



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



The International Treaty
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

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RESOLUTION 12/2022

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 10/2019;

Recalling the importance of cooperation with the Crop Trust on resource mobilization, including for national genebanks in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

PART I: POLICY GUIDANCE

1. **Thanks** the Executive Board of the Crop Trust for having regularly submitted its annual report on the activities of the Crop Trust to the Governing Body and its Bureau;

2. **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 and **provides** policy guidance on the following key areas:

A. Resource Mobilization

3. **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 International Treaty, with contributions paid into the endowment, as reported by the Crop Trust, currently at USD two-hundred-and-ninety-eight million;

4. **Welcomes** the steps being taken by the Crop Trust to implement a more diversified fundraising strategy and the importance of clear and effective communication of the Crop Trust's mission, goals and impact;

5. **Invites** the Crop Trust to provide information, at the Tenth 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, including to support selected national genebanks in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

6. **Welcomes** and **commends** the substantial increase in cooperation on resource mobilization by the Executive Director of the Crop Trust and the Secretary of the International Treaty and **thanks** donors, such as the governments of Norway and Italy, that have given priority to support implementation of joint initiatives;

7. **Recommends** that the Crop Trust continue expanding cooperation with the International Treaty on mobilizing resources, and further **encourages** donors to give priority to initiatives, projects and programmes that are jointly designed and implemented by the Crop Trust and the Secretariat;
8. **Recommends** the Crop Trust further engages with the Secretariat of the International Treaty to fulfil the important role of both institutions to mobilize support for the maintenance of collections held pursuant to Article 15 of the International Treaty (Article 15 collections), and in doing so **encourages** them to engage the wide range of donors and partners that host or support these international collections;
9. **Thanks** the Crop Trust for its active support to the work of the Standing Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilization (Funding Committee), and in particular in the development by the Funding Committee of a strategy to engage the food processing industries; and **invites** the Crop Trust to continue strengthening its support to the Funding Committee;

B. Scientific and Technical Matters

10. **Welcomes** the support provided by the Crop Trust during the current biennium to enable the long-term conservation and availability of crop diversity within Article 15 collections, 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 such collections;
11. **Welcomes** the range of initiatives promoted by the Crop Trust to support national genebanks including training in genebank management and the development of standard operating protocols; **encourages** further collaboration with the Secretariat to undertake joint capacity building of national partners on Treaty implementation; and **reaffirms** that capacity building for ex-situ conservation at the national level is a crucial element for the success of the International Treaty;
12. **Welcomes** the organization of a series of international panels of experts by the Crop Trust and the Secretariat of the International Treaty to bring together key actors in the conservation and use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA), and **encourages** the two institutions to build upon the experience gained to continue jointly delivering scientific and technical training and expertise, including by taking advantage of on-line mechanisms;
13. **Recommends** the Crop Trust to further enhance its collaboration and complementarity with the International Treaty on scientific and technical matters, in particular in the area of Crop Conservation Strategies; in this context **invites** the Crop Trust to make available the White Paper, when finalized, to enable the Governing Body to provide policy guidance at its Tenth Session;

C. Global Information System

14. **Welcomes** the close collaboration of the Crop Trust with the International Treaty and FAO in the area of information of PGRFA and **invites** them to continue collaborating on training and capacity development activities in the area of information systems and documentation of PGRFA;
15. **Further invites** the Crop Trust to continue participating in the Scientific Advisory Committee on 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 and to further systematize and strengthen such cooperation in the next biennium;

PART II: EMERGENCY RESERVE FOR GERMPLASM COLLECTIONS AT RISK

17. **Welcomes** the joint establishment of the Emergency Reserve for Germplasm Collections at Risk with the Crop Trust, to facilitate the rapid response to imminent threats to unique germplasm

collections that fall under the framework of the International Treaty, in particular its Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing;

18. **Thanks** the Governments of Norway and Italy for the financial contributions to the Reserve, and **calls** upon Contracting Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other entities to contribute to the Reserve;

19. **Requests** the Secretary to provide the Bureau of the Tenth Session with a financial and technical report on the joint operation of the Emergency Reserve;

20. **Notes** the summary report on the Reserve that the Secretary provided at this Ninth Session of the Governing Body and **further requests** the Secretary to provide a similar report to the Tenth Session;

PART III: OTHER

21. **Requests** the Bureau of the Tenth Session to carry out the selection and appointment of members to the Executive Board of the Crop Trust to fill any vacancy that may arise before the Tenth Session, in accordance with the *Procedures for the Selection and Appointment of Members of the Executive Board of the Global Crop Diversity Trust*.