



NOTIFICATION

Inputs on the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the International Treaty 2018-2025

Dear Madam/Sir,

The purpose of this notification is to further request Contracting Parties to provide comments and inputs on the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the International Treaty (MYPOW) for the period 2018-2025 that will be presented to the Seventh Session of the Governing Body for its consideration under agenda item 17.

Following the request of the Sixth Session of the Governing Body, by Resolution 13/2015, the Secretary issued a notification in April 2016 inviting inputs from Contracting Parties for the development of the MYPOW.¹

At its second meeting, the Bureau took note of the current status of the development of the Multi-Year Programme of Work and explored various options for revising it. It further noted the process to facilitate the provision of additional inputs by Contracting Parties. In this regard, it requested the Secretary to circulate the updated draft to receive inputs to be incorporated before finalization for the consideration of the Governing Body. The updated draft MYPOW is attached to this notification.

Contracting Parties are invited to review the attached document and provide comments and inputs, including on the outputs, outcomes, activities and milestones foreseen for the preparation of the Eighth and the Ninth Sessions of the Governing Body by **10 June 2017**.

Further, in order to encourage inputs, the attached draft MYPOW is also published on the Website of the International Treaty.² Should you need any additional information, please contact the Secretariat at PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Dr Kent Nnadozie

Secretary *a.i.*

International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources
for Food and Agriculture

¹Notification "GB7-006 MYPOW inputs", available at:

<http://www.fao.org/plant-treaty/notifications/detail-events/en/c/430808/>

²Available at <http://www.fao.org/plant-treaty/overview/mypow/en/>



DRAFT MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK (MYPOW) OF INTERNATIONAL TREATY 2018-2025

PRINCIPLES AND STRUCTURE

1. As described in the documentation presented to the Governing Body at the Sixth Session, the Multi-Year Programme of Work is a multi-purpose document guided by several objectives and principles,¹ to:

- streamline the heavy agenda of the Governing Body and increase efficiency of the Sessions of the Governing Body through further improved preparation, coherent scheduling and progression, rational organization and implementation of its work, in conjunction with funding needs and resource availability (Efficiency and cost-effectiveness);
- deal with the in-depth reviews of relevant provisions and mechanisms of the Treaty taking into account cross-cutting issues like finance, technology transfer, capacity development, awareness raising, training and information sharing (Monitoring and Assessments).
- become a community-driven vehicle to strengthen cooperation with other relevant international instruments and organizations and with all communities of practice and actors involved in the value-added chain of product development based on PGRFA, taking into account all uses of PGRFA from research to plant breeding (Cooperation and coordination);
- provide Contracting Parties with a tool for mainstreaming PGRFA considerations, through a staged approach, into national policies and plans (Mainstreaming and awareness-raising);
- provide donors with a timeframe for the implementation roadmap and facilitate resource mobilization and planning of communication activities (Outreach and resource mobilization);

2. Following the guidance of the Bureau of the Sixth Session, the outputs of the MYPOW were organized in three clusters and presented to the Governing Body at its Sixth Session:

Cluster 1: Plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and emerging policy and governance issues within the global development agenda

This cluster will help the Governing Body to better integrate considerations related to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in the global agricultural development agenda in relation to food security, climate change, nutrition and other important issues. It will also create opportunities to establish an overall framework for a more effective and coherent multilateral policy dialogue with partner organizations for the implementation of the Treaty.² The programme elements under Cluster 1 are aligned with the theme of each Session and are expected to be dealt with under the section of the agenda on general policy matters. The relevant inputs will be collected in the form of views and submissions from government and relevant stakeholder organizations.

¹ Section II of document IT/GB-6/15/22, *Key Principles and Coverage*.

² The goals and structure of the draft MYPOW are aligned with those of CBD and its Nagoya Protocol and the Strategic Framework of FAO. Activities such as the review of the implementation of the Global Plan of Action and the Third Report on the State of the World on PGRFA are currently under the MYPOW of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

Cluster 2: Scientific, technical and technological matters

This cluster groups outcomes that are closely connected with the ongoing programmes of work adopted by the Governing Body for Sustainable Use and the Global Information System, among others. It will allow an assessment of how these new scientific and technical developments respond to the demands of farmers, plant breeders, the food industry, the consumer and how they impact on the environment and on society. It will also analyse how the Treaty brings innovation to users and how it contributes to add value to the use of PGRFA. By appraising scientific, technical and technological development, the Governing Body will be able to structure programmes of work that integrate the relevant developments into inter-sessional activities, including those provisions that the Governing Body has not fully dealt with so far. In that respect, the programme elements of Cluster 2 provide a bridge between the other two clusters. At each session, the Governing Body may make adjustments based on global trends matched with actual progress made with the implementation of the Treaty.

Cluster 3: Governance of main components of the Treaty

This cluster helps the Governing Body to deal, in a more systematic way, with some of the reviews foreseen in the text of the Treaty and in the Resolutions of the Governing Body, taking into account the period of time needed to collect sufficient information and avoiding of the repetition of these reviews on the agenda at each session. This cluster also groups other follow-ups activities to decisions and Resolutions adopted in the past Sessions. The programme elements under this cluster will be inserted into the section of the agenda dealing with the implementation of the main systems, programmes and components of the Treaty.

MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK (MYPOW) – 2018-2025

	8th Session (2018-19)	9th Session (2020-21)	10th Session (2022-23)	11th Session (2024-25)
THEMES:	<i>Increasing agricultural productivity by integrating PGRFA along the product development chain</i>	<i>Supporting farmers</i>	<i>Biodiversity and climate change adaptation</i>	
Cluster 1: PGRFA policy and governance issues within the global development agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -PGRFA access, benefit sharing and global food security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The role of farmers as custodians and developers of PGRFA -Landscape of national policy and plans on conservation of PGRFA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incentives to reduce loss of and promote sustainable utilization of PGRFA in an era of climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contribution of PGRFA to agriculture, environment and commerce
Cluster 2: Scientific, technical and technological matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pre-breeding and base-broadening to reduce crop vulnerability and genetic erosion - Advances in characterization, evaluation and documentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Breeding strategies to meet the needs of vulnerable farmers - Management of crop wild relatives 		
Cluster 3: Progress and review of the main components of the Treaty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of the procedures and mechanisms on compliance - Review of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of the Global Information System - Review of implementation of Farmers' Rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of Multilateral System - Review of the Funding Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of the procedures and mechanisms on compliance

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK
2018-2021**

8th Session (2018-19)

THEME:	<i>Increasing agricultural productivity by integrating PGRFA along the product development chain</i>
Cluster 1: PGRFA policy and governance issues within the global development agenda	- PGRFA access, benefit-sharing and global food security
Cluster 2: Scientific, technical and technological matters	- <u>Broadening the genetic base of crop production</u> to reduce crop vulnerability and genetic erosion in a time of climate change - Advances in characterization, evaluation and documentation
Cluster 3: Governance progress and review of the main components of the Treaty	- Review of the Procedures and mechanisms on compliance - Review of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use of PGRFA

Cluster 1: PGRFA Policy and Governance Issues within the Global Development Agenda

Outcome: The enhanced policies (policy framework) on access and benefit-sharing of plant genetic resources affecting global food security.

Output: The Governing Body considers decisions on access and benefit sharing related to biodiversity and plant genetic resources taken by other international organizations for policy coherence.

Activity

- Prepare a report on ongoing developments in other international fora related to access and benefit sharing relevant for the work of the Treaty, including a gap analysis.
- Review available information on access and benefit sharing measures undertaken by Contracting Parties based on the inputs received through the various reporting channels and discuss on possible progress indicators.

Estimated cost: US\$ 20 000 for the commission of a report and reviewing relevant information.

Milestone and indicator

- A report on major access and benefit sharing decisions taken in other global policy fora concerning plant genetic resources and food security.
- Review of existing information sources on access and benefit sharing measures related to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture adopted by Contracting Parties at domestic level.

Cluster 2: Scientific, technical and technological matters

Outcome: Contracting Parties are better informed on how to reduce the crop vulnerability and genetic erosion through a base-broadening use of well characterized and evaluated varieties in the context of the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 of the Treaty.

Output: Recommendations from the Governing Body for the establishing the Global Initiative for Public-Private Partnership on Pre-breeding operating within the framework of the International Treaty.

Activity

- Develop an input paper on public-private partnerships for pre-breeding, including information and lessons from similar initiatives in other fora on the interactions with relevant stakeholders.
- With inputs from Contracting Parties and available in WIEWS, prepare a report on advances in characterization, evaluation and documentation of genetic material available in the Multilateral System and the Global Information System of the International Treaty.
- Organize an international symposium under the auspices of FAO and the Governing Body of the International Treaty on public-private partnerships on pre-breeding in the framework of the International Treaty to collect information on the steps taken by the Contracting Parties to develop and support the national strategies for plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

Estimated cost: US\$ 200 000 for the elaboration of an input paper, a technical report and the organization of an international symposium.

Milestone and indicator

- One input paper on public-private partnerships for pre-breeding.
- One report on the advances in characterization, evaluation and documentation.
- An international symposium.

Cluster 3: Governance progress and review of the main components of the Treaty

Outcome:

- Procedures and operational mechanisms function well and enable compliance to be promoted and issues of non-compliance to be addressed.
- Update on the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use.

Output:

- The Governing Body makes decisions based on the recommendations made for the improvement of the procedures and operational mechanisms.
- The Governing Body makes decisions on the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use.

Activity

- The Compliance Committee reviews the procedures and operational mechanism to promote compliance and address issues of non-compliance and makes recommendations for improvement to the Governing Body.
- Programme of Work on Sustainable Use is reviewed.

Estimated cost: No additional resources.

Milestone and indicator

- Recommendations by the Compliance Committee to the Governing Body on the procedures and operational mechanisms on monitoring and reporting, including a review of the standard reporting format, for its consideration.
- Decisions by the Governing Body for improved procedures and operational mechanisms.
- Provision of guidance and recommendations on the operations and continuity of the Programme of Work on Sustainable Use.

9th Session (2020-21)

THEME:	<i>Supporting Farmers</i>
<i>Cluster 1:</i> PGRFA policy and governance issues within the global development agenda	- The role of farmers as custodians and developers of PGRFA - Landscape of national policy and plans on conservation of PGRFA
<i>Cluster 2:</i> Scientific, technical and technological matters	- Breeding strategies to meet the needs of vulnerable farmers - Management of crop wild relatives
<i>Cluster 3:</i> Governance progress and review of the main components of the Treaty	- Review of the Global Information System of Article 17 - Review of implementation of Farmers' Rights

Cluster 1: PGRFA policy and governance issues within the global development agenda

Outcome: Enhanced recognition on the role and contributions of farmers as custodians and developers of PGRFA.

Output: The Governing Body makes recommendations to Contracting Parties on possible options to recognise in national policies and plans the contribution and role of farmers to on-farm conservation of PGRFA.

Activity

- Gather, compile and analyse inputs from Contracting Parties, on the understanding of custodian farmer attributes, roles and responsibilities. Elaborate a global landscape report on national policies and plans on conservation of PGRFA and the role of farmers.
- Organise at least two regional consultation meetings on the custodian farmer concept and the role of farmers in the conservation and use of crop biodiversity and their role in research.

Estimated cost: US\$ 200 000 for the preparation of a landscape report on national policies and plans and the organization of two regional consultations.

Milestone and indicator

- Global landscape report on national policies and plans Report on the role of farmers as custodians and developers of PGRFA from regional meetings.

Cluster 2: Scientific, technical and technological matters

Outcome: Gaps and needs of the smallholder farmers coping the on-farm and in-situ conservation are addressed.

Output:

- The Governing Body provides guidance on efficient management to protect and promote neglected, underutilized and wild crops (NUW).
- The Governing Body makes recommendations on breeding strategies and breeding techniques to address environmental challenges.

Activity

- Review of breeding strategies with the view to identify best practices for the promotion of neglected, underutilized and wild crops NUW and identify potential incentives for growing and conserving them.
- Review a background study on the *management of crop wild relatives in the context of plant breeding and resilience to climate change*.

Estimated cost: US\$ 150 000 for the organization of a technical conference on crop wild relatives and the preparation of a report on best practices on the promotion of NUW.

Milestone and indicator

- Background study on NUW and breeding strategies.
- Guidance and recommendations for the conservation and use of NUW.

Cluster 3: Governance progress and review of the main components of the Treaty

Outcome:

Update on the Programme of Work on the Global Information System of Article 17.

Output:

- The Governing Body makes decisions on the Programme of Work on the Global Information System of Article 17.
- Lessons learnt and national options presented regarding the implementation of Farmers' Rights.

Activity

- The Programme of Work on the Global Information System of Article 17 is reviewed.
- Review of national experiences on the implementation of Farmers' Rights.

Estimated cost: No additional resources.

Milestone and indicator

- Provision of guidance and recommendations on the operations and continuity of the Programme of Work on the Global Information System.