



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



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

Item 8.1 of the Provisional Agenda

EIGHTH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

Rome, 11 – 16 November 2019

Report on the Implementation and Operations of the Multilateral System

Executive Summary

This document provides an overview of developments during the 2018-19 biennium in the implementation and operations of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing. It contains updates on material available in the Multilateral System, as communicated to the Secretary. It also provides analyses of data on germplasm transfers within the Multilateral System. The report has been prepared with data from the Data Store. The document also outlines the reviews and assessments required by the International Treaty in relation to the Multilateral System, which has thus far been deferred by the Governing Body.

Guidance Sought

The Governing Body is invited to take note of this report on the implementation and operations of the Multilateral System, including the reviews, and provide guidance for the further implementation of the Multilateral System, taking into account the elements for a Resolution as contained in *Appendix 3*.

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I. Introduction

1. This document reports on the implementation and operations of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing (MLS or Multilateral System) for the period from August 2017 to July 2019. It provides updates on the material available in the Multilateral System and on the support activities undertaken to assist users with the use of the Standard Material Transfer Agreement (SMTA) and the related reporting obligations.
2. This document reports on the daily operations of the Multilateral System. It also provides an overview of the reviews and assessments as foreseen in the International Treaty in relation to the Multilateral System, for the consideration of the Governing Body at this Session. Issues related to the enhancement of the Multilateral System, in accordance with the mandate of the *Ad Hoc* Open-ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System (the Working Group), are considered separately under Agenda Item 8.2.¹
3. During the 2018-19 biennium, the Secretariat continued carrying out its tasks based on the existing consolidated advice and recommendations on the Multilateral System by the Governing Body to stakeholders, in order to facilitate the reporting process under the SMTA by Contracting Parties and other users through electronic means.
4. The Secretariat continued developing and making available online aggregate statistics on the transfer of materials and managing the Data Store operations. Selected data sets are presented in *Appendix 1* of this document, while some highlights are provided in Section V, *Analysis of the Germplasm Flows*. *Appendix 2* presents data on materials available in the Multilateral System.
5. Elements for a possible Resolution on the implementation and operations of the Multilateral System are given in *Appendix 3*.

II. Availability of material in the Multilateral System

6. At each Session, the Governing Body has invites Contracting Parties to report on the plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) under their management and control, and in the public domain, that are in the Multilateral System, in accordance with Article 11.2 of the International Treaty.
7. At the Seventh Session, the Secretary presented an information document, which analysed all the notifications and information received, including nine notifications received from Contracting Parties during the biennium up to 10 August 2017.² At that Session, the Governing Body requested the Secretary “to provide, for the Eighth Session of the Governing Body, information on the germplasm distribution within the Multilateral System”.³
8. For the current biennium 2018-19, the data used for the analysis come from the following sources:
 - 1) online catalogues, databases and information systems;
 - 2) notifications and communications sent to the Secretary;
 - 3) material transferred under the SMTA as reported in national reports.

¹ See document, IT/GB-8/19/8.2, *Report of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System*.

² See document, IT/GB-7/17/Inf. 4.

³ Resolution 4/2017, para. 5, available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mv085e.pdf>.

9. The Secretary issued a notification inviting Contracting Parties and holders of material to provide or update the information on material available in the Multilateral System.⁴ The following are the responses received by the Secretary in the period October 2017 to July 2019 and posted online:⁵

- The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources of Australia informed of the availability of the collections held by the Australian Grains Genebank, located in Horsham, Victoria, and the collections held by the Australian Pastures Genebank, located in Adelaide, South Australia (03/10/2018);⁶
- The National Plant Genetic Network of Spain added information on 25,364 materials of 192 species (06/06/2018);⁷
- The National Botanic Garden of Belgium sent two communications, on 51 materials of the apple collection located in Vliermaal (12/12/2017), and another one on 50 additional apple varieties (17/05/2019);⁸
- The United States of America sent a communication to the Secretary regarding material of Annex I crops, under its direct control and in the public domain, providing a list of 20 genebanks (25/10/2017);⁹
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Food of France informed the Secretary of 719 accessions maintained in the French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA).¹⁰

10. Based on the new agreement with the International Centre for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA), under Article 15 of the International Treaty, new material is available in the Multilateral System.¹¹

11. Most of the holders listed above have also provided detailed information on the material in the Multilateral System through the Global Information System or through the World Information and Early Warning System on PGRFA (WIEWS), or have indicated the intention to do so. In particular, the CGIAR Centres that signed Article 15 agreements have reported that 758,221 accessions of crop, forage and tree germplasm are maintained in their respective genebanks and available under the terms and conditions of the Multilateral System, as of 31 December 2018.

12. As of 18 July 2019, PGRFA holders have reported the availability of 775,562 germplasm samples through the Global Information System. 17 % of these materials have been reported with additional information on the reason for their availability in the Multilateral System, as indicated in the figure below.¹²

⁴ See NCP- GB8 – 022 - SMTA Reporting/MLS, available at <http://www.fao.org/3/ca4309en/ca4309en.pdf>

⁵ <http://www.fao.org/plant-treaty/areas-of-work/the-multilateral-system/en/>

⁶ Detailed data on the composition of the collection and user procedures to order samples are readily available at <http://apg.pir.sa.gov.au/gringlobal/search.aspx>

⁷ The catalogue is available at http://webx.inia.es/web_inventario_nacional/

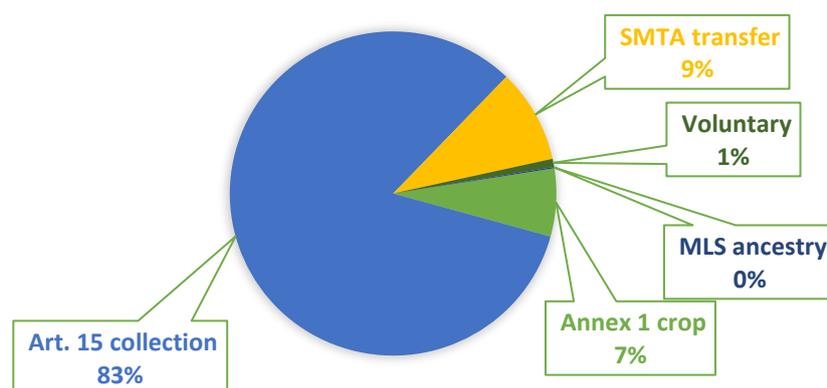
⁸ Additional information on the collection is available at <http://www.boomgaardenstichting.be>

⁹ See <https://npgsweb.ars-grin.gov/gringlobal/search.aspx>

¹⁰ See <https://urgi.versailles.inra.fr/siregal/siregal/>

¹¹ The agreement was signed on 26/04/2019. ICBA has reported 14,500 accessions in its collection that belong to 265 species of crops and plants.

¹² The statistics are generated with the DOI descriptor R07, "MLS Status": The status of the PGRFA with regard to the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-Sharing (MLS). <http://www.fao.org/3/a-bt113e.pdf>



13. According to the analysis of the information contained in various databases and information systems, communications to the Secretary, national reports on implementation and other information sources, the Secretary has updated the list of materials available in the Multilateral System per country and CGIAR Center, as contained in *Appendix 2*.

14. The Multilateral System makes available at least 2.2 million accessions, which represents an increase of 35% compared to the figures obtained in 2017.

III. Support to the users of the Multilateral System

15. During the 2018-19 biennium, users continued receiving assistance through the Multilateral System Help-desk, by email and videoconference, on-site training sessions, and in workshops organized in partnership with other units of FAO at headquarters and in the regions, and in other organizations. In particular, the collaboration with Biodiversity International has continued, as well as with SPGRC, UNEP, the Global Crop Diversity Trust, the African Union, among others.

16. The regional workshops on the implementation of the International Treaty and on Compliance helped increase support on the use of the SMTA and on reporting.¹³ In the context of the workshops, the Secretariat noted that, due to changes in staff in many organizations, knowledge on the operations of the International Treaty needs to be constantly refreshed and maintained.

17. In this context, the Third meeting of the Compliance Committee took note of the recommendations made by Contracting Parties in relation to capacity building in national institutions, including on the use of the SMTA, Easy-SMTA, and the availability of material in the Multilateral System as well as on data management.¹⁴

18. In order continue supporting Contracting Parties and users in the next biennium, the help-desk, the finalisation of Educational Module IV on the Multilateral System and additional training workshops, in collaboration with relevant organizations, will be of critical importance.¹⁵

¹³ More information on capacity building workshops is contained in the on-line notification available at <http://www.fao.org/plant-treaty/notifications/detail-events/en/c/1154346/>.

¹⁴ See document, IT/GB-8/19/13, *Report of the Compliance Committee*.

¹⁵ Given the ongoing developments on the enhancement process, the Secretary has postponed its finalization to early 2020.

A. INSTITUTIONS THAT SIGNED AGREEMENTS UNDER ARTICLE 15 OF THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY

19. The activities of institutions that signed agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty in relation to the Multilateral System are described in the reports that they have submitted for this Session. These reports provide valuable information on the management of the collections, including availability and distribution of germplasm.¹⁶
20. CGIAR Centers' report provides updates on the number of accessions that constitute the germplasm collections held by the eleven Centres, the number of samples distributed since 2006 and the regional proportions of such distribution.
21. ICBA's report refers that more than 14,500 accessions of 265 species of crops and plants are in its genebank. The report also informs of the number of transfers to various stakeholders in the United Arab Emirates and other countries.
22. The report of the International Coconut Genebank for the South Pacific (ICG-SP) in Papua New Guinea (PNG) focuses on the reallocations of 55 accessions of the collection, as listed in the document.
23. CATIE's report provides information on the materials and the type of conservation, and contains detailed statistics on the number and type of materials distributed and type of recipients.¹⁷

B. PRACTICE OF THE CGIAR CENTRES IN RESPECT OF PGRFA UNDER DEVELOPMENT

24. At its Seventh Session, the Governing Body invited the CGIAR System to provide the Governing Body, through the Secretary, with the annual reports concerning the status of the implementation of the CGIAR Principles on the Management of Intellectual Assets that relate to germplasm that the CGIAR Centers manage under the framework of the International Treaty, including in cases where such germplasm, parts thereof, or information generated from the use of this germplasm are the subject matter of patent or plant variety protection applications, or are included in partnerships that qualify as restricted use or limited exclusivity agreements pursuant to the CGIAR Principles.¹⁸
25. In response to the invitation by the Governing Body, the CGIAR submitted the document, *The Status of Implementation of the CGIAR Principles on the Management of Intellectual Assets: a Submission from the CGIAR to the Eighth Session of the Governing Body*, which is available to the Governing Body, as received, in an information document for this Eighth Session.¹⁹
26. The submission made by the CGIAR System provides links to the annual CGIAR Intellectual Assets Management Reports and the Centers' individual public disclosures regarding intellectual property (IP) applications, limited exclusivity agreements (LEAs) and restricted use agreements (RUAs).

¹⁶ The overview of all the reports received, is contained in document, IT/GB-8/19/15.4/2, *Reports from Institutions that Have Concluded Agreements with the Governing Body under Article 15 of the International Treaty*.

¹⁷ Up to 630 accessions distributed, including orthodox seeds, and 343 field accessions. Coffee was the most distributed crop, followed by squash and tomato accessions.

¹⁸ Resolution 4/2017, paragraph 13; available at <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mv085e.pdf>. *The CGIAR Principles on the Management of Intellectual Assets* are available at <https://www.cgiar.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/CGIAR-IA-Principles.pdf>. The Implementation Guidelines for the CGIAR Principles are available at <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/bitstream/handle/10947/4487/Implementation%20Guidelines%20for%20the%20CGIAR%20IA%20Principles.pdf?sequence=1>.

¹⁹ See document, IT/GB-8/19/8.1/Inf.2.

27. As the CGIAR System clarifies in the submission, the annual reports covering 2017 and 2018 were partially influenced by Resolution 4/2017. Resolution 4/2017 has been considered at the highest levels of governance within the CGIAR System, specifically by the CGIAR System Management Board (SMB) and the General Assembly of CGIAR Centers. The SMB directed, among others, CGIAR Centers to share additional information of potential interest to the Governing Body in the annual CGIAR Intellectual Asset Management Reports, and in the form of independent disclosures published by the Centers. As a result, the 2017 and 2018 reports now include summary information about all LEAs, RUAs, IP applications entered into or made by the Centers during the period covered, including the name of the Center, the technology concerned, the kind of licensing agreement, and if subject to IP, where applied and the state of progress of the application. These two annual reports also include extended case studies of IP applications, RUAs, and LEAs entered into during the respective years.

28. As Resolution 4/2017 makes specific reference to “germplasm that the CGIAR Centers manage under the framework of the International Treaty”, the CGIAR System clarifies in the submission that all plant germplasm or related information subject to IP protection, LEAs, and RUAs as reported in the annual CGIAR Intellectual Management Reports are derived from the use of PGRFA held in trust by the Centers, or from the use of PGRFA by the Centers under an SMTA.

29. In the light of such connection between plant germplasm managed under the framework of the International Treaty (i.e. including under the Article 15 agreements in force) and CGIAR intellectual assets, the Governing Body may consider:

- thanking the CGIAR System for the submission made; and
- requesting the CGIAR System to continue reporting in the next biennium on the application of the CGIAR Principles on the Management of Intellectual Assets to germplasm managed under the framework of the International Treaty, parts thereof, or information generated from the use of this germplasm.²⁰

IV. The Third Party Beneficiary

30. In accordance with Article 9 of the *Third Party Beneficiary Procedures*, the Third Party Beneficiary shall submit to the Governing Body, at each of its Regular Sessions, a report setting forth certain information regarding the fulfilment of its roles and responsibilities. In the biennium 2018-19, the Third Party Beneficiary did not receive any information on possible cases of non-compliance with an SMTA, from any source. Based on the Third Party Beneficiary Procedures, the Secretariat continued receiving and securely storing SMTA reporting data in accordance with the guidance of the Governing Body.²¹

V. Analysis of Germplasm Flows under the Multilateral System

31. The detailed figures of germplasm flows under the Multilateral System are contained in *Appendix 1*. It is to be noted that the statistics differentiate between Contracting Parties, Article 15 institutions and non-Contracting Parties. Additionally, the statistics on transfers within the CGIAR Centers are also provided for ease of reference.

A. USE OF THE SMTA AND TRANSFERS OF PGRFA

32. As of 18 July 2019, the Data Store has recorded 75,368 SMTAs from providers located in 52 countries, distributing material to recipients based in 181 countries. This figure represents an increment of 16,397 SMTAs or 21.7% compared to August 2017. Out of those SMTAs, 61,269 were

²⁰ Elements for a possible Resolution are provided in the draft Resolution that is contained in *Appendix 3* to this document.

²¹ The full Report of the Third Party Beneficiary, including the financial aspects, is contained in document, IT/GB-8/19/8.1/2, *Report on the Operations of the Third Party Beneficiary*.

sent to recipients in Contracting Parties to the International Treaty, while 14,099 SMTAs were sent to recipients not located in Contracting Parties. The statistical module indicates an average of 23 SMTAs reported per day since August 2017.

33. The data accumulated in the Data Store consolidates the positive trend in the reporting. It is to be noted that there was a significant increase in the period from 2015 to 2017, when the reporting help-desk was established and additional support was provided to users of the MLS. The figure below has been elaborated taking into account the average number of SMTAs reported every year. It is to be noted that some providers of materials have already set up tools or practices that facilitate reporting.

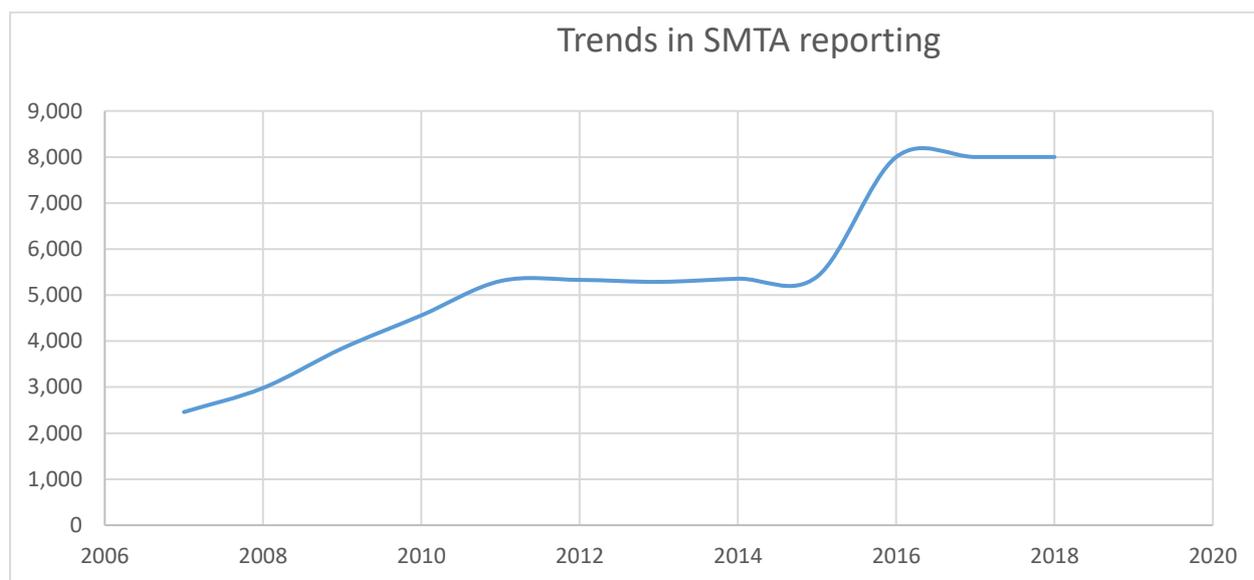


Figure 1. Trends in the reporting of SMTAs for the period 2007-2018, based on the average number of SMTAs reported per year.

34. As of mid-July 2019, more than 5.4 million samples of PGRFA had been transferred and reported. From the total amount of material transferred, 7.6 % was distributed by Contracting Parties, 92.3 % by Article 15 institutions. Almost 20,000 materials were distributed by other providers in non-Contracting Parties.

35. Additionally, 1.6 % of the materials transferred with the SMTA belong to crops not under Annex I of the International Treaty. Further analysis of the data from 2007 up to July 2019 reveals that 3,489 agreements transferred *non-Annex I* material to recipients in developing countries, almost one thousand more than two years ago. The number of non-Annex I materials distributed to developing countries amounted to 91,659 accessions and 156,735 accessions to developed countries. These figures are almost triple the ones provided up to May 2015. It is to be noted that a big portion of those are domestic transfers.

36. From August 2017 almost a million and a half materials have been transferred and reported. By the date of the 15th Anniversary of the entry into force of the International Treaty, more than 5.3 million materials were recorded in the Data Store. Reaching 5 million materials transferred during the present biennium represented a major milestones in the operations of the Multilateral System.

37. The statistics at crop level show that 47 % of the germplasm reported belong to wheat, 16 % to rice, 10 % to maize, 6 % to barley, 5 % to chickpea. In general terms, we can consider these trends very similar to those generated in 2017 and in line with those presented in 2015.

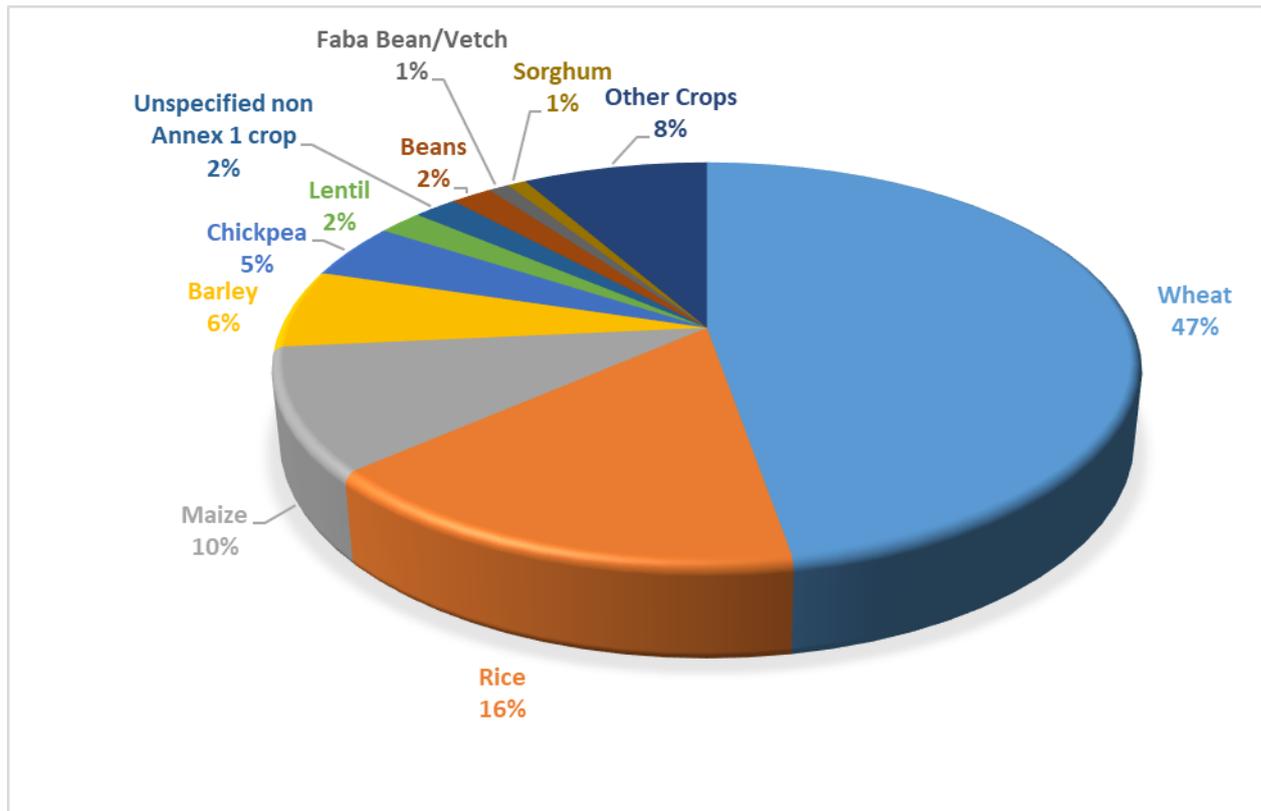


Figure 2. Percentages of materials of top crops reported in the Data Store as of 18 July 2019

38. The CGIAR Centres have reported that, during the first 12 years of operation under the ITPGRFA framework, i.e. from January 2007 to December 2018 inclusive, the Centers' genebanks and breeding programs combined, distributed over 5 million PGRFA samples under 58,000 SMTAs. Up to 31% of the material was distributed to recipients in Asia, 20% to recipients in Africa, 16% to recipients in Latin America and the Caribbean, 14% to the Near East, and 13%, 5% and 1% to Europe, North America and South West Pacific, respectively.²²

Users of Easy-SMTA

39. The number of users of Easy-SMTA has reached 2,360, from the 1,557 users registered two years ago. During the first semester of 2019, an additional 274 users registered. Almost 40 % of the users registered since 2011 are organizations while the other users registered individually. In total, the System indicates that there are around 6,281 unique recipients.

B. PGRFA UNDER DEVELOPMENT

40. As of 18 July 2019, up to 21,121 SMTAs out of 75,368 reported the transfer of PGRFA under Development, which represents, 28 % of the transfers.

41. Most of the SMTAs reported for the transfer of PGRFA under Development since 2007 had an Article 15 institution as the provider. In total, 1.4 million materials under Development have been transferred and reported. Table 1 below provides information on the distribution of PGRFA under Development by crop.

²² See document, IT/GB-8/19/15.4/2, *Appendix 2*.

PGRFA under development	
Rice	455,615
Wheat	302,523
Barley	258,616
Chickpea	178,327
Lentil	102,642
Faba Bean/Vetch	38,126
Pearl Millet	19,516
Cassava	11,781
Potato	8,789
Sorghum	7,804
Groundnut	6,203
Grass pea	5,398
Beans	5,010

Table 1. List of PGRFA under Development by crop in the Data Store as of 18 July 2019.

VI. Reviews and assessment required by the International Treaty regarding the Multilateral System

42. At its Seventh Session the Governing Body decided to undertake the reviews and assessments foreseen under Articles 11.4 and 13.2 (d) (ii) of the International Treaty at this Eighth Session, and requested the Secretary to prepare the relevant documentation. Accordingly, the Secretary circulated a notification in January 2019.²³ Some of the responses referred to direct communications and letters sent to natural and legal persons, mainly collections maintained at universities and botanic gardens, and to possible legislative initiatives to set up incentives. Nevertheless, the limited number of responses did not allow for the preparation of a detailed analysis.

²³ <http://www.fao.org/3/CA3153EN/ca3153en.pdf>

A. ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS IN THE INCLUSION OF MATERIAL BY NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS AND DECISION ON CONTINUED FACILITATED ACCESS FOR NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS - ARTICLE 11.4

43. According to Article 11.3 of the International Treaty:

Contracting Parties [...] agree to take appropriate measures to encourage natural and legal persons within their jurisdiction who hold plant genetic resources for food and agriculture listed in Annex I to include such plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in the Multilateral System.

44. Article 11.4 of the International Treaty provides that:

Within two years of the entry into force of the Treaty, the Governing Body shall assess the progress in including the plant genetic resources for food and agriculture referred to in paragraph 11.3 in the Multilateral System. Following this assessment, the Governing Body shall decide whether access shall continue to be facilitated to those natural and legal persons referred to in paragraph 11.3 that have not included these plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in the Multilateral System, or take such other measures as it deems appropriate.

45. The Governing Body has repeatedly urged natural and legal persons to include their plant genetic resources for food and agriculture listed in Annex I to the International Treaty in the Multilateral System. It has also urged Contracting Parties to take appropriate incentive measures, in accordance with Article 11.3 of the Treaty.²⁴

46. It will be recalled that the Ad Hoc Technical Advisory Committee on the Standard Material Transfer Agreement and the Multilateral System (Committee) issued an opinion on legal and administrative measures to encourage natural and legal persons to voluntarily place material in the Multilateral System. In the view of the Committee, the decision on what measures to establish under Article 11.3 of the International Treaty is left to the discretion of Contracting Parties. Those measures may include, but are not be limited to, financial or fiscal incentives to holders of material (e.g. eligibility for public funding schemes). They might also consist of policy and legal measures, administrative actions setting up domestic procedures for inclusions, or awareness raising efforts (especially at the level of farmers).²⁵

47. The Governing Body has repeatedly postponed the assessment and decision under Article 11.4 of the International Treaty. The Governing Body could request inputs from Contracting Parties on the type and extend of measures, including financial or fiscal incentives, that could be considered for the provision of guidance and decision within a definite timeline.

B. REVIEW OF PAYMENT LEVELS - ARTICLE 13.2D(II)

48. Article 13.2d(ii) of the International Treaty provides that

The Governing Body may decide to establish different levels of payment for various categories of recipients who commercialize such products; it may also decide on the need to exempt from such payments small farmers in developing countries and in countries with economies in transition. The Governing Body may, from time to time, review the levels of payment with a view to achieving fair and equitable sharing of benefits.

49. The Governing Body originally decided to review the payment levels periodically, starting from its Third Session, but has subsequently postponed such review repeatedly.

²⁴ Resolution 2/2006, para. 7; Resolution 4/2009, para. 10; Resolution 4/2011, para. 5; Resolution 1/2013, paras. 14, 16; Resolution 1/2015 paras. 10, 11 and 12; Resolution 4/2017, para. 19.

²⁵ IT/AC-SMTA-MLS 1/10/Report, *Appendix 4*.

50. During the last three biennia, the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System discussed various options for reviewing the payment levels currently contained in the SMTA, as well as for establishing possible additional differentiations, such as categories of recipients or crops. The status and outcomes of such discussions is contained in the documentation prepared for Item 8.2 of the Provisional Agenda, for the consideration of the Governing Body.²⁶

C. ASSESSMENT OF WHETHER THE MANDATORY PAYMENT REQUIREMENT SHALL BE EXTENDED - ARTICLE 13.2D(II)

51. Article 13.2d(ii) of the Treaty also provides that the Governing Body

may also assess, within a period of five years from the entry into force of this Treaty, whether the mandatory payment requirement in the MTA shall apply also in cases where such commercialized products are available without restriction to others for further research and breeding.

52. The Governing Body has not undertaken such an assessment to date. Instead, it has postponed it repeatedly, starting from the fifth year period following the entry into force of the International Treaty.

53. The Working Group has also discussed the possibility of making voluntary payments in the SMTA mandatory. The status and outcomes of these discussions are reported in the documentation prepared for Agenda Item 8.2, for the consideration of the Governing Body.²⁷

VII. Guidance Sought

54. The Governing Body is invited to note and consider the information provided in this document. Elements for a possible Resolution are provided in *Appendix 3* for its consideration. In particular, the Governing Body is invited to provide guidance on the availability of material in the Multilateral System, on the modalities for assistance to Contracting Parties and other users of the Multilateral System, and on any other aspects related to the operations of the Multilateral System that the Governing Body may consider necessary.

55. The Governing Body may wish to discuss the reviews and assessments foreseen in Articles 11.4 and 13.2d (ii) of the International Treaty, taking into account for the latter, the reports and outcomes of negotiations in connection with the Enhancement of the Multilateral System under Agenda Item 8.2.

²⁶ See document, IT/GB-8/19/8.2

²⁷ Ibid.

Appendix 1

Data reported through the Data Store

Data Store as of 18 July 2019

SMTA reported by	CPs	Art.15	Non CPs	Total
Total	18,028	56,846	494	75,368
With PGRFA under development	62	21,108	1	21,171
Number of providers in countries per category	28	20	4	52
Total number of recipient countries				181
With recipients in Contracting Parties	17,079	43,914	276	61,269
With recipients in non-Contracting Parties	949	12,932	218	14,099
Average SMTAs per day since January 2007				16

Table 1: SMTAs reported

PGRFA distributed by	CPs	Art.15	Non CPs	Total
Total	416,363	5,019,460	19,666	5,455,489
Annex I crops	241,451	4,952,846	12,798	5,207,095
Non-Annex I crops	174,912	66,614	6,868	248,394
Non-Annex I material distributed to developing countries	25,810	59,731	6,118	91,659
Non-Annex I crops distributed to recipients in developed countries	149,102	6,883	750	156,735
PGRFA under development (PGRFAuD)	2,265	1,411,314	1	1,413,580
Non-Annex I material that is PGRFAuD	850	11,048	1	11,899

Table 2A: PGRFA distribution

PGRFA distributed by	CPs	Art.15	Non CPs	Total
To recipients in Contracting Parties	372,001	3,957,274	10,907	4,340,182
To recipients in non-Contracting Parties	44,340	1,061,980	8,682	1,115,002

Average PGRFA distributed per day since 2007	1,191
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Table 2B: PGRFA distribution. Cont'd

Registered users of Easy-SMTA	
Total	2,360
Number of Recipients	6,281

Table 3: Registered users of Easy-SMTA

SMTA sent by source region	By CPs	By Art.15	By non CPs	Total
Africa	102	17,783	5	17,890
Asia	415	13,201	483	14,099
Europe	15,928	3,041	0	18,969
Latin America and the Caribbean	108	21,800	0	21,908
Near East	68	987	0	1,055
North America	1,215	0	6	1,221
Southwest Pacific	192	34	0	226

Table 4: Regional distribution of SMTAs by source region (where the provider is located), reported by Contracting Parties, Article 15 Institutions and by non-Contracting Parties

SMTA received by destination region	Total
Africa	10,919
Asia	20,198
Europe	21,961
Latin America and the Caribbean	8,930
Near East	8,759
North America	3,840
Southwest Pacific	761

Table 5: Regional distribution of SMTAs by destination region

PGRFA by source region	By CPs	By Art.15	By non CPs	Total
Africa	2,884	1,060,129	5	1,063,018
Asia	3,315	957,134	18,935	979,384
Europe	355,791	228,267	0	584,058
Latin America and the Caribbean	3,780	2,608,196	0	2,611,976
Near East	2,797	164,927	0	167,724
North America	42,626	0	726	43,352
Southwest Pacific	5,170	807	0	5,977

Table 6: Regional distribution of PGRFA by source region and type of reporting provider

PGRFA by destination region	By CPs	By Art.15	By non CPs	Total
Africa	900,884	185	127,533	1,028,602
Asia	1,257,584	15	319,251	1,576,850
Europe	858,615	0	89,072	947,687
Latin America and the Caribbean	447,893	7	328,560	776,460
Near East	710,571	0	26,011	736,582
North America	102,664	0	221,981	324,645
Southwest Pacific	61,971	98	2,594	64,663

Table 7: Regional distribution of PGRFA by destination

Top 10 destination countries by number of PGRFA	Total
India	725,117
Kenya	270,562
Mexico	250,168
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	224,742
United States of America	221,981
Turkey	204,673
China	183,902
Germany	176,204
Pakistan	166,278

Egypt	140,130
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Table 8: Top 10 destination countries as indicated in the SMTA by number of PGRFA

Top 10 crops by PGRFA	
Wheat	2,580,684
Rice	881,825
Maize	545,414
Barley	345,422
Chickpea	242,683
Lentil	108,356
Unspecified non Annex 1 crop	106,717
Beans	100,807
Faba Bean/Vetch	49,572
Sorghum	45,346

Table 9: Top 10 crops distributed by number of PGRFA

Center	SMTAs	Samples	PUD	From	To
AfricaRice	521	47,806	28,821	2007-03-05	2018-11-23
Bioversity	460	7,189	730	2007-01-24	2018-12-12
CIAT	2,672	257,594	36,544	2007-01-05	2019-02-19
CIMMYT	23,275	2,758,519	0	2007-03-16	2018-12-30
CIP	674	19,053	11,488	2007-01-19	2019-07-01
ICARDA	14,049	967,368	862,881	2007-02-13	2018-12-23
ICRAF	223	969	0	2011-09-03	2018-12-20
ICRISAT	5,172	226,844	64,690	2009-11-11	2019-02-04
IITA	806	33,805	0	2007-03-07	2018-12-04
ILRI	858	10,810	0	2007-02-22	2018-12-05
IRRI	8,115	689,586	407,022	2007-01-04	2018-12-19

Table 10: Distribution of SMTAs, PGRFA, PGRFAuD by CGIAR Centers and as of 18 July 2019, with indication of the reporting period for each Center

Appendix 2

Availability of Materials in the Multilateral System

Name	Number of accessions under medium- or long-term storage	MLS ²⁸
Afghanistan	953	953
Albania	4,345	2,286
Armenia	6,918	2,563
Australia	223,137	84,302
Austria	11,964	5,607
Bangladesh	33,081	9,548
Belgium	9,304	10,500
Bhutan	1,162	60
Brazil	166,490	2,377
Burkina Faso	0	16,476
Bulgaria	69,336	67
Canada	111,157	111,157
Costa Rica	861	128
Croatia	3,533	442
Cyprus	1,004	504
Czech Republic	55,436	55,808
Ecuador	28,275	13,054
Egypt	13,522	40
Eritrea	4,604	4,604
Estonia	3,180	2,853
Ethiopia	72,510	52,657

²⁸ The data in the first column have been generated from WIEWS "Number of accessions under medium- or long-term storage" as of January 2019. Some rows have been added for countries that have reported directly to the Secretary on material available. The data in the second column takes into account the submissions to WIEWS, EURISCO/Genesys, GLIS and the notifications and communications to the Secretary as at the time of preparation of this document. The data on availability in the MLS from the CGIAR Centres are updated up to 1 December 2018 and are contained in their joint report to the Governing Body.

Finland	0	445
France	9,595	4,235
Germany	179,355	116,076
Guyana	1,295	139
Hungary	49,367	2,617
India	395,001	26,530
Ireland	1,421	1,421
Italy	51,095	46,788
Japan	223,069	38,959
Jordan	4,829	2,389
Kenya	51,023	25,757
Latvia	2,082	1,713
Lebanon	1,959	274
Lithuania	924	1,326
Madagascar	8,801	7,938
Malawi	3,253	2,702
Malaysia	13,036	9,998
Mali	2,090	2,090
Mongolia	13,992	935
Montenegro	388	35
Morocco	60,028	351
Namibia	2,110	1,441
Nepal	4,671	614
Netherlands	26,097	15,041
Norway	26	20
Pakistan	31,958	29,784
Panama	824	391
Papua New Guinea	1,567	1,567
Philippines	1,450	811

Poland	85,855	51,227
Portugal	30,484	813
Romania	38,034	6,363
Senegal	1,890	898
Slovakia	17,043	12,520
Spain	76,581	25,364
Sweden	0	58
Sudan	13,293	9,009
Switzerland	39,953	33,784
Tanzania, United Rep of	5,825	277
Togo	0	2
Uganda	5,027	760
United Kingdom	834,451	44,069
United States of America	582,149	500,000
Uruguay	17,468	13
Zambia	7,583	4,340
Total	4,394,208	1,407,870

CATIE	10,987	10955
SPC - CePaCT	2,163	358
World Vegetable Center	59,954	59,954
ICBA	13,840	14500
Nordic Genebank (NGB)	32,849	31143
SADCC Regional Gene Bank (SRGB)	11,326	0
Total	248,029	116,910

AfricaRice	21,300	21,300
CIAT	66,787	66,787
CIMMYT	209,216	183,819
CIP	17,901	16,194
ICARDA	156,930	151,893
ICRAF	11,937	14,582
ICRISAT	126,830	123,224
IITA	34,907	34,651
ILRI	18,643	18,639
IRRI	130,154	125,566
ITC - Bioversity	1,566	1,566
Total	796,171	758,221

National Collections	4,394,208	1,407,870
CGIAR Centres	796,171	758,221
Others	248,029	116,910
Grand Total	5,438,408	2,283,001

Appendix 3

Draft Resolution **/2019

Implementation and Operations of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-Sharing

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling previous Resolutions on the operations and implementation of the Multilateral System, in particular, Resolutions 1/2015 and 4/2017;

Recalling the need to provide regular guidance to Contracting Parties and institutions that have concluded agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty for the effective and efficient operations of the Multilateral System;

Recalling the provisions of Article 15.1 (a) of the International Treaty;

Recalling further the provisions of Articles 6.5 and 6.6 of the Standard Material Transfer Agreement;

Noting the continuing relevance of the CGIAR Principles on the Management of Intellectual Assets to the implementation of the obligations of CGIAR Centers pursuant to the agreements concluded with the Governing Body under Article 15 of the International Treaty, including on the CGIAR Centers management and distribution of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture under development;

Noting further that those Intellectual Assets Principles explicitly require Centres to comply with their obligations under the framework of the International Treaty, and serve as a mechanism for monitoring and compliance;

PART I: AVAILABILITY AND TRANSFER OF MATERIAL IN THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM

1. *Welcomes* the information provided on the availability of material in the Multilateral System and thanks the Contracting Parties that have identified, at the accession level, the material that is available in the Multilateral System and *urges* them to continue updating this information regularly, and *further urges* the Contracting Parties that have not yet done so, to identify, at accession level, the material that forms part of the Multilateral System;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of collections that are fully characterized and evaluated, and *appeals* to both Contracting Parties, and natural and legal persons to make them available in the Multilateral System together with the relevant non-confidential characterization and evaluation data;

3. *Invites* Contracting Parties and other holders of material to use the Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) of the Global Information System for the identification of material available in the Multilateral System;

4. *Requests* the Secretary to update the report on availability of material in the Multilateral System and the report on the transfer of the materials for the Ninth Session of the Session as "The Global Report on Germplasm Flows", and *decides* to include it in the MYPOW.

PART II: OPERATIONS OF THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM

5. *Takes note* of the progress made during the 2018-2019 biennium with Easy-SMTA and the Data Store and *requests* the Secretary to maintain the help-desk function on the operations of the Multilateral System and finalize the Educational Module, taking into account the outcome of the Enhancement process at the Eighth Session;

6. **Invites** Contracting Parties and relevant international organizations to make available resources for, and collaborate with the Secretary on, organizing training programmes and workshops on the Multilateral System;

7. **Further requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to organise regional training workshops to support Contracting Parties in strengthening the operations of the Multilateral System, including for the identification and notification of material available in the Multilateral System, and for the operations of the Standard Material Transfer Agreement, including the reporting of transfers;

8. **Requests** the Secretary to continue to work with the CGIAR Centers to build capacity among a wider range of providers, including natural and legal persons, to implement the Multilateral System and to report on the use of the Standard Material Transfer Agreement.

PART III: PRACTICE OF THE CGIAR CENTRES ON THE MANAGEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL ASSETS RELATED TO PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

9. **Thanks** the CGIAR System for the submission of the report on the Status of Implementation of the CGIAR Principles on the Management of Intellectual Assets and **invites** the CGIAR System to continue reporting on the application of the CGIAR Principles on the Management of Intellectual Assets to germplasm managed under the framework of the International Treaty, parts thereof, or information generated from the use of this germplasm.

PART IV: OPERATION OF THE THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARY

10. [See elements for a Resolution provided in the Appendix to the document, IT/GB-8/19/8.1/2, Report *on the Operations of the Third Party Beneficiary*.]

PART V: REVIEWS AND ASSESSMENTS UNDER THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM AND OF THE IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION OF THE STANDARD MATERIAL TRANSFER AGREEMENT

11. **Decides** to postpone the reviews and assessments foreseen under Articles 11.4 to the Ninth Session and **requests** the Secretary to prepare a report, with inputs from Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholders, on possible measures to be considered by the Governing Body to encourage natural and legal persons to include material in the Multilateral System.

12. [In considering the reviews under Article 13.2d (ii) of the International Treaty, the Governing Body may wish to take into consideration the inputs of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System.]