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للأمم المتحدة

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l'alimentation  
et  
l'agriculture

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

### Item 3.1 of the Draft Provisional Agenda

## COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Ninth Regular Session

Rome, 14 – 18 October 2002

### REPORT OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Rome, 4-6 September 2000

***REPORT***

Commission on  
Genetic Resources  
for Food and Agriculture

Rome, Italy  
4-6 September  
2000

**Intergovernmental  
Technical Working  
Group on Animal  
Genetic Resources  
for Food and  
Agriculture**

Second Session



Food and  
Agriculture  
Organization  
of the United  
Nations

**CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/REPORT**

**COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

**REPORT OF THE SECOND SESSION**

**OF THE**

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON  
ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

**Rome, Italy, 4-6 September 2000**

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

**Rome, 2000**

The documents prepared for the Second Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture are available on the Internet at:

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## COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

### REPORT OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Rome, Italy, 4 6 September 2000

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The Second Session of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (the Working Group) met in Rome, Italy, from 4 to 6 September 2000. A list of Delegates and Observers is attached as *Appendix F*.
2. Ms Louise O. Fresco, Assistant Director-General, Agriculture Department, welcomed delegates on behalf of the Director-General. She stressed the importance of the better management of animal genetic resources, as part of efforts to achieve food security and rural development. Ms Fresco noted the important role of the Working Group in providing guidance on the further development of the Global Strategy for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources, and the preparation of the country-driven *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*. She noted that FAO was contributing significant financial resources to animal genetic resources, and that extra-budgetary financial resources would be essential in preparing the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*, and in advancing other elements of the Global Strategy.
3. Ms Elzbieta Martyniuk (Poland) was re-elected as the Chair of the Working Group; Mr Guo Shijian (China) was elected Vice-Chair; and Mr Arthur da Silva Mariante (Brazil) was appointed as Rapporteur.
4. A message from the Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity was read. It informed the meeting of the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its Fifth Meeting which had stated that the Global Strategy for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources could make a significant contribution to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, especially in the area of agricultural biological diversity. The message is attached as *Appendix D*.
5. The meeting Agenda as adopted is given in *Appendix A*.

#### REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES, AND PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF FARM ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES

6. The Working Group considered document CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/2, which reports on progress in developing and implementing the constituents of the Global Strategy for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources, at the global and regional levels, and document CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/Inf 2, which summarizes the results of a brief survey of National Coordinators regarding national activities associated with the development and implementation of the Global Strategy.
7. The Working Group stressed the importance of animal genetic resources in achieving global food security and rural development, and expressed its appreciation for the progress that had been made in advancing and implementing the Global Strategy for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources. It noted that, while countries had sovereignty over their genetic resources, food security

was a global responsibility, and that donor support was crucial to assist developing countries to better manage and conserve their animal genetic resources for present and future use.

8. The Working Group noted the essential role of FAO in providing technical assistance, training, and support for the preparation of national management plans and related activities, to assist countries in the better management of animal genetic resources, and encouraged further support.

9. The Working Group noted the importance of the establishment and maintenance of Regional Focal Points, and encouraged FAO to continue to pursue the extra-budgetary resources necessary to maintain and establish focal points in regions where they are required.

10. The Working Group expressed concern about the rapid loss of animal genetic resources, the impact of these losses, and the absence of a global early warning and response mechanism to address the loss of farm animal biodiversity, especially in the case where these resources are rapidly disappearing, noting that AnGR also frequently contribute to disease and drought resistance, the ITWG stressed the need for a better understanding of the strengths and the importance of these resources; for their valuation, and for according conservation and utilization strategies at national, regional, and global levels.

11. The Working Group indicated that the better understanding of the level of endangerment within a region would be of particular value in setting conservation priorities because, while some animal genetic resources may be endangered at country level, they may not be endangered at the regional or global levels. The Working Group suggested that, in the further development of the Global Strategy, modalities to evaluate the status of animal genetic resources at regional and global levels should be considered.

#### **CLARIFICATION OF THE FRAMEWORK, AND PRIORITIZATION OF THE CONSTITUENT ELEMENTS OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF FARM ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES**

12. The Working Group considered documents CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/2 and CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/4.

13. The Working Group indicated its strong support for the Global Strategy, as a framework to advance efforts to better use, develop, and conserve animal genetic resources. It stressed the need to enhance the economic valuation of animal genetic resources both to increase the understanding of the roles and values of these resources, and to assist in setting priorities for the further development and implementation of the Global Strategy.

14. The Working Group stressed the need for urgent action to address the erosion of animal genetic resources, noting that the rationale and means for conservation was the better use and development of these resources, as part of efforts to achieve food security and rural development.

15. The Working Group noted the importance of regional cooperation and networking among countries to ensure cost-effectiveness in animal genetic resource programmes, and stressed the need to share experiences and knowledge, especially among countries with similar production systems and common and shared animal genetic resources. It also noted that there were barriers to some aspects of cooperation: for example cooperation in establishing regional genebanks had to address different animal health protocols for the transboundary movement of animals.

16. The Working Group stressed the need to involve all stakeholders in the further development and implementation of the Global Strategy, to clarify responsibilities for the better management of animal genetic resources; to enhance the sharing of available data, information and knowledge; to increase public understanding and promote better media coverage of animal genetic resources issues; to better network international research and other relevant organizations; and to provide opportunities for the involvement of indigenous and local communities and farmers in the development of strategies, action

plans and policies. The Working Group stressed that enhanced collaboration with the private sector could result in financial contributions to conservation efforts, and creative solutions to complex issues.

17. The Working Group considered that advances in biotechnology should be taken into account in the further development and implementation of the Global Strategy, in particular, biotechnologies that could reduce conservation costs and improve conservation modalities; improve the understanding of genetic diversity; and improve the use and development of animal genetic resources in the context of enhanced agricultural production and productivity. The Working Group also noted that many developing countries had limited access to, and capacity to use the biotechnologies, and that improved access and capacity would contribute to food security and rural development.

18. In recognizing the importance of considering aspects of biotechnology in the further development and implementation of the Global Strategy, the Working Group noted that issues such as access and intellectual property regimes were being discussed in many fora. The Global Strategy should promote synergy with the work of such fora in the context of the core programme of work to enhance the use, development, and conservation of animal genetic resources.

19. The Working Group stressed the need to advance work on characterization under the Global Strategy, noting that improved understanding of the diversity of animal genetic resources and the role and values of these resources would improve the capacity to better use and develop these resources, and assist in setting conservation priorities.

20. The Working Group noted that the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources* would provide a solid basis for the further development and long-term implementation of the Global Strategy. The *Report* should therefore be regarded as a coherent foundation basis for the Global Strategy, rather than a constituent element.

21. The Working Group noted that natural disasters, such as disease outbreaks or long-term drought conditions, can significantly reduce domestic animal populations, and lead to the loss of animal genetic resources; and stressed the need to increase the involvement of relevant organizations in the further development and implementation of the Global Strategy, especially organizations with capacity in livestock health and nutrition.

### **PREPARATION OF THE FIRST REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES**

22. The Working Group considered document CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/3, which describes the proposed process for the preparation of the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*, identifying minimum core activities, the re-deployment of Regular Programme resources that has already taken place in order to support the process, and the further extra-budgetary funds that will be required; together with the information document, CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/Inf 3, which provides the feed-back from National Coordinators on the draft Guidelines for Country Reports and the overall process for the preparation of the first *Report*.

23. The Working Group stressed the importance of the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*, and the need to base it on Country Reports as a foundation for the better use, development, and conservation of animal genetic resources at the country and regional levels. The Country Report will be an official government document, and commitment is required by governments to prepare such reports.

24. The Working Group accepted the proposed timeline (*Appendix C*) for the completion of the Country Reports for the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*, whilst also noting that this timeline depended on securing extra-budgetary financial resources, and building capacity at the country and regional levels. The Working Group stressed that required capacities and resources should be generated and made available to complete the process in time. The Working Group stressed that urgent action was required to better manage animal genetic resources, and that



countries should take the opportunity of the preparation of Country Reports to draw attention to issues, and provide a strategic framework for action at the country, region and global levels.

25. The Working Group stressed that countries that had not yet identified a National Focal Point should do so immediately, in order to participate effectively in the process for preparing the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*, including the preparation of Country Reports. It noted that, if countries did not have the capacity to complete their Country Reports according to the proposed timeline, they should make every effort to submit a preliminary report of their findings by the end of 2001.

26. The Working Group stressed the need for technical support from FAO in undertaking the preparation of Country Reports, noting that the timeline for their completion was dependent on development of Country Reporting tools within the Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS), and that these tools needed to be developed and made available to countries early in the planning process.

27. The Working Group stressed the importance of Regional Focal Points and/or Regional Coordination, as essential in facilitating and advancing the necessary Country Report preparation training, and regional analysis of the state of resources and the capacity to manage them. It emphasized that, while the Country Reports would provide a strategic analysis at country level, much would be gained by a synthesis of Country Reports, and by networking among countries with shared animal genetic resources and common production environments, which provided a foundation for regional cooperation and collaboration.

28. The Working Group stressed the importance of providing opportunities for all stakeholders to be fully involved in the preparation of Country Reports and of the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*, to take advantage of the widest possible range of knowledge, including local and traditional knowledge, and of encouraging participation of non-governmental organizations, private sector interests, farmers and communities, in the better management of animal genetic resources.

29. The Working Group observed that a *Report on the Strategic Priorities for Action* would be prepared for consideration by the Working Group and the Commission in 2003, and stressed that this document would provide a valuable opportunity to increase awareness of the roles and values of animal genetic resources, expose gaps and identify issues and priorities, and enable early follow up actions.

30. The Working Group accepted the draft guidelines including the proposed four main areas of assessment, as a framework for Country Reports, noting the need for flexibility to accommodate the needs and priorities of countries, especially in relation to the species to be addressed in Country Reports. They stressed that the Country Reports, and the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*, will provide an opportunity for a holistic assessment of the state of animal genetic resources and the capacity to manage them, and that this opportunity should be seized.

31. The Working Group noted that the assessments of animal genetic resources, necessary to prepare Country Reports, would contribute to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and would assist Parties to meet their obligations under that Convention.

#### **IDENTIFICATION OF FURTHER PRIORITY ACTIONS REQUIRED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGY**

32. The Working Group considered priority actions required in the further development of the Global Strategy. It stressed the interrelationship of the constituent elements of the Global Strategy, while noting that priority actions under the various elements could vary among countries and regions.

33. The Working Group agreed that the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources* is the main priority, as it will contribute to the better understanding of animal genetic resources and the development of country capacity for their management, while providing a solid foundation for further priority actions. It stressed that the preparation of Country Reports and of the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources* requires the establishment of appropriate country and regional infrastructures, and the advancements of DAD-IS.

34. The Working Group considered at length the better use and development of local animal genetic resources. It stressed the need to make progress in building capacity in the area of sustainable development of low and medium input production systems, recognizing that genetic improvement of breeds must form an integral part of sustainable livestock development. The Working Group, noting concern about indiscriminate use of exotic germplasm, stressed the need to better understand its use, to ensure positive impacts and prevent negative impacts on the long-term sustainability and food security.

35. The Working Group emphasized that action was required to advance characterization, economic valuation, and the establishment of an emergency response mechanism, building on opportunities as they arose, and taking into account the availability of resources.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

36. Acknowledging the significant progress that has been made in the further development and implementation of the Global Strategy by countries and a wide range of stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations active in animal genetic resource management, and

recognizing the work already encompassed by countries, regions and FAO,

recognizing the importance of livestock and management of farm animal genetic resources to poverty alleviation through contributions to rural development, food security, and sustainable use of natural resources, and

recognizing the importance of the management of farm animal genetic resources for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group makes the following recommendations to the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture:

- i) that countries enhance efforts to develop national strategies and action plans for animal genetic resources, according to their fiscal capabilities and priorities;

### **ADDRESSING PREPARATION OF THE FIRST REPORT OF THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES**

- ii) that countries that have not already done so urgently identify National Focal Points and Coordinators in order to facilitate networking and the preparation of Country Reports; and that Country Reports should be based upon the involvement of all stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations and local communities;

- iii) that countries, donors, stakeholders and FAO, increase efforts to mobilize the resources necessary, including financial resources, to prepare Country Reports, build capacity to successfully undertake the actions necessary to prepare the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources* and implement priority follow-up action through complementing and synchronizing the regular programme support provided by FAO;

- iv) that FAO, encourage all Members to initiate and support preparation of their Country Reports;

- v) that FAO finalize the Guidelines for Developing Country Reports, incorporating the advice from the Working Group to assist countries in the preparation of their Reports, according to the process and schedule provided in the Guidelines;
- vi) that FAO enhance efforts to advance the establishment of Regional Focal Points and other networks, where appropriate, to support implementation of the Global Strategy, and facilitate preparation of Country Reports and the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*;
- vii) that animal genetic resources continue to be a priority area in the FAO Programme of Work and Budget, and should be a high priority for donor support, in order to achieve the necessary combination of regular programme financial resources and extra-budgetary support;
- viii) that FAO continue to develop the module of DAD-IS that will support country preparation of Country Reports;
- ix) that FAO enhance dialogue with other international organizations, to determine opportunities for their involvement, and for them to contribute to the process of preparing the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*;

#### **ADDRESSING THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGY**

- x) that FAO develop approaches, procedures, and tools to further assist countries that so require it, on the economic valuation and genetic development of locally adapted animal genetic resources, particularly for use in the sustainable development of low and medium input production systems;
- xi) that FAO investigate, in association with donor and recipient countries of animal genetic resources, guidelines for best practices, to more effectively plan livestock breeding programmes, and promote sustainable development and food security;
- xii) that FAO identify options for establishing a country driven early warning and emergency response mechanism for the animal genetic resources most at risk, including decision support tools, to be reviewed by the Working Group;
- xiii) that FAO collect existing information on ongoing research, and identify ways to enhance animal genetic resource characterization studies, in the light of new and emerging technologies, and investigate modalities for international cooperation and collaboration undertaking characterization research, including genetic distancing, in order, *inter alia*, to better use and develop animal genetic resources, and to assist countries to assign priorities for breeds that should be conserved;
- xiv) that FAO continue and enhance technical support to countries and regions, including: further development of guidelines; decision support and policy tools; enhanced networking; and providing training to support country efforts to better use, develop, and conserve animal genetic resources;
- xv) that FAO continue to provide adequate support to maintain and further develop DAD-IS, given its increasing importance to countries for the better management of animal genetic resources, including analytical and decision support tools and the provision of data and information on molecular characterization;
- xvi) that FAO coordinate the preparation of an assessment of the impact on food security, rural development, and sustainable livelihoods of the current rapid loss of animal genetic resources;
- xvii) that FAO consider convening a panel of biotechnology experts in the Animal Sciences, to examine existing, new and emerging technologies and methodologies, to assess their potential impact on animal genetic resources and to identify their potential use for the cost-effective conservation of animal genetic resources;

**ADDRESSING FURTHER MEETINGS OF THE WORKING GROUP**

- xviii) that the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture meet in 2002, to review progress in the development of the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*, and to provide advice to the Commission on its further development and elaboration;
- xix) that the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture meet in 2003, to assist the Commission establish the final content and form of the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*; consider the *Report on the Strategic Priorities for Action*; and provide recommendations to the Commission to ensure follow-up and implementation of the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*, when it has been completed and considered by the Commission in 2005.

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**APPENDIX A**

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**INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON  
ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE****Second Session****4-6 September 2000****AGENDA**

1. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair(s)  
Election of the Rapporteur
2. Adoption of the agenda and timetable
3. Review of activities, and progress in the implementation of the Global Strategy for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources
4. Clarification of the framework, and prioritization of the constituent elements of the Global Strategy for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources
5. Preparation of the first Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources
6. Identification of further priority actions required in the development of the Global Strategy
7. Adoption of the Report of the Working Group

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**APPENDIX B**

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**LIST OF DOCUMENTS****Working Documents**

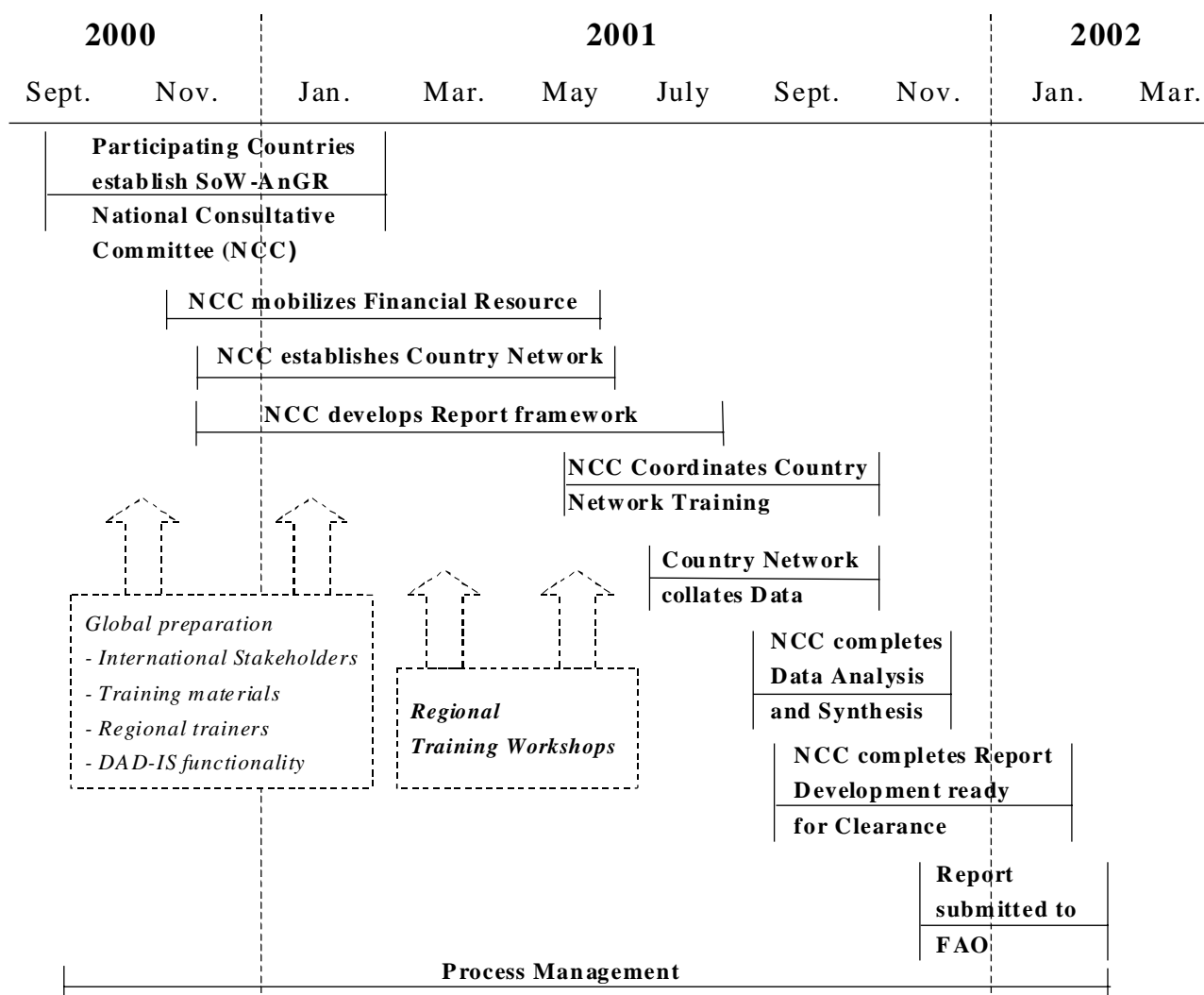
CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/1/Add.1	Provisional annotated agenda and timetable
CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/2	A Progress Report on the Development of the Global Strategy and Priorities for its Further Development
CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/3	Preparation of the First Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources
CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/3/Add.1	Preparation of the First Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources: Draft Guidelines
CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/4	Modern Biotechnology and the Management of Animal Genetic Resources: Policy Issues

**Information documents**

CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/Inf.1/ Revised 2	Country Identified National Co-ordinating Institutions and National Technical Co-ordinators for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources
CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/Inf.2	Overview of Country Activities Associated with the Development and Implementation of the Global Strategy for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources
CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/Inf.3	National Co-ordinators Review of Draft Guidelines for Country Report Preparation for the first Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources Farm Animal Genetic Resources
CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/Inf.4	Report of the Panel of Experts on the Development of the Global Strategy for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources

**APPENDIX C**

Proposed Time Schedule for Country-level Work Elements for Preparation of the first Report on the State of the World’s Animal Genetic Resources (SoW-AnGR)



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**APPENDIX D**

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**MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARIAT OF THE  
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY****MESSAGE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE SECOND SESSION OF THE  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON ANIMAL GENETIC  
RESOURCES OF THE FAO COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND  
AGRICULTURE, ROME, 4 – 6 SEPTEMBER, 2000.**

*Chair, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,*

This second meeting of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources is a welcome event, particularly as the further development of the Global Strategy for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources can make a significant contribution to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity in the area of agricultural biodiversity. I would like to briefly summarize recent developments within the Convention process that may be of relevance to your work this week.

At its fifth meeting held in Nairobi last May, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention adopted a programme of work on agricultural biodiversity, the initial draft of which had been prepared in close collaboration with FAO. The programme of work has the following objectives :

- (a) To promote the positive effects and mitigate the negative impacts of agricultural systems and practices on biological diversity in agro-ecosystems and their interface with other ecosystems;
- (b) To promote the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources of actual and potential value for food and agriculture; and
- (c) To promote the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources

It was developed bearing in mind the need:

- To support the development of national strategies, programmes and action plans concerning agricultural biodiversity;
- To build upon existing international plans of action, programmes and strategies that have been agreed by countries, including the Global Strategy for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources; and
- To promote synergy and coordination, and to avoid duplication, between relevant programmes of various international organizations and between programmes at the national and regional levels established under the auspices of international organizations, while respecting the mandates and existing programmes of work of each organization and the intergovernmental authority of the respective governing bodies, commissions and other forums.



In this regard, the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources, are particularly important.

The first element of the CBD programme of work on agricultural biodiversity on *Assessments* specifically supports the planned preparation of the report on the state of the world's animal genetic resources for food and agriculture, as an example of ongoing or planned assessments of the different components of agricultural biodiversity, which will lead progressively to a comprehensive assessment and understanding of agricultural biodiversity by 2010.

I am pleased to note that the draft guidelines for the report on animal genetic resources take a broad and holistic approach. One that includes not only farm animal genetic resources specifically, but also the production systems in which they are used, the range of services they provide, and, importantly for the Convention, the ecosystem processes that they sustain. This will certainly facilitate the integration of its findings into a broader understanding of agricultural biological diversity.

The Conference of the Parties has requested its Subsidiary Body of Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, (SBSTTA) to identify procedures for scientific assessments and to undertake a limited number of pilot assessments. In this regard, the report on animal genetic resources, and the process by which it is developed, may provide useful lessons.

I am also pleased to note that the country-driven process of preparing the report will build capacity in developing countries and those with economies in transition, through training, stakeholder workshops and the strengthening of information systems.

CBD programme of work on agricultural biodiversity includes a number of activities aimed at developing methods and techniques for assessing and monitoring the status and trends of agricultural biodiversity. Such tools include:

- Criteria and guidelines for developing indicators to facilitate monitoring and assessment of the status and trends of biodiversity in different production systems and environments;
- An agreed terminology and classification for agro-ecosystems and production systems to facilitate the comparison and synthesis of assessments of different components of biodiversity in agricultural ecosystems;
- Data and information exchange on agricultural biodiversity; and
- Methodologies for analysis of the trends of agricultural biodiversity and its underlying causes, including socio-economic causes.

I note that similar tools will be needed in the preparation of your report. I encourage you therefore to explore how your work can both contribute to, and benefit from, these efforts under the CBD.

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity has always benefited from a close collaboration between the Convention and the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. At its second meeting, the Conference of the Parties of the Convention recognized the role of the Commission in addressing the distinct aspects of genetic resources for food and agriculture and praised the preparatory process for the Report on the State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources and the Global Plan of Action as exemplary, and innovative. I look forward to an equally sound process for the preparation of the report on animal genetic resources.

In closing, I would note that this close cooperation has been facilitated by sound leadership. I would like to pay tribute to your first chair: Ms Elzbieta Martyniuk who demonstrated considerable skill and patience in chairing the contact group that negotiated the programme of work on agricultural

biodiversity under the CDB, first at the fifth meeting of SBSTTA in Montreal, then at COP-5 in Nairobi. I am also pleased to note that the Chair of SBSTTA, Mr Cristian Samper, has agreed to co-chair part of your stakeholders' meeting in a few weeks time, which will, no doubt, provide for a continued fruitful exchange between our programmes.

I believe that this cooperation can ensure that we make the most of limited resources in addressing the problems of the loss of animal genetic resources and also the impact on all aspects of biological diversity. I wish you all success in your work.

Hamdallah Zedan  
Executive Secretary,  
Convention on Biological Diversity

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**APPENDIX E**

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**MEMBERS OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP  
ON ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ELECTED AT THE EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE  
COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
Rome, 19-23 April 1999**

Africa	Botswana Congo, Republic of Madagascar Mali Tunisia
Asia	China India Indonesia Japan Malaysia
Europe	Denmark France Netherlands Poland Slovenia
Latin America and the Caribbean	Argentina Bolivia Brazil Uruguay Venezuela
Near East	Egypt Iran Sudan
North America	Canada United States of America
Southwest Pacific	New Zealand Samoa

**APPENDIX F  
ANNEXE F  
APENDICE F**

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**LIST OF DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS  
LISTE DES DELEGUES ET OBSERVATEURS  
LISTA DE DELEGADOS Y OBSERVADORES**

Chair : Elzbieta MARTYNIUK  
Président : (Poland)  
Presidenta

Vice-Chair : Guo SHIJIAN  
Vice-Président : (China)  
Vicepresidenta

Rapporteur : Arthur DA SILVA MARIANTE  
: (Brazil)

**MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP  
MEMBERS DU GROUPE DE TRAVAIL  
MIEMBROS DEL GRUPO DE TRABAJO**

**ARGENTINA - ARGENTINE***Representante*

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