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منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
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COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Item 2 of the Provisional Agenda

TEAM OF TECHNICAL AND LEGAL EXPERTS ON ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING

Sixth Session

Rome, 2–4 May 2023

ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING: COMMENTS AND INPUTS - Addendum -

1. In response to the Commission's request the Secretariat prepared the document *Access and benefit-sharing and genetic resources for food and agriculture: typology of country measures* and a *Draft online questionnaire on the implications of access and benefit-sharing measures for the use and exchange of genetic resources for food and agriculture and for benefit-sharing*. The two documents are contained in the document *Access and benefit-sharing and genetic resources for food and agriculture*.¹

2. This document compiles comments on and inputs to the two documents provided by the Commission's Intergovernmental Technical Working Groups on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Working Group), which held its Eleventh Session from 18 to 20 April 2023. Comments and inputs received from the other intergovernmental technical working groups are contained in the document CGRFA/TTLE-ABS-6/23/Inf.2.

I. ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING AND GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE: TYPLOGY OF COUNTRY MEASURES

Comments and inputs by the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

1. The Working Group provided comments on and inputs to the document *Access and benefit-sharing and genetic resources for food and agriculture: typology of country measures*,² and noted that further comments on these measures may be submitted by Members to the Secretariat by 1 May 2023. It recommended to clarify in the introduction that ABS country measures referenced in the typology are examples only and are in no way meant to be exhaustive. It further recommended that the typology

¹ CGRFA/TTLE-ABS-6/23/2, Appendices I & II.

² CGRFA/TTLE-ABS-6/23/2, Appendix I.

of ABS country measures be reviewed and, as appropriate, revised in the light of all comments and inputs received, for consideration by the Commission at its forthcoming session. The Working Group recommended that the Commission explore options to regularly update the typology and make it available to relevant stakeholders.³

II. DRAFT ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING MEASURES FOR THE USE AND EXCHANGE OF GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE AND FOR BENEFIT-SHARING

Comments and inputs by the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

2. The Working Group provided comments on and inputs to the *Draft questionnaire on the implications of access and benefit-sharing measures for the use and exchange of genetic resources for food and agriculture and for benefit-sharing*.⁴ It recommended to simplify and shorten the questionnaire and to clarify the addressees of the different questions; the questionnaire should also seek information in the form of open-ended questions on practical experiences of stakeholders with ABS country measures, implications of ABS measures (e.g. on the choice of GRFA used) and the actual effects of refused access to genetic resources. Some of the proposed questions (e.g. questions 8, 12 and 15) should be directed to the competent national authorities on access and benefit-sharing, where such authorities exist. Other questions should be reviewed in light of the fact that certain rules and regulations other than ABS measures, such as quarantine or health regulations, may also delay or hinder access to genetic resources (questions 20, 21, 26 and 27).⁵

³ CGRFA/TTLE-ABS-6/23/Inf.8, paragraph 35.

⁴ CGRFA/TTLE-ABS-6/23/2, *Appendix II*.

⁵ CGRFA/TTLE-ABS-6/23/Inf.8, paragraph 36.