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Organización de las  
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Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة  
الغذية والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

# COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON AQUATIC GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

### Fourth Session

Rome, 21 – 23 February 2023

## STATUTES OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON AQUATIC GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, AND MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES ELECTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS EIGHTEENTH REGULAR SESSION

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# **I. STATUTES OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON AQUATIC GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

## **Article I - Terms of Reference**

1. The Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Aquatic Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (the Working Group) shall:
  - review the situation and issues related to aquatic genetic resources for food and agriculture and advise and make recommendations to the Commission on these matters;
  - consider the progress made in implementing the Commission's programme of work on aquatic genetic resources for food and agriculture as well as any other matters referred to the Working Group by the Commission; and
  - report to the Commission on its activities.
2. In order for the Working Group to carry out this mandate, the Commission will assign specific tasks to the Working Group.

## **Article II – Composition**

3. The Working Group shall be composed of twenty-eight Member Nations from the following regions:
  - 5 from Africa
  - 5 from Europe
  - 5 from Asia
  - 5 from Latin America and the Caribbean
  - 4 from the Near East
  - 2 from North America
  - 2 from the Southwest Pacific.

## **Article III – Election and term of office of Members and Alternate Members**

4. The Members of the Working Group shall be elected at each regular session of the Commission and serve until the next regular session of the Commission. They shall be eligible for re-election. In addition, the Commission shall elect at each regular session a list of up to two Alternate Members for each region. Alternate Members will replace, in the order in which they appear on the list, any Member who has resigned and informed the Secretariat accordingly.
5. The elected Members and Alternate Members will be eligible for re-election.
6. Members are requested to confirm their participation to the Working Group meeting. If a Member of the Working Group is not able to attend the meeting, and informs the Secretariat accordingly, the Member shall be replaced in a timely manner by one of the elected Alternates from the same region.
7. In case a Member of the Working Group does not attend the meeting, the Working Group, in consultation with the region, may replace this Member, on an *ad hoc* basis, by a Member of the Commission from the same region that is present at the meeting.

**Article IV – Officers**

8. The Working Group shall elect its Chairperson and one or more Vice-Chairpersons from among the representatives of Members of the Working Group at the beginning of each session. These officers shall remain in office until the next session of the Working Group and be eligible for re-election.

9. The Chairperson, or a Vice-Chairperson in the absence of a Chairperson, shall preside over the meetings of the Working Group and exercise such other functions as may be required to facilitate its work.

**Article V – Sessions**

10. The Commission shall decide on the timing and duration of the sessions of the Working Group, when required. In any case, the Working Group shall hold no more than one regular session annually.

**Article VI – Observers**

11. Members of the Commission which are not Members of the Working Group may participate, upon request to the Commission Secretariat, in the work of the Working Group in an observer capacity.

12. The Working Group, or the bureau on behalf of the Working Group, may invite experts, as well as representatives of specialized international organizations, to attend its meetings.

**Article VII – Application of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture**

13. The provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to all matters not specifically dealt with under the present Statutes.

**II. MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES OF THE  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP  
ON AQUATIC GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND  
AGRICULTURE, ELECTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS  
EIGHTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

<i>Composition (no. of countries per region)</i>	<i>Country</i>
<b>Africa</b> (5)	Cameroon Morocco Namibia Zambia Zimbabwe <i>First Alternate:</i> South Africa <i>Second Alternate:</i> Malawi
<b>Asia</b> (5)	Indonesia Myanmar Philippines Sri Lanka Thailand <i>First Alternate:</i> Malaysia <i>Second Alternate:</i> India
<b>Europe</b> (5)	Czechia Finland France Germany Italy <i>First Alternate:</i> Türkiye <i>Second Alternate:</i> Poland
<b>Latin America and the Caribbean</b> (5)	Argentina Brazil Chile Costa Rica Ecuador <i>First Alternate:</i> Peru <i>Second Alternate:</i> Colombia
<b>Near East</b> (4)	Egypt Iran (Islamic Republic of) Kuwait Yemen <i>First Alternate:</i> Oman <i>Second Alternate:</i> Iraq
<b>North America</b> (2)	Canada United States of America
<b>Southwest Pacific</b> (2)	Fiji Palau <i>First Alternate:</i> Tonga <i>Second Alternate:</i> Marshall Islands