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منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Item 4 of the Provisional Agenda

TEAM OF TECHNICAL AND LEGAL EXPERTS ON ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING

Sixth Session

Rome, 2–4 May 2023

THE ROLE OF DIGITAL SEQUENCE INFORMATION: COMMENTS ON AND INPUTS TO THE DRAFT STUDY - Addendum -

1. The Secretariat prepared the document *Digital sequence information and genetic resources for food and agriculture*,¹ which provides information on the generation, storage, access to and use of DSI for research and development related to genetic resources for food and agriculture (GRFA). It further reports on the intersessional global workshop on DSI and GRFA held in November 2022, summarizes relevant developments in other fora and discusses options to regulate ABS for DSI that are currently under debate.
2. In addition, the Secretariat commissioned a study on *The role of digital sequence information for the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources for food and agriculture: opportunities and challenges*,² for review by the Working Groups and the Team of Technical and Legal Experts on Access and Benefit-sharing.
3. This document compiles comments on and inputs to the draft study provided by the Commission's Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, which held its Eleventh Session from 18 to 20 April 2023. Comments and inputs provided by the other intergovernmental technical working groups are provided in document CGRFA/TTLE-ABS-6/23/Inf.4.

¹ CGRFA/TTLE-ABS-6/23/3.

² CGRFA/TTLE-ABS-6/23/Inf.3.

COMMENTS AND INPUTS BY THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

1. The Working Group recommended that FAO update the draft study and the working document in light of recent developments regarding DSI under the CBD, the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and in the World Health Organization, prior to the next session of the Commission. It further recommended that the study once updated and finalized be submitted to the CBD ad hoc open-ended working group on benefit-sharing from the use of DSI on genetic resources, established by COP 15.³

³ CGRFA/TTLE-ABS-6/23/Inf.8, paragraph 40.