



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



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

Item 15 of the Provisional Agenda

SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Kigali, Rwanda, 30 October – 3 November 2017

Report on Implementation of Article 9, Farmers' Rights

Executive Summary

Through Resolution 5/2015, the Governing Body, *inter alia*, requested the Secretariat to engage Contracting Parties and relevant organizations in taking initiatives to gather information at national, regional and global levels for exchanging knowledge, views, experiences and best practices on the implementation of Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty. The Governing Body, by the same Resolution, invited Contracting Parties and other stakeholders to undertake certain activities as well as provide other inputs towards the implementation of Farmer's Rights.

This document reports on activities undertaken during this biennium on Article 9, Farmers' Rights, and provides information on certain stakeholder initiatives, as well as on discussions within and partnerships with other relevant fora and processes.

Guidance Sought

On the basis of the range of activities undertaken and information gathered during the biennium, the Governing Body is invited to take note of the information contained in this document, and provide guidance on future directions for the implementation of Farmers' Rights, taking into account the elements for a possible Resolution as provided in the *Appendix* to this document.

*This document can be accessed using the Quick Response Code on this page;
an FAO initiative to minimize its environmental impact and promote greener communications.
Other documents can be consulted at*

<http://www.fao.org/plant-treaty/meetings/meetings-detail/en/c/888771/>



mu391

Table of Contents

| | Paragraphs |
|--|------------|
| I. INTRODUCTION | 1 – 3 |
| II. KNOWLEDGE, VIEWS, EXPERIENCES AND BEST PRACTICES SUBMITTED BY CONTRACTING PARTIES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 9 | 4 – 5 |
| III. CONSULTATIONS ON FARMERS' RIGHTS | 6 – 11 |
| IV. DISCUSSIONS OF RELEVANCE TO FARMERS' RIGHTS IN OTHER FORA.... | 12 – 15 |
| V. INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS (UPOV) AND THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO): POSSIBLE AREAS OF INTERR[...] | 16 – 20 |
| VI. PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION..... | 21 – 25 |
| VII. OTHER ACTIVITIES | 26 – 32 |
| VIII. POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FARMERS' RIGHTS | 33 – 35 |
| IX. GUIDANCE SOUGHT..... | 36 |

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its Sixth Session, the Governing Body, through Resolution 5/2015, requested the Secretary, *inter alia*:

- ...to engage Contracting Parties and relevant organizations to take initiatives to gather information at national, regional and global levels for exchanging knowledge, views, experiences and best practices on the implementation of Farmers' Rights;
- subject to the availability of financial resources, to prepare a study on lessons learned from the implementation of Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the Treaty, including policies and legislation;
- in consultation with the Bureau and subject to availability of financial resources, to finalize the Educational Module on Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the Treaty;
- to continue engaging, in a mutually supportive manner with the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) to jointly, and including through a participatory process, as appropriate and subject to availability of resources, finalize the process for identification of possible interrelations between their respective instruments and the Treaty;
- to conduct active outreach on the extent of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty to relevant stakeholders as another necessary measure to advance the implementation of these rights.

2. Through the same Resolution, the Governing Body invited Contracting Parties and other stakeholders to undertake further activities as well as provide information on and other inputs for the implementation of Farmer's Rights.

3. This document reports on activities relating to the implementation of Article 9, Farmers' Rights, undertaken or facilitated by the Secretariat during this biennium, and provides information on other initiatives, as well as discussions within and partnerships with other relevant fora and processes.

II. KNOWLEDGE, VIEWS, EXPERIENCES AND BEST PRACTICES SUBMITTED BY CONTRACTING PARTIES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 9

4. Following the request of the Governing Body, the Secretary issued a notification to Contracting Parties and other stakeholders in order to gather views and information on the status of implementation on Farmers' Rights.¹ The Secretariat received a limited number of submissions in response. The Secretariat combined the received submissions with the further views and experiences that were gathered through the consultations summarized in paragraph 6 below. This information is provided in the document, IT/GB-7/17/Inf.11

5. The Compliance Committee was convened in the biennium, *inter alia*, to assess the submissions that Contracting Parties made on the implementation of the International Treaty.² As some submissions dealt with Farmers' Rights, the Compliance Committee provided a brief synthesis

¹ NCP GB7-008-FRs EC Notification on Electronic Survey on Farmers' Rights; GB7-005-Farmers' Rights Consultation.

² The report of the Compliance Committee is available in the document, IT/GB-7/17/18, *Report of the Compliance Committee*

of the measures taken by Contracting Parties to implement Article 9.³ Based on the submissions the Committee considered, and additional reports received subsequently, it appears that a number of Contracting Parties have taken measures to protect and promote Farmers' Rights in recognition of the contribution that local and indigenous communities and farmers have made and will continue to make for the conservation and development of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA). In line with the provisions of Article 9, countries reported measures for: the protection of traditional knowledge relevant to PGRFA; the right to equitably participate in sharing benefits arising from the utilization of PGRFA; and the right to participate in making decisions, at national level, on matters related to the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA. Most reports provided further details on the measures taken, in particular on the rights that farmers have to save, use, exchange, and sell farm-saved seed/ propagating material, as well as information on seed legislation and plant variety protection laws.

III. CONSULTATIONS ON FARMERS' RIGHTS

6. A number of international consultations, workshops and dialogues were convened, during the biennium, by Contracting Parties and other stakeholders, including those outlined below.

7. *Global Consultation on Farmers' Rights, 27 - 30 September 2016, Bali, Indonesia.*⁴ The objectives of the Global Consultation were to seek common grounds for the understanding Farmers' Rights, to share experiences through the exchange of best practices on their realization, and to gather ideas on how to strengthen implementation. The participants were from Contracting Parties, farmers' organizations, NGOs, intergovernmental organizations, seed industry organizations and research institutions. The summary of presentations and discussions are provided in the document, IT/GB-7/17/Inf. 10, *Proceedings of the Global Consultation on Farmers' Rights*. In document IT/GB-7/17/Circ. 1, *Submission from Norway and Indonesia containing the Co-Chairs proposal from the Global Consultation on Farmers' Rights*, the Co-Chairs present a summary of recommendations reflecting their interpretation of the discussions held at the Global Consultation.

8. *The Stakeholders' Consultation for Africa, 27-29 June 2016, Harare, Zimbabwe.*⁵ The consultation sought to identify ways and means of facilitating a practical process for the realization of Farmers' Rights by national governments, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty and as they relate to PGRFA, while acknowledging Farmers' Rights as being vital for food and nutrition security, and the future of conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA. The consultation was attended by 59 participants representing Contracting Parties,⁶ farmers and farmers' organizations, civil society organizations (CSOs), CGIAR, regional organizations, research institutions and academia. The results

³ Question 19 of the *Standard Reporting Format Pursuant to Section V.1 of the Procedures and Operational Mechanisms to Promote Compliance and Address Issues of Non-Compliance* reads: "Subject to national law, as appropriate, have any measures been taken to protect and promote farmers' rights in your country?"

⁴ The Consultation was organized by the Governments of Indonesia and Norway with financial support from the Governments of Italy and Switzerland, and other organizations. The Secretariat was requested to facilitate the consultation

⁵ The Consultation was organized by the Community Technology Development Trust (CTDT) under the coordination and co-hosting by the Ministry of Agriculture Mechanization and Irrigation and with the in-kind support by the Secretariat

⁶ Angola, Cameroon, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

and outcomes of the consultation were summarized as a publicly available Position Paper of Africa for the Global Consultation.⁷

9. *Small Group Informal Stakeholders' Consultation on Farmers' Rights*, 28 May 2016, Geneva, Switzerland.⁸ The objective was to examine the progress in and challenges to the national implementation of Article 9 of the Treaty. It was attended by experts drawn from various backgrounds, including ministries of agriculture, research institutions, academia and CSOs. The consultation outlined substantive messages addressing the challenges of realizing Farmers' Rights. A summary report of the consultation is available online.⁹

10. *Electronic Consultation*.¹⁰ From 1 June to 15 August 2016, the Secretariat conducted an online survey on the implementation of Farmers' Rights. The objective was to gather views, perceptions, options, approaches and possible strategies for implementing Farmers' Rights. The electronic consultation had 166 respondents from a total of 58 Contracting Parties, representing government institutions, CSOs/NGOs, farmers, indigenous peoples and local communities, research and academia, intergovernmental organizations and the seed industry. The respondents considered the realization of Farmers' Rights as fundamental for the objectives of the International Treaty, albeit constrained by a number of challenges, such as limited or lack of awareness and understanding of the concept, lack of financial support, and inadequate capacity. The survey highlighted the potential for Farmers' Rights to link to other fora and processes and become a multi-dimensional, cross-cutting concept (see section IV below). An overview of the results was presented at the Global Consultation on Farmers' Rights, and at the third meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Technical Committee on Sustainable Use, held from 24 to 25 October 2016 in Vienna, Austria. Further information on the results of the electronic survey is provided in document, IT/GB-7/17/Inf.11

11. At its third meeting held in Vienna, Austria from 24-25 October 2016, the *Ad hoc* Technical Committee on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture took note of progress made in implementing relevant activities in the Resolution on Article 9, Farmers' Rights, including the outcomes of the Global Consultation on Farmers' Rights in Bali, Indonesia, the Electronic Consultation, and other related activities on Farmers' Rights.

IV. DISCUSSIONS OF RELEVANCE TO FARMERS' RIGHTS IN OTHER FORA

12. During the 43rd session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) held in October 2016, discussions relevant to Farmers' Rights were held in the context of the Fifth Version of the Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF 2016), which is approved on an annual basis by the CFS. Policy and programme recommendations contained in GSF 2016 of

⁷ The Africa Position Paper on Farmers' Rights is available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-bq550e.pdf>

⁸ The event was organized by the Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO) in Geneva on the occasion of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore: Thirtieth Session (WIPO/GRTFK/IC/30).

⁹ <http://quino.org/resource/2016/6/farmers-rights-consultation-summary-report>

¹⁰ NCP GB7-008-FRs EC <http://www.fao.org/plant-treaty/notifications/detail-events/en/c/430818/>. The survey was made available in English, French and Spanish languages.

relevance to Farmers' Rights include: (i) the need to create conditions to facilitate access to genetic resources for food and agriculture and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their use, e.g. recognizing the importance of the International Treaty and of the Nagoya Protocol to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD); and (ii) investing in smallholder agriculture for food security and nutrition, which calls for the responsible governance of land and natural resources, with the emphasis on securing access and tenure for smallholders, particularly women, in accordance with the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security, as well as other country-led measures with similar objectives.

13. At the Human Rights Council, during the Fourth Session of the Open-ended intergovernmental working group on a United Nations declaration on the rights of peasants and other people working in rural areas, which was held from 15-19 May 2017, Geneva, Switzerland, the Chair Rapporteur of the working group presented the draft declaration,¹¹ which refers to Right to Seeds in Article 19.¹²

14. The Thirteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted several decisions the content of which are of relevance to the provisions of Article 9 of the International Treaty.¹³

15. The Sixteenth Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture called for further work on draft technical guidelines on farmers' varieties/landraces.¹⁴ Regarding the proposal for global networking on *in situ* conservation and on-farm management of PGRFA,¹⁵ the Commission requested FAO to continue strengthening national and regional PGRFA conservation networks, including through capacity-building activities and facilitating partnerships.

V. INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS (UPOV) AND THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO): POSSIBLE AREAS OF

¹¹ A/HRC/WG.15/4/2. <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G17/051/60/PDF/G1705160.pdf?OpenElement>

¹² A/HRC/WG.15/4/2 available at: http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/WG.15/4/2

¹³ CBD/COP/DEC/XIII/3 (*Strategic actions to enhance the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including with respect to mainstreaming and the integration of biodiversity within and across sectors*), page 8, paragraph 27 and page 9, paragraph 35, <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-13/cop-13-dec-03-en.pdf>. CBD/COP/DEC/XIII/18 (*The "Mo'tz Kuxtal Voluntary Guidelines for the development of mechanisms, legislation or other appropriate initiatives to ensure the "prior and informed consent", "free, prior and informed consent" or "approval and involvement", depending on national circumstances, of indigenous peoples and local communities for accessing their knowledge, innovations and practices, for fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of their knowledge, innovations and practices relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and for reporting and preventing unlawful appropriation of traditional knowledge*), <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-13/cop-13-dec-18-en.pdf>

¹⁴ CGRFA-16/17/Inf.18: National Level Conservation and Use of Farmers' Varieties/Landraces: Revised Draft Voluntary Guidelines

¹⁵ CGRFA-16/17/Report, paragraph 93. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-ms565e.pdf>

INTERRELATIONS WITH THE RESPECTIVE INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS

16. As requested by the Governing Body at its Sixth Session, the Secretary continued to engage with UPOV and WIPO to finalize the process for identifying possible areas of interrelations among the respective instruments.

17. In February 2016, the Secretary published a Notification giving an update on the process for identifying possible areas of interrelations between the International Treaty and relevant instruments of UPOV and WIPO.¹⁶ Based on the inputs received from Contracting Parties and other stakeholders, and in consultation with the Bureau, the Secretary submitted a list of possible issues and an outline of a joint symposium on possible interrelations between the International Treaty and the UPOV Convention to the UPOV Consultative Committee, for its consideration. The joint symposium and its draft outline programme were subsequently approved by the UPOV Council.

18. In consultation with the Bureau, the Secretary made the necessary preparations and arrangements for the symposium. The *Symposium on possible interrelations between the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants* was held on 26 October 2016 at UPOV Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. It was attended by more than 140 participants, representing governments, farmers, civil society and the private sector. Participants received a number of presentations on the interrelations between the International Treaty and the UPOV Convention, as well as on Contracting Parties' experiences in implementing the two instruments at national level.

19. The symposium was co-moderated by Mr Muhamad Sabran, as Chair of the Governing Body, and Mr Raimundo Lavignolle, as Vice-President of UPOV. They referred to the objectives and benefits of both instruments and the need for interpreting and implementing them in a mutually supportive way, taking into account the particular context of each Contracting Party. They stressed the need to involve all stakeholders in such a process, and highlighted the support that may be necessary from the two organizations to promote this objective. The report of the symposium is available in document, IT/GB-7/17/Inf.14, *Proceedings of the Symposium on Possible Interrelations between the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants*.

20. The Secretariat has continued exploring possibilities for undertaking joint activities with WIPO, with the aim of further identifying possible areas of interrelation between the International Treaty and WIPO administered instruments. Based on preliminary consultations with the WIPO Secretariat, the next step would be to bring the process to the full attention of WIPO members, at their next relevant meeting. This could include a proposal for jointly organizing a new seminar to identify possible areas of interrelations between the International Treaty and the international instruments administered by WIPO, during the next biennium.

¹⁶ Available at <http://www.fao.org/3/a-bc786e.pdf>

VI. PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

21. The Secretariat collaborated with a number of organizations to promote the implementation of Farmers' Rights through capacity-building, resource mobilization and the dissemination of information.
22. The *Secretariat of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR)* implemented Capacity Building Programme on Farmers' Rights. The Secretariats have cooperated to mobilize resources and forge partnerships with other international and national organizations to implement the programme.¹⁷
23. The *Quakers United Nations Office* published and disseminated advocacy materials on Farmers' Rights,¹⁸ as well as organized a workshop on Farmers' Rights.
24. The *UNDP Small Grants Programme Unit* and the Secretariat jointly sought to identify synergies and new opportunities for the UNDP Small Grants Programme to build capacities of farmers and indigenous local communities for conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA.
25. The *Secretariat of the International Planning Committee for Food and Sovereignty (IPC)* has expressed interest in the outcomes of the Global Consultation held in Bali, Indonesia, and in the Sustainable Use Programme of Work Component "Training and Capacity Building on Farmers' Rights and Sustainable Use."¹⁹ Follow-up activities by IPC are in the planning phase.²⁰

VII. OTHER ACTIVITIES

26. The Secretariat continued seeking and utilising opportunities to inform about the implementation of Farmers' Rights, including by co-organizing or facilitating dialogues on the occasion of relevant international meetings, events and activities that attract a significant presence of farmers' representatives, local communities and indigenous peoples.
27. During the 43rd session of the Committee on World Food Security, the Secretariat participated in a side event organized by the Civil Society Mechanism on 20 October 2016. The event featured the role of peasants, farmers' organizations and civil society organizations in conserving, developing and managing agricultural biodiversity and PGRFA. The event called for clarity and coherence in the global governance of genetic resources for food and agriculture. It also called for the realization of Farmers' Rights.
28. The Co-Chairs summary of recommendations was presented during the thirteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at the FAO side event on "Genetic diversity for a world with no hunger: International cooperation through FAO".²¹

¹⁷ Detailed activities are contained in IT/GB-7/17/Inf.12

¹⁸ <http://quno.org/resources/Food-&-Sustainability>

¹⁹ IT/GB-6/15/Res 4. Table 1 of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of PGRFA and Supporting Initiatives <http://www.fao.org/3/a-b1143e.pdf>

²⁰ At the time of this document, the IPC Secretariat is planning to organize two workshops: (1) an international capacity development workshop in Mali in September 2017; and (2) a Latin America Regional Seminar for Capacity Building on Rights of Farmers within the framework of the ITPGRFA, to be held in the second half of 2017 in Brazil. When available, information on these events will be provided to the Governing Body and, after the session, to Contracting Parties.

²¹ <https://www.cbd.int/side-events/2238>

29. During the Sixteenth Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, a side event was jointly organized by Indonesia, Norway and the Secretariat, which highlighted the multiple benefits of realizing Farmers' Rights, and presented the Co-Chairs' summary of recommendations from the Global Consultation on Farmers' Rights.

30. The Secretariat collaborated with the FAO Interdepartmental Working Group for Indigenous Peoples (IP) through a series of side events and meetings related to Farmers' Rights, organized by the FAO IP team. These include the Global Youth Caucus 2017,²² Open Talk on Indigenous Food Systems and Protection of Traditional Knowledge Systems.²³

31. The Secretariat collaborated with Bioversity International at relevant workshops, to provide information on progress with the implementation of Farmers' Rights.²⁴

32. In consultation with the Bureau, and following a round of expert peer reviews, the Educational Module on Farmers' Rights was finalized. The electronic version of the Educational Module is available on the Treaty's website. The E-Learning Module will be made available through the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (INFORMEA).²⁵

VIII. POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTIVITIES TO ENHANCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FARMERS' RIGHTS

33. The outcomes of the various consultations held, and submissions received by the Secretariat, underline the importance of Farmers' Rights in conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. Several good practices and practical activities that implement Farmers' Rights were demonstrated or presented and these can be shared and scaled up, as appropriate.

34. The consultations and submissions also provided an important avenue for the assessment of progress in the implementation of Farmers' Rights at national level. The views and perceptions submitted by major stakeholders highlighted the need for capacity building and technical assistance to implement Farmers' Rights.²⁶ The need for capacity building to implement Farmers' Rights was also reflected in the letters of expression received by the Secretariat from different institutions. Likewise, within FAO, the Secretariat collaborated with the Office of Partnerships and Collaboration,²⁷ which facilitated support for training and capacity building on Farmers' Rights and the Sustainable Use through the FAO South-South Cooperation Facility.

35. In order to respond to the capacity development needs requiring technical assistance to promote the realization of Farmers' Rights at national level, subject to the availability of financial resources, the following activities or similar activities would enhance the implementation of Farmers' Rights:

²² FAO-Global Youth Caucus hosted by FAO from 5-7 April 2017

²³ Organized at FAO on 11 November 2016

²⁴ Workshop on mutually supportive implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and the International Treaty in Benin and Madagascar, held from 3-7 April 2017; Workshop on Genetic Resources Policies for CGIAR Center IP Focal Points, 06 June 2017

²⁵ <https://www.informea.org/>

²⁶ Such as in enhancing understanding of Farmers' Rights under the International Treaty, conservation and sustainable of PGR materials, Indigenous Knowledge Systems documentation, PGR policy development, ABS mechanisms, seed quality guidelines

²⁷ FAO Unit responsible for the Civil Society Organizations and the Indigenous Peoples

- facilitation and technical support to national and regional stakeholders' consultations on Farmers' Rights;
- preparation and dissemination of best practices and lessons learned from the national implementation of Farmers' Rights;
- Strengthen stakeholder engagement and intensify capacity development that demonstrate support to farmers on conservation and sustainable management of PGRFA and analysis of possible implication on Access and Benefit Sharing under the International Treaty
- promotion of south-south cooperation, synergies and sharing of experiences on programme and initiatives regarding the realization of Farmers' Rights; and
- increase in efforts to mobilize resources and to reach out Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholders to mainstream Farmers' Rights in their relevant plans and programmes.

IX. GUIDANCE SOUGHT

36. The Governing Body is invited to take note of the information contained in this document and provide guidance on next steps for supporting the implementation of Farmers' Rights under the International Treaty, taking into account the elements for a possible Resolution that are provided in the *Appendix* to this document.

APPENDIX**DRAFT RESOLUTION **/2017****IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 9, FARMERS' RIGHTS****THE GOVERNING BODY,**

Recalling the recognition, in the International Treaty, of the enormous contribution that the local and indigenous communities and farmers of all regions of the world have made, and will continue to make, for the conservation, development and use of plant genetic resources as the basis of food and agriculture production throughout the world;

Recalling its Resolutions 2/2007, 6/2009, 6/2011, 8/2013 and 5/2015:

- 1) **Invites** each Contracting Party to consider developing national action plans for implementation of Article 9, in line with implementation of Articles 5 and 6, and to share information progress with the development and implementation of such action plans;
- 2) **Invites** each Contracting Party to engage farmers' organizations and relevant stakeholders in matters related to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, and to promote awareness-raising and capacity-building towards this aim;
- 3) **Invites** Contracting Parties and relevant organizations to take initiatives to convene further regional workshops and other consultations, including with farmers' organizations, for the exchange of knowledge, views and experiences on the realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty, and present the results at the Eighth Session of the Governing Body;
- 4) **Requests** the Secretary to facilitate such initiatives upon request, and subject to the availability of financial resources;
- 5) **Welcomes** the Proceedings of the Global Consultation on Farmers' Rights 2016; **thanks** the Governments of Indonesia and Norway and others for their generous support in organizing it; **further thanks** the Governments of Italy and Switzerland for their financial support to the consultation; and **takes note** of the summary of recommendations provided by the Co-Chairs;
- 6) **Invites** Contracting Parties and all relevant stakeholders, especially farmers' organizations, to submit views and experiences for use as examples of possible options for national implementation of Article 9 on Farmers' Rights, as appropriate and subject to national legislation, in preparation for the study;
- 7) **Commends** the Secretariat for the work undertaken to finalize and publish the Educational Module on Farmers' Rights; **requests** the Secretary and **invites** Contracting Parties to disseminate and use the Educational Module;
- 8) **Requests** the Secretary to continue implementing the capacity building programme with the Global Forum on Agricultural Research and other relevant organizations on Farmer's Rights;

- 9) **Thanks** the Secretary and the Office of UPOV for co-organizing the *Symposium on possible interrelations between the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants*; and **requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to continue the process of identifying possible areas of interrelations between the International Treaty, in particular its Article 9, the UPOV Convention and to explore the possibility of carrying out a similar process with the relevant instruments of WIPO in cooperation with the WIPO Secretariat;
- 10) **Appreciates** the participation of farmers' organizations in activities to support the implementation of Farmers' Rights; and **invites** them to continue to actively participate in sessions of the Governing Body and in relevant intersessional meetings of relevant subsidiary bodies established by the Governing Body, as appropriate and according to the Rules of Procedure of the International Treaty, and giving due consideration to the FAO Strategy for Partnerships with Civil Society;
- 11) **Requests** the Secretariat to increase efforts to mobilise resources to support Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholders aimed at capacity building to enhance the implementation of Farmers' Rights as set out in the International Treaty; and, subject to availability of financial resources, to provide or facilitate the provision of technical assistance to Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholders to support their efforts to realize Farmers' Rights, including through procedures and mechanisms to mainstream Farmers' Rights in their national plans and programmes, as appropriate;
- 12) **Encourages** the Secretary to continue outreach and communication on Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty, to relevant stakeholders as a necessary measure to advance the implementation of these rights;
- 13) **Requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to follow processes of relevance to Article 9, within and outside FAO, in order to promote the consideration of Farmers' Rights;
- 14) **Calls upon** Contracting Parties to support the activities outlined in this Resolution, including through the provision of financial resources;
- 15) **Requests** the Secretary to report to the Governing Body, at its Eighth Session, on the implementation of this Resolution.