


June 2012

	منظمة الأغذية والزراعة للأمم المتحدة	联合国 粮食及 农业组织	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture	Продовольственная и сельскохозяйственная организация Объединенных Наций	Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Alimentación y la Agricultura
---	--	--------------------	---	---	---	--

## COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

**AD HOC TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON ACCESS AND  
BENEFIT-SHARING FOR GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND  
AGRICULTURE**

**First Session**

**Longyearbyen (Svalbard), Norway, 11 - 13 September 2012**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE AD HOC TECHNICAL WORKING  
GROUP ON ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING FOR GENETIC  
RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

---

## **AD HOC TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING FOR GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

### *Terms of reference*

---

#### **Scope of work**

1. The Ad Hoc Technical Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing for Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Working Group) shall, in harmony with the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Nagoya Protocol), the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and other relevant international instruments:
  - identify relevant distinctive features of the different sectors and sub-sectors of genetic resources for food and agriculture requiring distinctive solutions;
  - taking into account the relevant distinctive features identified, develop options to guide and assist countries, upon their request, in developing legislative, administrative and policy measures that accommodate these features; and
  - analyze, as appropriate, possible modalities for addressing access and benefit-sharing for genetic resources for food and agriculture, taking into account the full range of options, including those presented in the Nagoya Protocol.

#### **Composition of the Working Group**

- 2.1 The Working Group shall be composed of twenty-seven Member Nations elected at the Thirteenth Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture:
  - 5 from Africa
  - 5 from Europe
  - 5 from Asia
  - 5 from Latin America and the Caribbean
  - 3 from the Near East
  - 2 from North America
  - 2 from Southwest Pacific.
- 2.2 Members of the Commission which are not Members of the Working Group may participate, upon request to the Commission Secretariat, in the work of the Working Group in an observer capacity.
- 2.3 The Working Group, or the Bureau of the Commission on behalf of the Working Group, may invite experts, as well as representatives of the specialized international organizations, to attend the meeting to provide inputs to the Working Group.

#### **Officers**

3. The Working Group shall elect its Chairperson and one or more Vice-Chairpersons from among the representatives of Members of the Working Group at the beginning of the meeting.
4. The Chairperson, or a Vice-Chairperson in the absence of a Chairperson, shall preside over the meeting of the Working Group and exercise such other functions as may be required to facilitate its work.

**Reporting**

5. The Working Group shall provide a report on the outcome of the meeting to the Commission, at its Fourteenth Regular Session. The report of the Working Group shall also be made available to the Intergovernmental Technical Working Groups, for their review in their fields of expertise.