



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



The International Treaty
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

RESOLUTION 10/2019

POLICY GUIDANCE TO THE GLOBAL CROP DIVERSITY TRUST

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling that the Global Crop Diversity Trust (the Crop Trust) is an essential element of the Funding Strategy of the International Treaty, in relation to the *ex situ* conservation and availability of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;

Recalling that pursuant to Article 1(5) of its Constitution the Crop Trust shall operate in accordance with the overall policy guidance to be provided by the Governing Body of the International Treaty;

Taking note of the Report from the Crop Trust, which addresses matters requested by Resolution 10/2017;

1. PART I: POLICY GUIDANCE

1. **Thanks** the Executive Board of the Crop Trust for having submitted its annual report on the activities of the Crop Trust to the Bureau of the Governing Body in 2018 and to the Governing Body in 2019, as requested in Resolution 10/2017;

2. **Thanks** the Executive Director of the Crop Trust, Ms Marie Haga, for her active support to the implementation of the International Treaty throughout the last seven years, and in particular for the increasingly positive and productive interactions between the Crop Trust and the Secretary, the Bureau and other intersessional bodies;

3. **Requests** the Chairperson of the Governing Body and the Secretary to inform the Executive Board of the Crop Trust on the decisions made by the Governing Body, in particular those related to the enhancement of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing (Multilateral System) and to the update of the Funding Strategy, of which the Crop Trust is an essential element, and **provides** policy guidance to the following key areas:

A. Resource Mobilization

4. **Thanks** governments and other donors that have provided funds for the Crop Trust Endowment Fund in particular towards enabling to secure long-term funding for collections held pursuant to Article 15 of the Treaty, with contributions paid into the endowment standing, as reported by the Crop Trust, at USD 273.8 million by 31 December 2018;

5. **Invites** the Crop Trust to provide information, at the Ninth Session of the Governing Body, on progress made on allocation of long-term grants from its endowment fund to support selected national genebanks in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

6. **Welcomes** the steps being taken by the Crop Trust towards a more diversified fundraising strategy including to mobilize innovative financing that would bring new and additional resources to the implementation of the International Treaty;

7. **Invites** the Crop Trust to continue its active support to the work of the Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilization (Committee), and in particular to support the development by the Committee of a strategy to mobilize voluntary funds from food processing industries, as called

for in Article 13.6 of the Treaty, and a range of initiatives to mobilize voluntary funds from innovative sources and mechanisms;

8. **Recommends** that the Crop Trust continue expanding cooperation with the International Treaty on resource mobilization, in particular on joint fundraising activities with the Secretary, and **encourages** donors to consider initiatives, projects and programmes that are jointly designed and implemented by the Crop Trust and the Secretary;

9. **Invites** the Crop Trust to provide information, at the Ninth Session of the Governing Body, on progress made with resource mobilization during the next biennium for the Crop Trust Endowment Fund as well as in relation to mobilization of project-based funds to support national genebanks in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

B. Scientific and Technical Matters

10. **Welcomes** the support provided by the Crop Trust during the current biennium to the enable long-term conservation and availability of crop diversity within collections in the Multilateral System held pursuant to Article 15 of the International Treaty, and **invites** the Crop Trust to continue and expand cooperation with the Secretary, in accordance with Article 15.1(g) of the International Treaty, on mobilizing technical support for the orderly maintenance of the collections of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture held under Article 15 of the International Treaty;

11. **Welcomes** the steps being taken to increase support to national genebanks that are part of the Multilateral System and **invites** the Crop Trust to take advantage of its cooperation with the Secretary to undertake joint capacity building of national partners on the Multilateral System and the Global Information System;

12. **Welcomes** the collaboration between the Secretary, the Crop Trust and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) to identify and systematize baseline data of a wide range of crops and their genetic resources that is essential for decision-makers at global, regional and national levels in order to develop strategies to ensure the adequate conservation and use of these plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, including Crop Strategies, and **recommends** that the background study resulting from such collaboration and underlying baseline information be made available in a user-friendly manner as soon as possible, including for consideration by the Governing Body at its Ninth Session;

13. **Recommends** the Crop Trust to further enhance its collaboration and complementarity with the International Treaty on scientific and technical matters, and in this context **invites** the Crop Trust, subject to the availability of resources, to expand cooperation with the Secretary to elaborate a dynamic system for developing, implementing and updating Crop Conservation Strategies, with a view to enhancing their use by Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholders, as practical tools to realize the implementation of the International Treaty, and **invites** the Crop Trust and the Secretary to report on progress made to the Ninth Session of the Governing Body;

C. Global Information System

14. **Welcomes** the close collaboration of the Crop Trust with the International Treaty and FAO for the connection of the Global Information System, Genesys and WIEWS, in a synergistic and complementary approach, and **invites** them to continue collaborating on training and capacity development activities in the area of information systems and documentation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;

15. **Further invites** the Crop Trust to continue participating in the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Global Information System and provide regular updates on the implementation of its activities relevant to the Global Information System;

D. Communication and Outreach

16. **Recommends** the Crop Trust to continue and strengthen cooperation with the International Treaty to jointly develop outreach and communication products, including through Food Forever and similar initiatives, on the contribution of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular on the importance of implementing the International Treaty in this context;

2. PART II: OTHER

17. **Calls upon** the Executive Board of the Crop Trust to continue to submit its report annually on the activities of the Crop Trust to the Governing Body for its regular session, as provided in Article 3(3) of the Relationship Agreement, and for an intervening year to the Bureau of the Governing Body, and **decides** that the submission to the Bureau of such reports shall constitute a fulfilment of the obligation under the Relationship Agreement;

18. **Requests** the Bureau of the Ninth Session to carry out the selection and appointment of members to the Executive Board to fill any vacancy that may arise during the 2020–2021 biennium, in accordance with the Procedures for the Selection and Appointment of Members of the Executive Board of the Global Crop Diversity Trust, so to ensure the continued smooth and efficient functioning of the Executive Board.