



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



**International Treaty
on Plant Genetic Resources
for Food and Agriculture**

RESOLUTION 3/2023

ENHANCEMENT OF THE FUNCTIONING OF THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM OF ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling Resolution 3/2022, by which it decided to re-establish the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing (Working Group), to finalize the enhancement of the functioning of the Multilateral System by the Eleventh Session of the Governing Body;

Having considered the checkpoint report by the Co-Chairs, and **thanking** the Co-Chairs for their efforts to facilitate interactions and informal consultations, to build trust and mutual understanding;

Thanking the Government of Switzerland for the financial support provided to hold a physical informal meeting in Prangins, Switzerland, which was a further trust-building measure and produced input for the meeting of the Working Group;

Thanking the Governments of the Netherlands, Norway and Switzerland for providing the financial resources to allow the Working Group to hold its tenth meeting in all languages;

1. **Endorses** the suggestion of the Working Group to use the “June 2019 draft package” as a starting point for its further work;
2. **Requests** the Co-Chairs to give early attention to the three identified “hotspots”: digital sequence information/genetic sequence data, expansion of Annex I, and payment structure and rates;
3. **Stresses** the importance of an open and inclusive process and **requests** the Co-Chairs of the Working Group, in keeping with Resolution 3/2022, to continue to organize stakeholder and regional consultations, as appropriate on a regular basis;
4. **Takes note** of decision 15/9 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity on Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources and **urges** the Working Group to take this decision and related developments into account when addressing the issue of digital sequence information/genetic sequence data in the context of the process to enhance the functioning of the Multilateral System;
5. **Welcomes** the preliminary timeline developed by the Co-Chairs in their checkpoint report contained in the document IT/GB-10/23/9.2 and **invites** the Co-Chairs to publish an updated indicative timeline and a package of relevant information in relation to the process;
6. **Notes** that, with a view to make sufficient progress, four formal in-person meetings of the Working Group will be required; in addition, **invites** the Co-Chairs to organize informal consultations, as appropriate, in the next biennium, and, where needed, small ad hoc Friends of the Co-Chairs groups while ensuring that the process is undertaken in a transparent and representative manner;
7. **Invites** the Co-Chairs to seek written inputs or reports from all relevant stakeholders;
8. **Invites** Contracting Parties and Regions to fully commit to continuing the negotiations on the package of measures to enhance the functioning of the Multilateral System and to ensure that participants in the

process, especially spokespersons in the Working Group, receive the necessary support and have the necessary knowledge, skills and experience to represent them;

9. ***Urges*** Contracting Parties to provide support and financial resources, as necessary, for the Working Group to be able to fulfil its mandate effectively and on schedule.