



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



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

Item 17.4 of the Provisional Agenda

SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Kigali, Rwanda, 30 October - 3 November 2017

Report on Cooperation with International Bodies and Organizations

Executive Summary

Article 19.3(g) of the International Treaty requires the Governing Body to establish and maintain cooperation with other relevant international organizations and treaty bodies, including in particular the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, on matters covered by this Treaty.

The Governing Body recognizes that cooperation with relevant partners and organizations is important in order to promote the objective of the International Treaty on a global scale, and advance its implementation. It acknowledges that collaboration with relevant institutions also plays a critical role in assisting countries in effective implementation at national level, and is particularly valuable in promoting harmonious and mutually supportive implementation with other relevant instruments.

During this biennium, collaboration and partnerships with other international bodies and organizations have continued to support implementation of the International Treaty. This document contains a summary report on cooperation and collaborative activities that have taken place during the current biennium.

Guidance Sought

The Governing Body is invited to take note of this report and give any further guidance it considers appropriate for the continued and effective cooperation with relevant organizations and treaty bodies, taking into account the draft elements for a Resolution provided for its consideration 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/](http://www.fao.org/plant-treaty/meetings/meetings-detail/en/c/888771/)*



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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Article 19.3(g) of the International Treaty stipulates that the Governing Body shall “establish and maintain cooperation with other relevant international organizations and treaty bodies, including in particular the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, on matters covered by this Treaty, including their participation in the funding strategy.”
2. At its Sixth Session, the Governing Body “reaffirm[ed] the need to continue the efforts necessary to ensure that the Treaty’s objectives and role in the conservation and sustainable utilization of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture are recognized and supported by relevant international institutions, organizations and processes”.¹
3. During the same session, the Governing Body also requested the Secretary to facilitate Contracting Parties’ initiatives to strengthen the harmonious and mutually supportive implementation of the International Treaty and other relevant international instruments and processes, upon request and depending on available resources.²
4. This document contains a summary report on the cooperation and partnerships, as well as the related collaborative activities, with other international bodies and organizations, during the current biennium, to support implementation of the International Treaty.

II. COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

A. African Union (AU)

5. The Secretariat and the African Union Commission (AUC), in cooperation with Bioversity International, are collaborating on a project for implementation of the Multilateral System in Contracting Parties in the Africa region, and to promote further ratification of the International Treaty. The Secretariat has also actively participated in a separate project being undertaken by the AUC, which led to the adoption of the African Union policy framework and guidelines for a coordinated approach to implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Africa.
6. Subsequent to the preparation of this document, the Secretariat and the African Union Commission will be co-organizing a regional workshop on the Implementation of the International Treaty in September 2017, to be hosted by the government of Rwanda, in Kigali, Rwanda. The meeting will also serve as a preparatory meeting for region towards the Seventh Session of the Governing Body.
7. The African Union Commission has expressed its interest to support Contracting Parties in the Africa region and in playing a coordinating role for the delegates and representatives from the region in both the preparations for the Sessions of the Governing Body, and the promotion and implementation of the Treaty. The Secretariat will continue to collaborate with the African Union Commission on the various aspects of its work on access and benefit-sharing, so as to ensure the mutually supportive implementation of the International Treaty and other relevant instruments in the region.

B. Bioversity International

8. During this biennium, the Secretary continued to strengthen collaboration with Bioversity International, in particular for the implementation of the Joint Capacity Building Programme, as requested by the Governing Body in Resolution 10/2015. To this end, the Secretary has undertaken a

¹ Resolution 10/2015

² Ibid.

number of capacity-building activities together with Bioversity International, to support Contracting Parties in the effective implementation of the MLS at national level, including joint resource mobilization.

9. Given the particular importance for mutually supportive implementation with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its Nagoya Protocol, through the implementation of the project Mutually supportive implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and the Plant Treaty – funded by the Darwin Initiative and led by Bioversity International – the Secretary provided technical inputs during the process of drafting national legislation and policies being developed for Benin and Madagascar. The Secretariat continues to facilitate and provide inputs in the implementation of the project.

10. Following the successful tandem workshop for the Africa Region held in 2014, and organized together with Bioversity International, the Secretariat of the CBD and the ABS Capacity Development Initiative, in March 2017, the same partners held the Tandem Workshop for Asian National Focal Points of the International Treaty and of the Nagoya Protocol, in Los Baños, the Philippines. Similar workshops are being planned for the next biennium by the same partners to be held in other regions. As such capacity building activities continue, experiences and lessons learned may lead to developing a more strategic approach to capacity building by the Governing Body and more structured involvement and participation by the Secretariat.

11. Bioversity International, in coordination with the CGIAR System Management Office, has also continued to play a prominent role in coordinating the policy reports and positions of the CGIAR Centers in some of the intersessional meetings of the International Treaty. In particular, Bioversity International has represented CGIAR in the Ad Hoc Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System (Working Group), and has contributed to the enhancement of the Funding Strategy of the International Treaty.

12. In addition, Bioversity International has actively promoted the realization of Farmers' Rights through its research and field projects, and engaged in discussions on the issue, notably at the Global Consultation on Farmers' Rights, held in September 2016 in Bali, Indonesia.

C. European Cooperative Programme for Plant Genetic Resources (ECP/GR)

13. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was concluded with the European Cooperative Programme for Plant Genetic Resources ECP/GR on 6 December 2016 “to establish a framework for cooperation on a range of activities related to access to and exchange of information and the sharing of expertise, by which the Secretariat of the Treaty and the ECPG/GR Secretariat will collaborate in areas of mutual interest, with the aim of promoting synergy and the coherent implementation of Articles 5, 6, 16 and 17 and the objectives of the International Treaty.” The signed MoU is provided for the information of the Governing Body in the document IT/GB-7/17/Inf.19.

14. During the current biennium, the Secretariat of the ECP/GR participated in several of the intersessional meetings of the International Treaty. These include the Scientific Advisory Committee on the Global Information System of Article 17 (SAC-GLIS) and the Expert Meeting on the Toolbox for Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA). In the next biennium, and under the terms of the MoU, the Secretariat of the International Treaty will continue to collaborate with the ECP/GR on programmes and projects for conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA.

D. Global Forum on Agricultural Research and Innovation (GFAR)

15. The Secretariat of GFAR continued its collaboration in support of the International Treaty's work on sustainable use and Farmers' Rights during the current biennium. The GFAR Secretariat has been active in promoting the on-farm management of PGRFA, and collaborated in developing the Toolbox on Sustainable Use of PGRFA. The GFAR Secretariat participated in the third meeting of the

Ad Hoc Technical Committee on Sustainable Use (ACSU) in October 2016, and reported on its activities and work with the International Treaty to support implementation of Articles 6 and 9. The opportunity offered by the cooperation between the International Treaty and GFAR and the value of its impact were noted by the ACSU.

16. The GFAR Secretariat also supported development of the International Treaty's educational module on Farmers' Rights, and participated in the Global Consultation on Farmers' Rights held in September 2016 in Bali, Indonesia. It continued to promote the Joint Capacity Building Programme on Farmers' Rights through workshops and webinars.³ Both Secretariats participated in the UNDP Small Grants Programme - Global Knowledge Exchange Workshop, to identify synergies and new opportunities between the UNDP Small Grants Programme and building capacities of farmers and local communities for conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA. Additional details on the activities undertaken by the GFAR Secretariat are contained in the document, IT/GB-7/17/Inf.12.⁴

E. International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

17. Under the agreement concluded between IRRI and FAO in September 2015, regarding the loan of an expert to FAO for implementation of the Coordination of the Design and Development of the Global Information System on PGRFA Project, cooperation between IRRI and the International Treaty continued during the current biennium. IRRI played a major role in contributing to the scientific and information technology work related to implementation of the Programme of Work on the Global Information System (GLIS) on PGRFA. Among other contributions, IRRI provided technical and advisory support in the establishment of a system of Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) as permanent globally unique identifiers for germplasm. It also played an active role in the broad consultation and advocacy process with diverse stakeholder groups, so as to ensure the broad awareness and wide use of the DOIs system.

18. In addition, IRRI collaborated with the Indonesian Center for Agricultural Biotechnology and Genetic Resources Research and Development (ICABIOGRAD), in order to implement the Benefit-sharing Fund project Multi-country construction of a test platform for the development and allocation of globally unique identifiers for rice germplasm. Through collaboration with the Secretariat, IRRI has integrated its new breeding informatics system (B4R, Breeding for Results) to work with the connection toolkit of GLIS. The project is currently engaged in testing the new information infrastructure connecting the Multilateral System and GLIS, with breeders and genebank staff.

F. International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)

19. At its Sixth Session, the Governing Body requested the Secretary 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 and inclusive process, as appropriate and subject to availability of resources, finalize the process for identification of possible areas of interrelations between their respective instruments".⁵ The Governing Body also requested the Secretary to "continue participating in relevant meetings of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants and of the World Intellectual Property Organization, in particular the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore".⁶

³ Farmers' Rights: Achieving complementarity between the informal and formal seed systems. <https://blog.gfar.net/2017/05/10/gfar-webinar-farmers-rights-achieving-complementarity-between-the-informal-and-formal-seed-systems/>

⁴ *Report of the Secretary of the Global Forum on Agriculture Research and Innovation on the Collaboration with the International Treaty (IT/GB-7/17/Inf.12)*

⁵ Resolution 5/2015, paragraph 12

⁶ Resolution 10/2015

20. Upon invitation, the Secretary and the Chairperson of the Governing Body attended the 91st session of the UPOV Consultative Committee held in March 2016, with the aim of informing UPOV members about the ongoing processes under the International Treaty and presenting an outline of next possible steps. Following the consideration, by the Bureau of the Seventh Session of the Governing Body, of the outcomes and the report of the Consultative Committee meeting, it was agreed to hold a joint symposium in the last quarter of 2016. In consultation with the Bureau, the Secretary made the necessary preparations and arrangements for the symposium, including drawing up a list of speakers, which was approved by the Bureau in agreement with UPOV.

21. 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 successfully 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 heard a number of presentations on interrelations between the International Treaty and the UPOV Convention, as well as on member countries' experiences of implementing the two instruments at national level, and were given an opportunity to discuss the issues with the speakers and among themselves. In their closing remarks, the symposium co-moderators Dr Muhamad Sabran, as Chair of the Governing Body, and Mr Raimundo Lavignolle, as Vice-President of UPOV, 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 proceedings of the symposium are provided in the document, IT/GB-7/17/Inf.14,⁷ and further details of the process to implement the request of the Governing Body are given in document IT/GB-7/17/7.⁸

22. Representatives of the Office of UPOV actively participated in the third meeting of the ACSU in October 2016, and in the Global Consultation on Farmers' Rights, held in September 2016 in Bali, Indonesia.

G. Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)

23. Through Resolution 10/2015, the Governing Body reaffirmed the importance of increasing synergies among the biodiversity related conventions for national implementation, and requested the Secretary to continue participating in and contributing to the relevant activities of the BLG. In February 2016, six members of the Bureau of the Governing Body took part in the Workshop on Synergies among the Biodiversity-related Conventions, held in Geneva, Switzerland⁹. The Secretariat also participated in an informal BLG meeting on the margins of the workshop, organized to plan the joint activities of the group during 2016.

24. The Secretariat has also held consultations with the other biodiversity-related conventions on communications, education and public awareness, including through teleconferences and other informal discussions. This is with a view to pooling resources and coordinating messaging efforts regarding biodiversity, as well as providing support the respective Contracting Parties and constituencies of the convention in the area of communication, education and public awareness.

25. Subsequent to the preparation of this document, the Secretariat of the International Treaty will be hosting the twelfth ordinary meeting of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions at

⁷ *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* (IT/GB-7/17/Inf.14)

⁸ *Report on the Implementation of Farmers' Rights* (IT/GB-7/17/17)

⁹ UNEP/CBD/BRC/WS/2016/1/2, <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/biodiv/brcws-2016-01/official/brcws-2016-01-02-en.doc>

FAO Headquarters, Rome, on 28 and 29 September 2017¹⁰. The meeting consists of the Executive Heads of the global Biodiversity-related Conventions, and aims to strengthen interagency coordination in support of the international biodiversity agenda, shared objectives of the biodiversity-related conventions and the achievement of the global Biodiversity Targets.

26. Under the United Nations Environment Programme's Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (InforMEA) initiative, an introductory online training module on the International Treaty was developed. The course is available on the International Treaty website, as well as through the E-Learning Platform of the InforMEA portal, and familiarizes users with the links between crop biodiversity and food security and the core components and mechanisms of the International Treaty. A new online course on Farmers' Rights is currently under preparation, based on the content of the educational module. The Secretariat has continued to participate in annual steering committee meetings of the MEA Information and Knowledge Management Initiative, so as to further improve data sharing and expertise with other UN institutions working on biodiversity cluster to facilitate the re-use of data.

H. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

27. Following a request from UNEP, the International Treaty Secretariat contributed an article on the occasion of the Second Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly in May 2016. The Secretariat also collaborated with UNEP's Law Division on a multi-author volume, which was published in September 2016¹¹. The publication aimed to improve alignment among the biodiversity related conventions on the issue of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as to identify and build on opportunities for collaboration, cooperation and coordination among the conventions.

28. The Secretariat is also collaborating with UNEP in the development and implementation of a project on Cooperation, collaboration and synergies among biodiversity-related agreements and other instruments for achieving global biodiversity goals and the sustainable development goals. The main objectives of the project is realize synergies at the global and national level as well as develop tools to support National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) implementation, reporting and communication.

I. World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

29. At its Sixth Session, the Governing Body requested the Secretary "to continue participating in relevant meetings of the International Union for the Protection of New Plant Varieties and World Intellectual Property Organization, in particular the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore"¹².

30. Following this request, the Secretary participated in the 29th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC) in February 2016. The IGC concluded its most recent meeting in June 2017, and recommended that the WIPO General Assembly decide that the Committee should continue its work during the 2018-2019 biennium, and that the Assembly should decide on a mandate and a work programme. The WIPO General Assembly will take place in the first half of October 2017.

¹⁰ The BLG is currently constituted by the: Convention on Biological Diversity; Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals; Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora; International Plant Protection Convention; International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture; Ramsar Convention on Wetlands; World Heritage Convention; and International Whaling Commission.

¹¹ *Understanding synergies and mainstreaming among the biodiversity related conventions*

¹² Resolution 10/2015

31. The Governing Body also requested the Secretary 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 and inclusive process, as appropriate and subject to availability of resources, finalize the process for identification of possible areas of interrelations between their respective instruments”¹³.

32. The Secretary has continued exploring possibilities of undertaking activities with WIPO in this regard. Based on preliminary consultations with WIPO, the possible next steps would be to bring this process to the full attention of Members of WIPO, at the earliest opportunity. This would include a proposal for the joint organization of a seminar, to be held during the next biennium, to identify possible areas of interrelations between the respective instruments of WIPO and the International Treaty.

III. COOPERATION WITH OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

A. Civil society

33. During the current biennium, the International Treaty has continued interactions with farmers and civil society in its policy processes and other activities.

34. Farmers and civil society organizations actively participated in the process to enhance the functioning of the Multilateral System, through their representatives at the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System (Working Group). They also participated in Friends of the Co-Chairs Groups, and provided written submissions as requested by the Working Group.

35. Farmers and representatives of civil society attended and provided inputs to the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Committee on Sustainable Use in October 2016. In addition, they actively participated in the Global Consultation on Farmers’ Rights, held in September 2016 in Bali, as well as in the Stakeholders’ Consultation for Africa, held in June 2016 in Zimbabwe, and in the Small Group Informal Stakeholders’ Consultation on Farmers’ Rights, which took place in June 2016 in Switzerland.

36. Farmers and civil society have continued to actively engage in implementation of the Governing Body’s request to identify possible areas of interrelations between the International Treaty, the UPOV Convention and relevant instruments of WIPO. They played an active role in 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.¹⁴

37. The Secretariat of the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) has launched a project to promote the implementation of outcomes of the Global Consultation on Farmers’ Rights. This will include organizing more consultations on Farmers’ Rights and setting in place capacity-building initiatives for small-scale food producers and the sustainable use of PGRFA within the framework of FAO South-South Cooperation.¹⁵

B. Private sector

38. During this biennium, the seed sector has continued to play a role in the process of enhancing the functioning of the Multilateral System through its representatives in the Working Group. Experts

¹³ Resolution 5/2015, paragraph 12

¹⁴ Further details of this meeting can be found in the following document *Report on the Implementation of Farmers’ Rights (IT/GB-7/17/17)*

¹⁵ Brazil, Mali and Norway have sent letters of support endorsing the IPC Secretariat’ project proposal

from the seed sector also actively participated in all four Friends of the Co-Chairs Groups in their personal capacity.

39. Following the contribution announced by the European Seed Association (ESA) during the Sixth Session of the Governing Body – the first ever collective financial contribution to be made by seed sector actors to the Benefit-sharing Fund (BSF) of the International Treaty – the International Seed Federation (ISF) also provided funding for the fourth project cycle of the BSF in late 2016.

40. To facilitate awareness-raising and understanding of the International Treaty, the Secretary General of ESA invited the International Treaty to participate in its General Assembly, held in October 2016 in Rome, Italy. Several activities were organized during the event, aimed at raising awareness of the International Treaty and creating opportunities for dialogue between the industry and Contracting Parties' government representatives. The ESA and the International Treaty jointly organized an exhibition on the Benefit-sharing Fund, as well as a roundtable to present the major results and impacts of BSF projects, with project implementing partners sharing their experiences.

41. In May 2016, the Secretary and the Co-Chair of the Working Group attended the ISF World Seed Congress in Punta del Este, Uruguay, and in May 2017, they attended the Congress in Budapest, Hungary. At the 2016 congress, the Secretary organized a roundtable on the International Treaty as part of the ISF Breeders' Committee. Participants engaged in a lively discussion about the role of the private sector in the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, especially in terms of further enhancement of the functioning of the MLS, for both access and benefit-sharing.

IV GUIDANCE SOUGHT

42. The Governing Body is invited to take note of this report and give any further guidance it considers appropriate for the continued and effective cooperation with relevant organizations and treaty bodies, taking into account the elements for a possible Resolution provided for its consideration in the Appendix to this document.

APPENDIX**DRAFT RESOLUTION xx/2017****COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES AND ORGANIZATIONS****THE GOVERNING BODY,**

Recalling its Resolution 10/2015 and other previous relevant Resolutions and decisions;

Reaffirming the importance of maintaining and further strengthening cooperation with the relevant international organizations, institutions and partners in order to advance the objectives and implementation of the International Treaty;

Noting with appreciation the continued cooperation, collaboration and support provided by relevant international organizations during the current biennium;

Welcoming the active engagement of other relevant stakeholder groups, in particular civil society organizations, farmers and the seed industry, to support the implementation of the International Treaty and its relevant policy processes;

Cognizant of the importance of harmonious and mutually supportive implementation of the International Treaty with relevant instruments and processes especially at the national level, and noting the continued importance of assisting developing country Contracting Parties in this regard;

- 1) **Reaffirms** the need to continue the efforts necessary to ensure that the International Treaty's objectives and role in the conservation and sustainable utilization of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture are recognized and supported by relevant international institutions, organizations and processes;
- 2) **Takes note** of the collaboration with the African Union Commission and welcomes its interest to promote the Treaty and support Contracting Parties from the African Region in the implementation of the Treaty and, as appropriate, to play a coordinating role for the delegates and representatives from the region; and **requests** the Secretary to continue strengthening this collaboration as well as seek opportunities to establish cooperation with other relevant regional organisations and institutions for the promotion and implementation of the International Treaty;
- 3) **Encourages** Contracting Parties to take initiatives to strengthen the harmonious and mutually supportive implementation of the International Treaty and other relevant international instruments and processes, in order to promote policy coherence and improve efficiency at all levels and implement their various goals and commitments in a coherent, clear, and mutually supportive manner;
- 4) **Requests** the Secretary to facilitate such initiatives upon request and subject to the availability of resources;
- 5) **Affirms** the need to expand the Joint Capacity Building Programme and to ensure that the Secretariat continue play an active role of coordination, monitoring and analysis of results and impacts, and **calls upon** Contracting Parties and donors to provide additional funding to support its continuation;
- 6) **Requests** the Secretary to continue and further strengthen and expand the collaboration with Bioversity International the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the ABS

Capacity Development Initiative and other capacity building providers, in their support to Contracting Parties in implementing the International Treaty and the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol in a harmonious and mutually supportive manner;

- 7) **Encourages** the members of the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions to continue their collaboration in accordance with their respective mandates and, subject to availability of financial resources, requests the Secretary to continue participating actively in the relevant activities of the Biodiversity Liaison Group;
- 8) **Urges** Contracting Parties to take measures to enhance synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions to promote policy coherence, improve efficiency and enhance coordination and cooperation at all levels and invites international organizations and donors to provide financial resources to support efforts that encourage synergies in policy development and the fulfilment of obligations under the biodiversity-related conventions
- 9) **Requests** the Secretary to continue participating in the Information and Knowledge Management Initiative (InforMEA) being coordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme and making information available to Contracting Parties and other stakeholders through the InforMEA Portal, including the publication of online training courses;
- 10) **Requests** the Secretary to continue participating in relevant meetings of the International Union for the Protection of New Plant Varieties and of the World Intellectual Property Organization, in particular the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, as appropriate and subject to the availability of financial resources;
- 11) **Encourages** other relevant stakeholder groups, in particular civil society organizations, farmers and the seed industry, to further strengthen their engagement and cooperation to advance the implementation of the International Treaty;
- 12) **Requests** the Secretary to continue to report to the Governing on the Treaty's cooperation with other relevant international bodies and organizations, and related collaborative activities.