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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

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COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Item 8.1 of the Provisional Agenda

Twentieth Regular Session

Rome, 24–28 March 2025

**STATUTES OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL
WORKING GROUP ON MICROORGANISM AND INVERTEBRATE
GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE,**

**AND MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES ELECTED BY THE
COMMISSION AT ITS NINETEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

**STATUTES OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP
ON MICROORGANISM AND INVERTEBRATE GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

Article I – Terms of Reference

The Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Microorganism and Invertebrate Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (the Working Group) shall:

- review the situation and issues related to microorganism and invertebrate genetic resources for food and agriculture (MIGR) and advise and make recommendations to the Commission on these matters;
- consider the progress made in implementing the Commission's programme of work on MIGR as well as any other matters referred to the Working Group by the Commission; and
- report to the Commission on its activities.

In order for the Working Group to carry out this mandate, the Commission may assign specific tasks to the Working Group.

Article II – Composition

The Working Group shall be composed of 28 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 Southwest Pacific

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

Election and term of office of Members and Alternate Members

1. 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. 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.
2. The elected Members and Alternate Members will be eligible for re-election.
3. Members are requested to confirm their participation in 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.
4. If 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

1. 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.

2. 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

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

1. 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.
2. 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

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.

**MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL
WORKING GROUP ON MICROORGANISM AND INVERTEBRATE GENETIC
RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, ELECTED BY THE COMMISSION
AT ITS NINETEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

<i>Composition (no. of countries per region)</i>	<i>Country</i>
Africa (5)	Cameroon Côte d'Ivoire Namibia Niger South Sudan <i>First Alternate:</i> Malawi <i>Second Alternate:</i> Mali
Asia (5)	Bangladesh Japan Philippines Republic of Korea Thailand <i>First Alternate:</i> Malaysia <i>Second Alternate:</i> Bhutan
Europe (5)	Czechia Finland Netherlands (Kingdom of the) Spain Sweden <i>First Alternate:</i> Belgium <i>Second Alternate:</i> United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Latin America and the Caribbean (5)	Argentina Brazil Jamaica Mexico Panama <i>First Alternate:</i> Costa Rica <i>Second Alternate:</i> Chile
Near East (4)	Egypt Kuwait Saudi Arabia Qatar <i>First Alternate:</i> Sudan <i>Second Alternate:</i> Oman
North America (2)	United States of America Canada
Southwest Pacific (2)	Samoa Fiji <i>First Alternate:</i> Papua New Guinea <i>Second Alternate:</i> Vanuatu