



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



The International Treaty
**ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

Item 4 of the Provisional Agenda

NINTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

New Delhi, India, 19–24 September 2022

Draft Terms of Reference for the Budget Committee

Executive Summary

At its Eighth Session, through Resolution 14/2019, the Governing Body requested the Bureau to develop the Terms of Reference for the Budget Committee.

This document contains the draft Terms of Reference for the Budget Committee, developed by the Bureau of the Ninth Session, which took into account inputs received from and consultations within the regions, for consideration by the Governing Body.

Guidance Sought

The Governing Body is invited to consider and approve the draft Terms of Reference for the Budget Committee, as contained in the Annex 1 to this document, taking into account the draft elements for a possible Resolution contained in Annex 2.

FAO-ITPGRFA documents can be consulted at: www.fao.org/plant-treaty/meetings/meetings-detail/en/c/1259571/

I. BACKGROUND

1. At each session, the Governing Body has established a Budget Committee to review and, as deemed necessary, amend the draft Budget for the Work Programme as proposed by the Secretary and submit its recommendations to the Governing Body for its consideration and adoption.
2. The established practice is that the Budget Committee meets following plenary proceedings of the Governing Body, to translate the decisions taken by the Plenary on the work programme into budgetary terms, review the draft budget accordingly and ultimately recommend a draft Budget for the Work Programme for consideration and adoption by the Plenary.
3. In the context of its deliberations, it has been customary for the Budget Committee to review the report prepared by the Secretary on the financial situation of the International Treaty, with particular attention to the Core Administrative Budget, given that this is considered pertinent to the evaluation of the Budget being proposed for the following biennium.
4. At the Eighth Session, through Resolution 14/2019, the Governing Body “[r]equest[ed] the Bureau to develop Terms of Reference for the Budget Committee, to be presented at the Ninth Session”.
5. The Bureau of the Ninth Session reviewed and discussed the elements for Terms of Reference for the Budget Committee, with the support of the Secretary, and following consultations within the regions, developed the draft Terms of Reference for the Budget Committee, as contained in Annex 1 to this document.

II. GUIDANCE SOUGHT

6. The Governing Body is invited to consider the draft Terms of Reference for the Budget Committee, as contained in Annex 1, and consider the related draft elements of a Resolution for approval of the Terms of Reference, which is contained in Annex 2. The agreed text will be incorporated into the final Resolution adopting the Work Programme and Budget 2022-2023.

Annex 1

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Composition

- i) The Committee shall be established at the beginning of a regular session of the Governing Body as an in-session committee.
- ii) The Committee shall be composed of up to two members nominated by each region, who act as the spokespersons for their respective regions.
- iii) Two Co-Chairpersons, one from a developing country and one from a developed country, are elected by the Governing Body separately from the Committee members. Co-Chairpersons shall act in their personal capacity and shall not be from a Contracting Party that is already a member of the Budget Committee.
- iv) All Contracting Parties have the right to attend as observers.
- v) Membership and attendance are restricted to Contracting Parties only.
- vi) In exceptional circumstances and under the guidance of the Bureau, the Committee may work by correspondence or virtually during intersessional periods.

Functions

- i) To review the Secretary's budgetary proposals and related financial implications;
- ii) To consider the financial implications with respect to future years of the activities provided for in the draft Work Programme and Budget;
- iii) To consider and make recommendations to the Governing Body regarding reserve funds, as appropriate;
- iv) To note the list of projects recommended for direct support through the Special Fund for Agreed Purposes as provided to the Governing Body in a Working Document or make further recommendations thereto;
- v) To review the financial implications of Resolutions adopted in the current session of the Governing Body that may affect the Secretary's budgetary proposals;
- vi) To finalise the Core Administrative Budget on the basis of the revised Core Work Programme incorporating the decisions of the Governing Body as contained in Resolutions adopted during its current session;
- vii) To Finalise a consolidated proposal containing the Core Work Programme and Core Administrative Budget of the following biennium, in the form of a draft Resolution, for review and adoption by the Governing Body;
- viii) To make recommendations on possible amendments to the Financial Rules of the International Treaty for consideration by the Governing Body at its future sessions;
- ix) To advise on the structure and content for the preparation of future reports, including any modifications in the format to be adopted for the presentation of the draft Work Programme and Budget and to submit recommendations to the Governing Body, in order to enhance transparency and accountability of the financial administration of the International Treaty.

Annex 2

DRAFT ELEMENTS FOR RESOLUTION **/2022

[to be incorporated into the Resolution adopting the Work Programme and Budget 2022–2023]

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recognizing the need to enhance transparency and accountability of the financial administration of the International Treaty and to clarify the tasks of the Budget Committee established at each Session;

1. ***Thanks*** the Bureau of the Ninth Session and the Secretary for preparing the draft Terms of Reference for the Budget Committee;
2. ***Approves*** the Terms of Reference for the Budget Committee as contained in Annex [xx] to this Resolution, and ***agrees*** to review the Terms of Reference, from time to time, and update them when or as necessary;