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COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

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MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE UTILIZATION OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

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**MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND
SUSTAINABLE UTILIZATION OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

1. INTRODUCTION

1. Following negotiations through the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, one hundred and fifty countries finalized and adopted the *Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* at the Fourth International Technical Conference on Plant Genetic Resources (Leipzig, June 1996). The Conference agreed that “overall progress in the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action* and of the related follow-up processes would be monitored and guided by the national governments and other members of FAO, through the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture”.¹ This was subsequently endorsed by Council Resolution 1/111 (October 1996). The Conference also asked the Commission to “set the formats for receiving progress reports from all the parties concerned and establish criteria and indicators to assess progress” in the implementation of the *Plan*.²

2. At its Seventh Regular Session, the Commission considered follow-up and requested “that FAO play a proactive and creative role in facilitating and monitoring implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*”.³ It agreed to develop a transparent and efficient monitoring process and recommended that within the framework of the priority activity areas of the *Plan* a core set of indicators should be established to facilitate such a process.

3. At its Eighth Regular Session, the “Commission noted (...) that monitoring the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action* was important for efficient resource-utilization”, and it “underlined the need for FAO to allocate adequate resources from its Regular Budget, to support the tasks of monitoring and facilitating the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*”.⁴ In addition, the “Commission stressed the importance of FAO’s continued collaboration with relevant international organizations and institutions, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the CGIAR System, and agreed that FAO should continue to strengthen collaboration among relevant international organizations in monitoring and preparing reports on genetic resources for food and agriculture”.⁵

4. The Commission agreed that, subject to the availability of resources, the Inter-governmental Technical Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITWG-PGRFA) should meet during the present biennium to guide the implementation and review of the *Plan*, in particular: (i) defining the reporting format and indicators for monitoring the implementation of the *Plan*; (ii) guiding the development of the second *Report on the State of the World’s Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* (once the negotiations for the revised International Undertaking had been completed); and (iii) guiding the further development of the *World Information and Early Warning System on Plant Genetic Resources*.

¹ ITCPGR/96/REP para. 21.

² ITCPGR/96/REP para. 22.

³ CGRFA-7/97/REP para. 19.

⁴ CGRFA-8/99/REP para. 17.

⁵ CGRFA-8/99/REP para. 25.

5. A report on the implementation of the *Plan* is presented in document CGRFA-9/02/6. The present document is an updated version of document CGRFA/WG-PGR-1/01/3 considered at the First Session of the ITWG-PGRFA, in July 2001. It has been prepared following consultations with the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI), and addresses the processes by which effective monitoring can best be attained, and a long-term monitoring system established. In section 2, the monitoring activities undertaken in the years 1998 and 2000 are reviewed. Considerations for the further development of the monitoring process, including lessons learnt from previous experiences, are discussed in Section 3. Section 4 has been modified to reflect the discussions held during the First Session of the Working Group. It presents follow-up actions undertaken by the Secretariat and future plans for monitoring activities. A proposed set of indicators and a reporting format incorporating these indicators have been developed, as requested by the International Technical Conference, the Commission at its Seventh Regular Session and the Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources at its First Session. These are contained in the Annex to this document and in document CGRFA-9/02/Inf.2, respectively.

2. REVIEW OF THE MONITORING PROCESS DURING 1996-2000

The 1998 Survey

6. The first survey on the implementation of the *Plan* was carried out in 1998. Country implementation reports were prepared through National Focal Points. Reports were prepared in the context of Regional Meetings held to promote the implementation of the *Plan*.⁶ The survey was based on a simple questionnaire reflecting the twenty priority activity areas of the *Plan*.⁷ For each of these, information was requested on:

- actions undertaken since mid-1995, and funding sources;
- the countries' prioritized main needs and the main constraints;
- the opportunities for further action, in the near future, at national and sub-regional level; and
- the support required from regional or international organizations.

7. As a trial of a methodology for a more comprehensive survey, and as a test of the availability of relevant information, the Activity Area 15, "Building Strong National Programmes" was selected, in the light of the importance accorded to it by the *Plan* and reaffirmed by the Commission at its Seventh Session. The results showed that detailed information on national programmes was available in most countries, and that such information was, in fact, easier to analyse than in the case of the other priority activity areas.

8. The questionnaire was completed by over 100 countries. The results were presented at the Eighth Regular Session of the Commission, in the Progress Report on the implementation of the *Plan*.⁸

The 2000 Survey

9. The *Plan* requests Governments to designate or re-confirm National Focal Points for periodic reporting on plant genetic resources for food and agriculture to FAO, the Conference of

⁶ Five Regional Meetings were organized jointly by FAO, IPGRI, the *System-wide Genetic Resources Programme* (SGRP) of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), and the regional and sub-regional networks for agricultural research.

⁷ For Europe, a more elaborate survey was prepared by IPGRI's Regional Office, on behalf of the European Cooperative Programme for Plant Genetic Resources.

⁸ CGRFA-8/99/3.

the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP/CBD), and other appropriate bodies.⁹ At its Eighth Regular Session, the Commission urged countries that had not already done so, to appoint National Focal Points.

10. In 2000, FAO officially requested member countries to re-confirm or, if they had not yet done so, to designate a National Focal Point for the implementation of the *Plan*. Official replies appointing 177 National Focal Points were received from 151 countries.¹⁰ Such a large response confirms the continuing importance given to the *Plan* by FAO member countries.

11. A few months after their nomination, a further survey was conducted through these National Focal Points, who were requested either to complete a questionnaire or, alternatively, to provide a brief summary report on the implementation of the *Plan* during the last biennium. The topics addressed by the 2000 questionnaire were basically the same as in the 1998 survey (see para. 6). The main methodological refinement occurred in the introduction for all of the activity areas of the *Plan* of a standardized approach conceptually similar to that tested for Activity Area 15 during the 1998 survey (see para. 7). In order to facilitate data analysis and synthesis, yes/no and multiple choice questions were extensively used, and the average number of questions per priority activity area was less than four.

12. Countries appear to appreciate the standardized approach, since only six countries out of 109 chose to provide a general summary report instead of responding through the standardized questionnaire.¹¹ Document CGRFA-9/02/6 “*Country Progress Report on the Implementation of the Global Plan of Action on Plant Genetic Resources*” is based on the analysis of the 109 responses.

⁹ *Global Plan of Action*, para. 283; see also CGRFA-Ex2/96/3.3, para. 33 - 35; Chapter 5 of the *State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*; UNEP/CBD/COP/3/REP, COP/CBD Decision III/11; and Priority Activity Area 15 of the *Plan*.

¹⁰ The full list of appointed National Focal Points can be found under WIEWS at the following Internet address: http://apps3.fao.org/wiews/contacts_rep13.jsp?query_OFFICES=13. Note that some countries appointed more than one National Focal Point for the implementation of the *Plan*.

¹¹ The following countries participated actively in the 2000 survey: *Albania; Angola; Antigua and Barbuda; Argentina; Armenia; Austria; Azerbaijan; Bangladesh; Barbados; Belarus; Benin; Bolivia; Botswana; Bulgaria; Burundi; Cameroon; Canada; Cape Verde; Chile; China; Colombia; Congo; Congo, Democratic Republic of; Costa Rica; Cuba; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Denmark; Ecuador; Egypt; El Salvador; Estonia; Ethiopia; Finland; Germany; Ghana; Greece; Grenada; Guatemala; Guyana; Hungary; Iceland; India; Indonesia; Iraq; Ireland; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kiribati; Korea, Republic of; Kyrgyzstan; Laos, People's Democratic Republic; Lebanon; Lesotho; Libyan Arab Jamahiriya; Lithuania; Madagascar; Malaysia; Mauritania; Mauritius; Mexico; Morocco; Myanmar; Namibia; Nepal; Netherlands, the; New Zealand; Niger; Nigeria; Oman; Pakistan; Palau; Paraguay; Peru; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Russian Federation; Rwanda; Saint Lucia; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Singapore; Slovak Republic; Slovenia; South Africa; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sudan; Swaziland; Sweden; Switzerland; Syrian Arab Republic; Thailand; The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; Togo; Tonga; Trinidad and Tobago; Tunisia; Turkey; Ukraine; Uruguay; Uzbekistan; Vietnam; Yemen, Republic of; Yugoslavia; Zambia; Zimbabwe.*

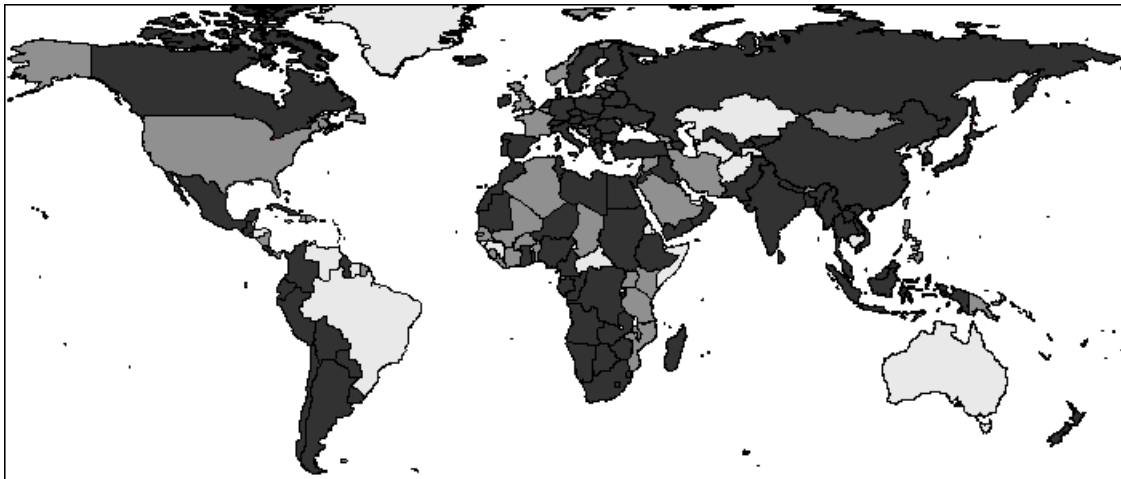


Figure 1. Member countries that: (i) nominated a National Focal Point for the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action* and participated actively in the 2000 survey (dark grey); (ii) nominated a National Focal Point, but did not participate in the 2000 survey (medium grey); (iii) neither appointed a National Focal Point nor participated in the 2000 survey (light grey).

Lessons from the 1998 and 2000 Surveys

13. Both the 1998 and the 2000 surveys relied on a deliberately simple questionnaire in order to minimize the reporting burden on countries. This approach inevitably imposed serious limits to the scope and depth of the analysis, since very little quantitative information was collected. More detailed information would require a more comprehensive survey, which, in turn would require the allocation of additional financial resources and increase the burden for those preparing responses.

14. While many countries did not follow the guidelines provided in the 1998 survey, making synthesis of information difficult, response to the 2000 survey was better, indicating an improvement in the presentation of guidelines and in the ability and willingness of countries to follow the adopted standardized approach.

15. National stakeholders' involvement during both surveys was rather limited in most countries. A wider participation of all national stakeholders would ensure more comprehensive and reliable coverage of the activities undertaken for the implementation of the *Plan*.

3. CONSIDERATIONS FOR FUTURE MONITORING EFFORTS

16. Experience derived from both the preparatory process of the International Technical Conference and the *Global Plan of Action* monitoring process in 1998 and 2000, provided the basis for the development of the list of indicators for monitoring the implementation of all priority activity areas of the *Plan*, and the corresponding reporting format that was considered by the Working Group, which had been drafted in cooperation with IPGRI. Both the indicators and the reporting format were developed in view of the considerations presented in paragraphs 17-23, which should be considered in developing the monitoring process further.

17. *Scale and complexity of the monitoring process.* The more detailed the monitoring process, the more time and effort will be needed from both countries and the Secretariat, with inevitable cost implications. Precise, quantifiable information on the implementation status of the

Plan, including data on expenditures,¹² is however indispensable for prioritizing actions and the efficient use of available financial resources. For these reasons, a balanced monitoring programme should be based on standardized data-collection, analysis and management tools and strengthened national programmes.

18. *Use of a standardized tabular approach in the reporting format associated with the establishment of a database.* A standardized tabular approach for managing the information will: (i) simplify the analysis of comparable data both spatially (among countries, sub-regions, regions, etc.) and temporally (by year) through the use of common indicators; (ii) reduce the burden of recording the information in future surveys by allowing updating of previous reporting; and (iii) provide the basis for the development of a structured information system for the implementation of the *Plan*. This approach has been extensively used in the proposed reporting format in document CGRFA-9/02/Inf.2.

19. *Capacity-building.* National capacity-building will be a necessary component for the long-term success of the monitoring programme. Indeed, any additional monitoring requirement should be linked to capacity-building efforts to ensure that national programmes benefit directly from the monitoring effort. Initially, this would consist of developing capacity within national programmes for data-collection, management and analysis and, ultimately, for the development of national, regional and international action plans. Allowance will need to be made for capacity-building in any comprehensive reporting programme, and this should be built into relevant budgets and timetables.

20. *The role of National Focal Points and stakeholders.* The decentralization of reporting is a means of building awareness among national programmes, as the basis for action planning and the allocation of resources in support of national PGRFA programmes. In this regard, the role of National Focal Points is crucial for the entire implementation and monitoring process of the *Plan*, particularly in coordinating and facilitating activities and information-exchange, including reporting at national, regional and international level. The involvement of stakeholders in the monitoring process of the *Plan*'s implementation is implicit throughout the reporting format proposed in document CGRFA-9/02/Inf.2. However, their contribution becomes direct and essential in, for example, the case of genebanks for Activity Areas 5 - "Sustaining *ex situ* collections", 6 - "Regenerating threatened *ex situ* accessions", 7 - "Supporting planned and targeted collecting of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture", 8 - "Expanding *ex situ* conservation activities", and 9 - "Expanding the characterization, evaluation and number of core collections to facilitate use"; farmers' communities for Activity Area 2 - "Supporting on-farm management and improvement of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture"; and seed certification agencies for Activity Area 13 - "Supporting seed production and distribution". National Focal Points should coordinate the distribution among stakeholders of such specific parts of overall national reporting, and collect the information accordingly.

21. *Use of electronic mail and the Internet.* Rapidly developing information technologies can greatly facilitate communication and information-flow for a monitoring mechanism. Electronic mail and the Internet are becoming more and more accessible in developing countries. National Focal Points in 139 out of 151 countries were contacted via electronic mail in the 2000 survey. Applications running on Internet servers (such as the *World Information and Early Warning System on PGRFA, (WIEWS)*¹³) can provide a platform for National Focal Points and stakeholders allowing remote management and the sharing of information among the various groups of stakeholders in PGRFA programmes. However, it is also important that National Focal Points without access to such facilities be given the possibility to contribute in providing and receiving data through conventional means.

¹² At its Seventh Regular Session, the Commission requested that the survey of expenditures on activities on plant genetic resources be updated, in the framework of the *Plan*'s priority activity areas. With time and resource limitations, a full new survey on expenditures was not attempted and a limited set of questions on expenditures was included in the 1998 and 2000 surveys.

¹³ <http://apps3.fao.org/wiews/>.

22. *National information sharing mechanism.* In-country stakeholder consultations, and a data-collection and management system, would provide a basis for the establishment of a national mechanism to exchange information among stakeholders in each member country. This mechanism, to carry out continuing monitoring of the implementation of the *Plan*, would facilitate capacity-building, ensure transparency in the *Plan*'s implementation, and contribute to the sustainability of the monitoring process. As the information repository of the National Programme, it would become the stakeholders' reference point, and shared knowledge base at national level, thus facilitating the dynamic flow of information within the country, and, ultimately, contributing to periodic assessments of, and report on, the *State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*,¹⁴ as well as to the updating of the rolling *Plan*. An information system, built on the reporting format for monitoring the *Plan* implementation proposed in document CGRFA-9/02/Inf.2, might be at the base of such a mechanism, and be linked to the Commission through the *WIEWS*.¹⁵

23. *Linkage with other reporting requirements.* To limit the burden on countries, the Commission has also recommended that reporting to FAO on agricultural biodiversity be consistent with reporting to the CBD, the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) and other relevant inter-governmental bodies, as well as with the follow-up to the *World Food Summit Plan of Action*. The Commission may therefore wish to advise as to how reporting on implementation of the *Plan* may partially satisfy countries' reporting on agrobiodiversity to the CBD, pursuant to Decision III/11 of the COP. If the Commission so wished, the Secretariat could initiate discussions with the Secretariats of the CBD and CSD to seek common reporting formats. Moreover, at its regular sessions, the Commission has reviewed reports from many international organizations (United Nations and other inter-governmental organizations, Centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, and international non-governmental organizations) on their programmes, policies and activities, in all fields of agricultural biological diversity.¹⁶ Such reports have also been made available to the COP/CBD.¹⁷ The Commission may wish to consider inviting such organizations to participate in the monitoring process, through providing specific information on their contribution to the implementation of the *Plan* in future reports, which may then be handled more systematically. Such a partnership approach to the monitoring process, which implicitly provides for data-sharing, would reduce duplication of efforts in data-gathering, data-entry and training.

4. FOLLOW-UP AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES TO MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE *GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION* IN LINE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ITWG-PGRFA

24. At the First Session of the Working Group on PGRFA a proposed list of indicators and a reporting format for monitoring the *Plan*'s implementation were discussed. The recommendations of the Working Group are reported in document CGRFA-9/02/5.

25. The Working Group considered that the list of indicators and the reporting format were an excellent basis for further work. With a view to their further improvement, and at the request of the Working Group, an expert consultation meeting was organized by FAO, in collaboration with IPGRI, from 12 to 15 February 2002, in order to:

¹⁴ CGRFA-9/02/8, *Preparation of the Second Report on the State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*, para. 5.

¹⁵ CGRFA-9/02/10, *Progress Report on the World Information and Early Warning System on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*, para. 24-26.

¹⁶ In the Eighth session, CGRFA-8/99/11.

¹⁷ See CGRFA-8/99/12.

- revise the proposed list of indicators and reporting format according to a conceptual framework based on the “driving force-state-response” model;
- identify a core set of indicators to be used for reporting to the Commission, which should, as feasible, be in harmony with indicators used by other on-going monitoring processes such as those of the CBD, CSD and OECD;
- revise the corresponding reporting format in accordance with the new list of indicators; and
- identify stakeholder groups to be addressed by the monitoring process as information sources.

26. A revised list of core indicators, and the complete list of indicators and reporting format for monitoring the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action*, based on the results of the experts’ meeting and further refined by FAO in collaboration with IPGRI, are included in the Annex to this document and in document CGRFA-9/02/Inf.2, respectively.

5. FUTURE MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE *GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION*

27. The full and effective implementation of a monitoring programme will require further work in terms of:

- promoting understanding of the indicators and reporting format, through wide stakeholders’ participation at national, regional and international levels;
- increasing the involvement of national stakeholders, and establishing a comprehensive monitoring system at the national level;
- developing capacity in national programmes to manage, collect and analyse data, and ensure long-term institutional commitment; and
- securing extra-budgetary funding to support the effort.

28. This work could be promoted through pilot activities, which would test the monitoring framework of the reporting format provided in document CGRFA-9/02/Inf.2, initiate the necessary capacity-building and set the basis for the establishment, at national level, of an information sharing mechanism for monitoring the *Plan’s* implementation. Consultations with other stakeholders, as referred to in para. 22, would be included as part of these pilot activities. In line with the recommendations of the Working Group, the pilot activities are being initiated by FAO, in collaboration with IPGRI, in selected, representative countries and will be completed by 2003.¹⁸

29. Based upon the results of these pilot activities, the indicators and the reporting format should be refined and adjusted, and the monitoring process extended to all member countries between 2004 and 2006, in preparation for regular sessions of the Commission and review by its Working Group. This monitoring approach and period could also assist the implementation of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, in which the *Plan* plays a key role, providing base-line data to the Governing Body for systematic monitoring and follow-up.

30. The Working Group agreed that the surveys to be carried out in 2003 and 2005 for the preparation of the progress reports on the implementation of the *Plan*, to be submitted at the Tenth and the Eleventh Regular Sessions of the Commission, respectively, should be based on

¹⁸ CGRFA-9/02/5, *Report of the First Session of the Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*, para. 18.

the methodology currently in use, integrating lessons learned from pilot activities, and from the extended monitoring process.

31. The limited human and financial resources, available through the Regular Programme, have to date been used for the process leading to the proposed reporting format. Donors have been approached seeking funding to initiate the pilot-monitoring phase. However, both the completion of the pilot monitoring process and the implementation of the extended monitoring process would require the redirection of Regular Programme resources for the data system, as well as the mobilization of extra-budgetary resources for complementary capacity-building activities, and for the establishment of national information sharing mechanisms.

32. An average per country estimation of the extra-budgetary resources required for the implementation of the pilot monitoring phase, including an in-country stakeholders' meeting, the establishment of a National Information Sharing Mechanism on *Global Plan of Action Implementation*, complementary capacity-building activities and personnel services (FAO/IPGRI) is US \$20 000. It is proposed that between ten and sixteen countries be covered within the 2002/2003 biennium. Funds required for carrying out the pilot monitoring in three countries of Latin American and the Caribbean and in three countries of South and South East Asia have already been secured through the Government of the Netherlands and the Government of Japan, respectively. The immediate need is US \$120 000 - US \$200 000 to complete the pilot monitoring phase.

33. A roll-out of the programme between 2004 and 2006 would require similar funds for between 80 and 120 countries, in the context of the comprehensive monitoring and capacity-building process. Once established, the periodic monitoring process will be covered by Regular Programme resources, and provide a "real-time" picture of the increased activities of the *Plan* that are expected with the entry into force of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

6. GUIDANCE REQUESTED FROM THE COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

34. Following the recommendations of the Working Group, as included in document CGRFA-9/02/5, para. 14-19, regarding the future monitoring activities, the Commission may wish to:

- i. adopt the proposed core indicators (Annex 1) and reporting format (document CGRFA -9/02/Inf.2) for monitoring the implementation of the *Plan* to be used during the pilot phase of the proposed monitoring process (para. 26);
- ii. recommend the implementation of the pilot phase of the monitoring process to be carried out by FAO, in collaboration with IPGRI and in consultation with national focal points in selected, representative countries during 2002-2003 in order to
 - a) test the monitoring framework of the reporting format provided in document CGRFA-9/02/Inf.2; and
 - b) intensify capacity-building efforts for the establishment of a national information sharing mechanism for strengthening the national PGR programme, the continuing role of the National Focal Points, and stakeholders' involvement (para. 19, 20, 22, 27 and 28).

35. In addition, the Commission may wish to provide guidance on action to be taken by the Secretariat, *inter alia*,

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- i. in relation to the surveys to be carried out in 2003 and 2005, for the preparation of the progress reports on the implementation of the Plan, to be submitted at the Tenth and the Eleventh Regular Sessions of the Commission, which could be based on the methodology currently in use, integrating lessons as they are learned from the pilot activities and from the extended monitoring process (para. 30);
 - ii. regarding the mobilization of the necessary extra-budgetary funds to complete the pilot phase by 2003 and to extend the monitoring process to the remaining countries between 2004 and 2006 (para. 31-33).
 36. Finally, the Commission may wish to:
 - i. encourage international and regional organizations, as well as relevant stakeholders to participate in the monitoring process through providing specific information on their contribution to the implementation of the Plan in future reports (para. 23);
 - ii. advise the Secretariat as to how reporting on implementation of the Plan may partially satisfy countries' reporting on agrobiodiversity to the CBD, pursuant to Decision III/11 of the COP and to continue consultations with them as well as other relevant organizations in order to use, wherever feasible, common reporting formats in other on-going monitoring processes (para. 23); and
 - iii. encourage countries, which have not yet done so, to nominate national focal points for reporting on the implementation of the Plan in order to maximize completeness of the reporting coverage (para. 10).

ANNEX

**CORE INDICATORS FOR MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE
UTILIZATION OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

Activity Area 1: Surveying and Inventorying Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

1. Surveys/inventories of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and associated indigenous knowledge carried out [S*]
2. Threatened inter- and intra-specific diversity relevant to food and agriculture identified [S]
3. Priority areas for *in situ* conservation identified [R**]
4. Priority areas for surveying and inventorying identified [R]

Activity Area 2: Supporting On-Farm Management and Improvement of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

1. Projects assessing farmer knowledge, landraces inventory, evaluation, breeding, utilization and management of PGRFA covering relevant agro-ecological zones [S]
2. Institutional (formal) links to farming system [S]
3. Economic incentives and policy instruments to support farmers' utilization of diversity in place [R]
4. Pilot *in situ* sites established in areas of high diversity and risk [R]
5. Integration of ethno-botanical and socio-economic aspects into institutional research programme [R]

Activity Area 3: Assisting Farmers in Disaster Situations to Restore Agricultural Systems

1. Adequate information systems (including indigenous knowledge) for tracking appropriate germplasm for reintroduction available [R]
2. Mechanisms and funding arrangements for rapid multiplication and distribution of reintroduced PGRFA (also including farmers) in place [R]
3. *Ex situ* duplicates of local PGRFA identified [R]
4. Strategies in place to strengthen local/inter-local seed systems [R]

Activity Area 4: Promoting *In Situ* Conservation of Wild Crop Relatives and Wild Plants for Food Production

1. Wild crop relatives and wild plants for food and agriculture identified and documented [S]
2. Programmes and activities developed for conservation of wild crop relatives and wild plants for food and agriculture [R]
3. Programmes in place to support community-based management of wild crop relatives and wild plants for food and agriculture in non-protected areas [R]

Activity Area 5: Sustaining Existing *Ex Situ* Collections

1. Capacity-building in genebank management and information systems carried out [R]

* S = Status indicator

** R = Response indicator

2. Budget and other resources available for *ex situ* conservation of PGRFA [R]
3. Species and number of accessions preserved *ex situ*: medium term and long term [R]
4. Maintaining information management and dissemination systems [R]
5. Identifying and mitigating major constraints to *ex situ* conservation of PGRFA [R]

Activity Area 6: Regenerating Threatened *Ex Situ* Accessions

1. Regeneration plan for priority species and accessions developed and implemented [R]
2. Training and research to improve effectiveness and efficiency of regeneration carried out [R]
3. Assessing viability and sample quantity of accessions in *ex situ* collections [R]

Activity Area 7: Supporting Planned and Targeted Collecting of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

1. Training and research in technologies and methods required for identifying gaps and germplasm collecting carried out [R]
2. Gaps in existing *ex situ* collections identified [R]
3. Species and number of accessions collected during planned and targeted collecting missions [R]

Activity Area 8: Expanding *Ex Situ* Conservation Activities

1. Species and number of accessions preserved *ex situ*, using complementary conservation methodologies (e.g., cryo and *in vitro* conservation, botanical gardens, arboreta and field gene banks) [R]
2. Established institutions and number of professionals involved in complementary *ex situ* conservation (e.g. cryo and *in vitro* conservation, botanical gardens, arboreta and field genebanks) [R]
3. Complementary *ex situ* conservation activities carried out in universities, schools, private sector, civil societies [R]

Activity Area 9: Expanding the Characterization, Evaluation and Number of Core Collections to Facilitate Use

1. Species and number of accessions characterized/evaluated [S]
2. Provisions made for data processing, information management and dissemination [R]
3. Species and number of accessions distributed from collections [R]

Activity Area 10: Increasing Genetic Enhancement and Base-Broadening Efforts

1. Genetic enhancement and pre-breeding programmes established and expanded [R]
2. Genetic base broadening programmes established and expanded [R]
3. Extent of farmers' participation (according to local needs) in enhancement/broadening efforts [R]

Activity Area 11: Promoting Sustainable Agriculture through Diversification of Crop Production and Broader Diversity in Crops

1. Crops and varieties per crop cultivated [S]
2. Programmes/projects/activities of genetic uniformity monitoring and/or vulnerability assessment established [R]
3. Programmes/projects/activities to increase genetic heterogeneity of crop species and diversity within the agro-ecosystem (e.g. composite crosses, landraces, multi-lines, etc) [R]

4. Adoption and implementation of legal/policy framework that allows/encourages diversity in agro-ecosystems [R]
5. Existence of and access to marketing incentives for diversity rich products [R]

Activity Area 12: Promoting Development and Commercialization of Under-Utilized Crops and Species

1. Under-utilized species with great socio-economic potential for broader utilization identified [R]
2. Survey, collection, conservation, genetic diversity studies carried out [R]
3. Crop enhancement programmes/projects/activities for most promising under-utilized crops/species [R]
4. Post-harvest processing and marketing methods developed [R]
5. Appropriate policy/legal frameworks (including strategies) in support of sustainable use and marketing developed/improved [R]

Activity Area 13: Supporting Seed Production and Distribution

1. Participatory community-based seed programmes/projects/activities [S]
2. Programmes/projects/activities addressing seed storage problems [S]
3. Programmes/projects/activities jointly carried out between formal and informal seed sector [R]
4. Seed quality standards established [R]
5. Implementation of appropriate international regulatory frameworks and other conventions and treaties such as IPR, UPOV and Farmers' Rights [R]
6. National seed policies to develop and expand viable local-level seed production and distribution mechanisms for varieties and crops important to small-scale farmers implemented [R]

Activity Area 14: Developing New Markets for Local Varieties and "Diversity-Rich" Products

1. Landraces/farmers' varieties with great economic potential for developing new markets identified [R]
2. Post-harvest processing and marketing methods developed [R]
3. Appropriate policy/legal frameworks (including strategies) in support of specialized niche markets developed/improved [R]

Activity Area 15: Building Strong National Programmes

1. National entity (agency, committee, etc.) functioning as a governance structure responsible for coordinating and/or facilitating PGRFA activities in the country [S]
2. Entities (agency, programme, national focal point, individual etc.) responsible for implementing PGRFA activities in the country [S]
3. Formal, legal or administrative mandate or status for the national programme(s) [S]
4. National legislative and policy framework for PGRFA developed and adopted [R]
5. Participation of national programmes in the implementation of international agreements and initiatives relevant to PGRFA [R]
6. Capacity-building activities to establish or strengthen the country's own national programme [R]
7. National contribution towards establishing/strengthening national programmes in other countries [R]
8. Effectiveness of coordination and facilitation of national activities [R]

Activity Area 16: Promoting Networks for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

1. Level of involvement in existing networks and corresponding national activities [S]
2. Level of participation in networks (number of networks the country is participating in) [R]
3. Achievements of the networks [R]
4. Effectiveness of participation in the networks [R]

Activity Area 17: Constructing Comprehensive Information Systems for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

1. Level of computerization and connectivity among stakeholders with the country [S]
2. Type of national and institutional information systems used for *in situ* and *ex situ* management of PGRFA [R]
3. Degree of standardization of or linkage among the information systems [R]
4. Linkage of PGRFA information systems with other relevant national information systems (e.g. seed stocks, plant breeding, geo-referenced botanical distributions) [R]
5. International information systems accessed [R]
6. Comprehensiveness and accuracy of data in PGRFA information and documentation systems [R]

Activity Area 18: Developing Monitoring and Early Warning Systems for Loss of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

1. Measures taken to identify and assess genetic erosion, including trends over time [R]
2. Identified loss of PGRFA reported by the mandated national authority(ies) to the FAO Global system on PGRFA [S]

Activity Area 19: Expanding and Improving Education and Training [R]

1. Existence of educational and training programmes incorporating plant genetic resources aspects [R]
2. National strategies for education and training to enhance performance in the GPA priority activity areas [R]
3. Frequency, levels and subjects of training courses and number of persons trained in national, regional and international training courses [R]
4. Organization of national, regional and international training courses and programmes [R]

Activity Area 20: Promoting Public Awareness of the Value of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Conservation and Use

1. Number and kind of measures taken to promote awareness among priority target groups [R]
2. Assessing the impact of public awareness activities [R]
3. Degree of involvement of different actors in public awareness activities [R]
4. Integration of awareness of PGRFA into pre-secondary and secondary educational curricula [R]