



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



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

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RESOLUTION 14/2022

COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

PART I: INTERNATIONAL BODIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling its Resolution 12/2019 and other previous relevant Resolutions and decisions;

Recognizing that the International Treaty is the lead intergovernmental agreement for international cooperation on plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA);

Reaffirming the importance of maintaining and further strengthening cooperation with the relevant international organizations, institutions and partners in order to advance the objectives and implementation of the International Treaty;

Noting with appreciation the continued cooperation, collaboration and support provided by relevant international organizations during the current biennium;

Welcoming the continued active engagement of other relevant stakeholder groups, in particular civil society organizations, farmers' organizations and the seed industry, to support implementation of the International Treaty and its relevant policy processes;

Cognizant of the importance of harmonious and mutually supportive implementation of the International Treaty with relevant instruments and processes, especially at national level, and noting the continued importance of assisting developing country Contracting Parties in this regard;

1. *Reaffirms* the need to continue the efforts necessary to ensure that the International Treaty's objectives and role in the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA are recognized and supported by relevant international institutions, organizations and processes;
2. *Encourages* Contracting Parties to take initiatives to strengthen the harmonious and mutually supportive implementation of the International Treaty and other relevant international instruments and their various goals and commitments in a coherent and mutually supportive manner, and *requests* the Secretary to facilitate such initiatives upon request, subject to the availability of financial resources;
3. *Welcomes* the continued support and coordination provided by the African Union Commission for Contracting Parties from the African Region in implementation of the International Treaty, and *requests* the Secretary to continue strengthening this collaboration, as well as to seek opportunities to establish cooperation with other relevant regional organizations and institutions for the promotion and implementation of the International Treaty;
4. *Reaffirms* the need to expand the Joint Capacity Building Programme with the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT and to ensure that the Secretary continues to play an active role in the coordination, monitoring and analysis of results and impacts, subject to the availability of financial resources, and *calls upon* Contracting Parties and donors to provide additional funding to support its continuation;
5. *Requests* the Secretary to strengthen and expand the collaboration with the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the ABS

Capacity Development Initiative and other capacity development providers, in their support to Contracting Parties in implementing the International Treaty and the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol in a harmonious and mutually supportive manner, taking into account the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, when adopted;

6. **Encourages** the members of the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions to continue their collaboration in accordance with their respective mandates and, subject to the availability of financial resources, and **requests** the Secretary to continue participating actively in the relevant activities of the Biodiversity Liaison Group, particularly on coordination for implementation of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, when adopted;

7. **Invites** Contracting Parties to take measures to enhance complementarity in their implementation of or participation in Biodiversity-related Conventions to promote policy coherence, and coordination at national level, and also **invites** international organizations and donors to provide financial resources to support those efforts;

8. **Requests** the Secretary to continue participating in the Information and Knowledge Management (InforMEA) Initiative, making relevant information available and easily accessible to Contracting Parties and other stakeholders through its Portal;

9. **Requests** the Secretary to continue participating in relevant meetings of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), as appropriate and subject to the availability of financial resources;

10. **Requests** the Secretary, as appropriate and subject to the availability of financial resources: to continue participating in relevant meetings of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore of WIPO; to follow preparations for the Diplomatic Conference to conclude an International Legal Instrument Relating to Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge Associated with Genetic Resources; and to inform the Governing Body at its Tenth Session about these meetings;

11. **Requests** the Secretary to finalize the work requested in para. 10 of Resolution 12/2019 as soon as possible and report to the Governing Body at its Tenth Session;

12. **Encourages** other relevant stakeholder groups, in particular civil society organizations, farmers' organizations and the seed industry, to further strengthen their engagement and cooperation to advance implementation of the International Treaty;

13. **Requests** the Secretary to continue to report to the Governing Body on cooperation with other relevant international bodies and organizations, including with the Human Rights Council and other international human rights bodies, and related collaborative activities;

PART II: ARTICLE 15 INSTITUTIONS

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling the provisions of Article 15.1 and Article 15.5 of the International Treaty, and its previous Resolutions related to Institutions that have concluded agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty;

14. **Takes note** of the information provided in the reports by institutions that have concluded agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty, **commends** those institutions that submitted reports for the valuable contents and **urges** them to continue providing similar information to future sessions of the Governing Body;

15. **Invites** those institutions that have not submitted any report, to do so at the Tenth Session of the Governing Body and **requests** the Secretary to communicate this invitation to such institutions;

16. **Further requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to continue holding regular or periodic consultations with institutions that have concluded agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty, on implementation of the agreements and policy guidance,

including on the transfer of accessions in the collections with the SMTA, and report to the Governing Body at each Session;

17. **Takes note** of the on-going efforts to secure the international collections whose orderly maintenance is at risk or threatened, and **requests** the Secretary to continue exercising his responsibilities and providing support under Article 15 of the International Treaty, in close collaboration with host governments, as applicable, and in partnership with other interested governments and relevant institutions that are capable of providing financial, technical and other necessary support to these efforts;
18. **Urges** Contracting Parties, donors and other stakeholders to provide the necessary financial and material support to facilitate these efforts;
19. **Reiterates** its invitation the host governments of international collections in COGENT that have not yet done so, to sign agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty so to bring all the international collections in the network under the purview of the International Treaty;
20. **Requests** the Secretary to continue in the efforts to secure agreements with other relevant international institutions that meet the requirements of Article 15 of the International Treaty;
21. **Takes note** that, under the One CGIAR reform, CGIAR Centers maintain their legal status as independent legal entities in their own right, and that the Article 15 agreements with CGIAR Centers, including those which have opted not to join the One CGIAR unified governance arrangements, remain in place;
22. **Noting** the advice provided during the Ninth Session of the Governing Body that CIFOR-ICRAF and ICRISAT are facing funding difficulties, as they no longer receive direct support from the CGIAR Trust Fund, therefore **calls upon** all relevant stakeholders to assist the genebanks financially, as appropriate;
23. **Emphasises** the need, to ensure the long-term safety of the Article 15 IARC genebanks and the distribution of germplasm being held ‘in trust’ by the CGIAR centres and other Article 15 genebanks, and for long-term solutions for all Article 15 genebanks through strengthening the involvement of the International Treaty and the Global Crop Diversity Trust (Crop Trust);
24. **Takes note** of the *Report on CGIAR-Crop Trust System Level Review of Genebank Costs and Operations (GCO)* and **invites** the CGIAR System to play a catalytic role in the implementation of policies and standards established by the Governing Body and in providing benefits such as training, capacity building and support to data management;
25. **Notes with appreciation** the collaboration between CGIAR and the Secretariat of the International Treaty on the *Guidance Note for CGIAR Centers’ Genebanks for Improving Accession Management* and **invites** the CGIAR Centers to continue incorporating the policy guidance by the Governing Body into the management of international collections of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;
26. **Welcomes** the Global Plant Cryopreservation Initiative to provide the safety back-up of clonal crops; **invites** the CGIAR Centers sustaining the Initiative and the Crop Trust to deliver capacity building and training for the effective operation of cryopreservation; and also **invites** the CGIAR Centers to liaise with technical experts and potential donors in further developing the Initiative.

PART III: MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS OF THE SVALBARD GLOBAL SEED VAULT

Recalling Resolutions 12/2017 and Resolution 12/2019;

Recalling that the adoption of the International Treaty gave the impetus to the Government of Norway to proceed with the establishment of the Svalbard Global Seed Vault (Seed Vault);

Reaffirming that the Seed Vault is an important element of the global system for ex situ conservation and use of PGRFA;

27. **Thanks** the Government of Norway for the submission of the report on the management and operations of the Seed Vault and invites it to continue updating the Bureau and the Governing Body on the operations and management of the Seed Vault;

28. **Notes** the completion of the structural, technical and administrative upgrades of the Seed Vault, and the new security and operations management system meant to ensure further the integrity of the Seed Vault and security of its contents, and **commends** the Government of Norway for undertaking these upgrades;

29. **Further notes** the 100-year Seed Longevity Experiment in the Svalbard Global Seed Vault started in 2020 and the printing of seed data on nanofilm;

30. **Renews** the invitation to Contracting Parties, international institutions and other relevant eligible bodies and organizations to consider making use of the Seed Vault as part of their strategy for securing their important seed collections and for long-term storage of PGRFA;

31. **Requests** the Secretary to continue collaborating with the Government of Norway and its partners in related activities, including supporting relevant communication and outreach initiatives and in promoting the use of the Seed Vault;

32. **Welcomes** the reconvening of the Seed Vault's International Advisory Panel and **requests** the Chairperson of the Governing Body to continue chairing the Panel and carrying out such functions as the role may require;

33. **Requests** the Secretary to explore further with the Government of Norway other practical means to enhance the linkages between the International Treaty and the Seed Vault, including the linking of data through the Global Information System, and report to the Bureau and the Governing Body.