred Hotel Programme and accordingly the hotel fee has already been settled through the FAO Travel Agent. In case you need information on Hotels close to FAO, don't hesitate to get in touch with the Secretariat.

V. FACILITIES AND ADDITIONAL SERVICES

10. **Banks:** You can carry out all banking operations within FAO, at the branches of Banca Intesa (ground floor, Building B) and Banca di Sondrio (ground floor, Building D). Opening hours are Monday-Friday, 8.30 to 16.30. Next to either Bank you will find cash dispensers accepting international bank cards, at your disposal 24 hours.

11. **Medical Services and Emergencies:** A medical unit is permanently on duty Monday-Friday, 8.30 to 17 hours, in Building B first floor, office 162, extension: 53400. For a serious emergency outside FAO, call 118. Access and Facilities for Disabled Persons

12. All entrances at the FAO Headquarters Complex are accessible to disabled persons with wheelchairs. A lift is specially provided in Building A, and a ramp is provided in Building D. All lifts throughout the FAO Headquarters Complex have wheelchair access.

VI. CATERING FACILITIES

13. Within the FAO buildings there are three coffee shops, a cafeteria and a restaurant.

Uzbekistan Lounge (former "Blue bar"): Coffee shop located on the 8th floor of Building C. They serve snacks and sandwiches all day, with cold meals for lunch. Hours from 08.00–17.00.

Casa Bar: Building D ground floor. Salads and light meals, with cold and hot meals for lunch.

Cafeteria: Self-service restaurant located on the 8th floor of Building B. They serve entrees, pasta, grilled meat or cheese, salads, desserts and drinks. Hours 12–14.00. The coffee shop is also available.

Polish Bar: Pop-up catering service (Syrian, Thai and Chinese cuisine, depending on the day). Hours from 12.00–14.30.

Restaurant: Located on the 8th floor of Building C. They offer a complete 'menu of the day' or 'a la carte' menu. Hours 12–14. Reservation required (extensions: 54268 or 56823).

Several vending machines with coffee and snacks are also located on the premises

Other restaurant facilities are located on Viale Aventino close to FAO Headquarters.

VII. ELECTRICITY

14. In Italy, the current is 220 volts; plug type is European standard. The sockets are 3 round pins in a row.

VIII. EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS IN ROME

15. The following numbers may be useful in case of emergency outside FAO

112 = National emergency number (police, ambulance, firefighters)

118 = Ambulance

115 = Fire department

113 = Police

IX. INTERNET ACCESS, PRINTING, PHOTOCOPYING, FAX

16. The meeting room, as well as many other areas in FAO, has Wi-Fi access. To connect:
1. Turn on your laptop or wireless device while in an area providing Wi-Fi services
 2. If your device has the Wi-Fi adapter enabled, a message should appear that says the Wi-Fi services "guest_internet" has been detected.
 3. Click connect and log in with ID: visitor and Password: wifi2internet.

X. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

17. Tickets for public transport should be purchased in advance and are available from self-service ticket machines in the Metro stations, at ticket offices in underground stations, tobacco shops (Tabaccheria) and newspaper kiosks. They can also be purchased online through several mobile applications. In the metro you can also pay with your swipe card.

18. Tickets cost 1,5 Euro and may be used for one underground ride and unlimited bus/tram travel within the ticket validation time of 75 minutes. Printed tickets need to be validated upon entering bus, tram or metro and the online tickets activated. Day tickets valid for the entire bus/tram and metro network can also be purchased.

XI. TRANSPORT TO AND FROM THE AIRPORT

19. Rome has two major airports: Fiumicino/Leonardo da Vinci (FCO), and Ciampino (CIA). Fiumicino is the main airport, and is served by taxis, trains, and shuttle services. The fixed taxi rates are EUR 50 from Fiumicino to the centre of Rome, and EUR 31 from Ciampino to the centre of Rome. The Leonardo express train from Fiumicino airport to the Termini train station (EUR 14) departs from the airport every half hour between 06:35 and 23:35. The local trains (EUR 8) stop at Ostiense station (end station is Fara Sabina), a 15-minute walk from FAO headquarters and depart approximately every 15 minutes. Tickets may be purchased online or from vending machines or at the Tabacchi (newspaper stand/kiosk) at the train station in the airport. Remember to validate tickets before boarding the train.

XII. SECURITY

20. While Rome is generally a safe city, theft can be a problem, in particular on public transportation and crowded streets. Participants are reminded to carry their valuables safely, and to keep photocopies of identification documents in a safe place in case they need to have them replaced. Lost building passes should be reported without delay to the FAO Office of Security. The FAO Office of Security operates from 07.30 a.m. to 17.30 from Room B062 (extension 55159); after 17:30 contact the Security Guards in Building A (extension 53145, 06-5705-3145 from outside FAO).

XIII. TAXIS

21. Participants are advised to use only licensed taxis with meters. Taxis from the City of Rome are white and can be recognized by the sign "TAXI" on the car top and must have an identifying license number on the doors, the back and inside the car. Surcharge fares are applied for baggage, night runs and on Sundays and holidays.

XIV. TRAVEL AGENCY

22. You may call upon Carlson Wagonlit Travel agency located on the ground floor of FAO (D074). The Agency is open Monday-Friday between 9.00 to 12.45 and 14 to 17. A small commission may be applied to travel operations. Emergency line out of office hours +39 06 82075812 and via e-mail at faotravel.it@contactcwt.com

XV. BOOKSHOP

23. On the ground floor of Building B, the Food for Thought Bookshop offers a selection of English, French and Spanish language books, gift stationery, and writing paper, gift wrapping paper, greeting cards and guidebooks. Open from 8:00 to 17:00. For more information call extension 53127.

XVI. LOST AND FOUND

24. If you have lost or found something, please contact the Entrance Reception on the ground floor, Building A, or the Guard Service, extension 54427.

XVII. MEDITATION ROOM

25. A meditation area is available in Building A, second floor, room A 250ter

FAO FLOOR PLAN

