

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**

**SEVENTH MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE
FUNDING STRATEGY AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION**

3 – 5 May 2023

Annotated Provisional Agenda and Timetable

INTRODUCTION

1. 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, and established a Standing Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilization (the Funding Committee).

2. At its second meeting, the Funding Committee developed an Operational Plan to guide the Committee on the implementation of the Funding Strategy over the period 2020-2025. The Operational Plan is a multi-year plan that is periodically updated and sets out major milestones and outputs to be delivered under the three focus areas of: Resource Mobilisation; Benefit-sharing Fund (BSF) Operations; and, Monitoring and Review.

3. The provisional agenda for this meeting has been organised under the three focus areas of the Operational Plan and includes discussion on a number of issues as agreed by the Committee at or arising from its sixth meeting.

ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE MEETING

4. The seventh meeting of the Funding Committee will be held at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy, from 3 to 5 May 2023. The meeting will open at 10.00 on Wednesday, 3 May 2023.

5. A virtual meeting platform will be available for those Committee Members and Observers who are unable to travel to Rome.

ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

6. The Provisional Agenda contained in the document, IT/GB-10/SFC-7/23/1, has been prepared by the Secretary in consultation with the SFC Co-Chairs. This document, IT/GB-10/SFC-7/23/2, annotates the Provisional Agenda and contains a provisional timetable in Appendix 1 for the Committee's consideration and adoption.

¹ www.fao.org/3/nb780en/nb780en.pdf

ITEM 3: BENEFIT-SHARING FUND OPERATIONS: BSF-5 PROGRAM

7. The *Policy on Conflict of Interest and Related Standards of Conduct for the Benefit-sharing Fund* adopted by the Fifth Session of the Governing Body through Resolution 2/2013, applies to members of the Committee in undertaking their role in approving BSF proposals to be funded. The Policy is provided for this meeting, for reference.
8. At its sixth meeting, the Committee approved a list of pre-proposals that were to be invited to develop a full project proposal, as contained in Appendix 4 of the meeting proceedings, noting that there would be further competition amongst the pre-proposals invited to submit a full project proposal, and that funding would not be secured for all of them.
9. The Committee requested the Secretariat to explore and find ways in which to most efficiently and effectively leverage resources while taking into consideration relevant issues, including: regional balance; the involvement of countries that have never participated in, or have received limited funding from the BSF; avoiding duplication of similar pre-proposals submitted by the same institution; appropriate balance between national and international organisations; consideration of different types of organisations, including farmers' organisations; the building of capacities and skills of new partners for Treaty implementation; and, the efficient use of fund. The Committee noted that this may include the consolidation of some projects, particularly to address issues of duplication, balance of international and national organisations, and efficiency of resources.
10. The Committee requested the Secretariat to notify those applicants selected to develop full project proposals, and to provide support in the preparation of full project proposals through the helpdesk function.
11. The Secretariat will provide an update on its work in supporting the preparation, and that of the Independent Panel of Experts in the appraisal, of full project proposals.
12. The Committee will consider the document, IT/GB-10/SFC-7/23/3, *The Fifth Cycle of the Benefit-sharing Fund*, and IT/GB-10/SFC-7/23/Inf.3 *Final Report of the Panel of Experts: Fifth Call for Proposals of the Benefit-sharing Fund* in order to finalise the BSF-5 selection process and approve the full proposals to be funded.

ITEM 4: RESOURCE MOBILIZATION: UPDATE ON RESOURCE MOBILISATION WORK-STREAMS OF THE OPERATIONAL PLAN

13. A short introduction to the item will be provided followed by a presentation and discussion session with a number of invited external experts and the Secretariat.
14. A representative from the FAO Global Environment Facility (GEF) unit will present an update on FAO's ongoing work under the Eighth Replenishment of GEF (GEF-8) and recent developments in GEF programming, especially with regard to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, created in response to the outcome of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 15).
15. A representative from the Global Crop Diversity Trust will present a progress update on resource mobilisation efforts and relevant activities, including on innovative funding and a number of joint Treaty-Trust initiatives.
16. The Secretariat will also provide updates on other resource mobilisation work-streams including the Food Processing Industry Engagement Strategy and on national budgets and priorities. The Committee will be invited to consider the document, IT/GB-10/SFC-7/23/Inf.4, *Integration of PGRFA in national development plans, budgets and priorities for donor support and external funding* and to provide advice to the Secretariat in taking the work forward.
17. The Secretariat will provide highlights of the recently adopted Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) of relevance to the work and mandate of the Funding Committee. The

Committee will be invited to consider the possible implications of the GBF for the work of the Treaty in the implementation of the Funding Strategy, with a view to making relevant observations and recommendations to the Governing Body at its Tenth Session, for its consideration.

ITEM 5: MONITORING AND REVIEW: REVIEW AND UPDATE OF THE OPERATIONAL PLAN

18. Under *Focus Area 3: Monitoring and Review* of the Operational Plan for the Funding Strategy 2020-2025, the Committee established a milestone to agree a methodology for measuring Non-Monetary Benefit-sharing (NMBS) in 2023. The development of this methodology by the Committee during the 2022–2023 Biennium is also noted in paragraph 28 of Resolution 4/2022.

19. The Secretariat will provide an introduction to the document, IT/GB-10/SFC-7/23/Inf.5, *Measuring Non-Monetary Benefit-Sharing: Steps Towards a Methodology*. The Committee is invited take note of the document and to provide guidance to the Secretary in taking the work forward.

20. The Operational Plan was designed to be reviewed and updated by the Committee periodically so that it remains relevant and responsive to the operational environment and needs. It was last updated at the Committee's fifth meeting in February 2022. At its sixth meeting the Committee agreed to review and update it at its seventh meeting.

21. The Secretariat will provide a short introduction to the document, IT/GB-10/SFC-7/23/4, *Review and update: Operational Plan for the Funding Strategy 2020-2025*. The Committee will consider the document and is invited to provide any relevant advice to the Secretary for updating the Operational Plan.

ITEM 6: FUTURE WORK OF THE FUNDING COMMITTEE

22. Under this item, the Committee will consider subsequent meeting arrangements, including the timeframe and focus of its next meeting and the finalization of its report to the Tenth Session of the Governing Body.

ITEM 7: OTHER BUSINESS

23. Under this item, and with time permitting, the Committee may wish to discuss any other relevant matters that may have arisen or were raised by members, which have not been covered in the agenda.

ITEM 8: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

24. Under this item, the Committee is invited to adopt its report of this meeting.

APPENDIX 1**PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE**

Wednesday 3 May 2023, 10.00 – 17.00 Central European Summer Time (CEST)
<p>Morning session 10.00 – 13.00</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Opening of the meeting 2. Agenda and timetable 3. Benefit-sharing Fund Operations: Fifth project cycle <p>Afternoon session 14.30 – 17.00</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Benefit-sharing Fund Operations: Fifth project cycle (continued)
Thursday 4 May 2023, 10.00 – 17.00 Central European Summer Time (CEST)
<p>Morning session 10.00 – 13.00</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Resource Mobilization: Update on Resource Mobilisation work-streams of the Operational Plan <p>Afternoon session 14.30 – 17.00</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Monitoring and Review: Review and update of the Operational Plan
Friday 5 May 2023, 10.00 – 17.00 Central European Summer Time (CEST)
<p>Morning session 10.00 – 13.00</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Future work of the Funding Committee 7. Other business <p>Afternoon session 14.30 – 17.00</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Adoption of the Report