



# The International Treaty

## ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



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Our Ref.: NCP GB6-027 COGIS Consultation

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### NOTIFICATION

***Date and Venue of the Consultation on the Global Information System (COGIS-PGRFA)  
San Diego, California, USA, 7 and 8 January 2015***

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the *Consultation on the Global Information System on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (COGIS-PGRFA)* will take place in San Diego, California, USA, on 7 and 8 January 2015 and that the Secretariat is about to issue the invitations to the technical experts nominated by the Regions.

The Consultation will be organized back-to-back with the XXIII International Plant and Animal Genome Conference and it will be followed on 9 January by a series of meetings and presentations under the umbrella of the DivSeek Initiative.

The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture envisages the development and strengthening of a global information system to facilitate the exchange of information on scientific, technical and environmental matters related to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, with the expectation that such exchange will constitute a form of non-monetary benefit-sharing.

The Consultation is an international platform that gathers representatives from Contracting Parties of all regions, and experts from international organizations and networks working in this field, and other relevant stakeholders and recognized experts

The objectives of the Consultation are, among others, to conduct a review of on-going relevant initiatives, identify gaps in the existing information systems and recognize best practices and methodologies for managing information on a global scale<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> The Resolution 10/2013 is available online at:  
[http://www.planttreaty.org/content/fifth\\_gb\\_resolutions](http://www.planttreaty.org/content/fifth_gb_resolutions)



As requested by the Governing Body, the Secretariat is preparing a draft Vision Paper and other related documentation, taking into account the inputs received in response to the notification GB6-013<sup>2</sup> and the outcomes of the Survey conducted during 2014.

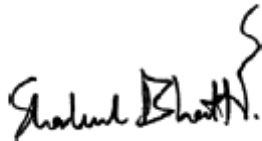
I avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate the invitation to Contracting Parties, Non-Contracting Parties, stakeholder groups and relevant international organizations to make available any information relevant to the above topics. The private sector and farmers' organizations are also invited to contribute. The information can be sent before 8 December 2014 electronically to [PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org](mailto:PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org).

I wish to thank the Governments of Germany, Italy and Spain for making these activities possible through their generous support.

The tentative agenda of the meeting and other documentation will be circulated to the nominated experts and published online on the Treaty website at:

<http://www.planttreaty.org/content/cogis1>

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



Dr Shakeel Bhatti  
Secretary of the Governing Body  
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources  
for Food and Agriculture

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.planttreaty.org/sites/default/files/013\\_GB6\\_NCP\\_COGISinputs1\\_en.pdf](http://www.planttreaty.org/sites/default/files/013_GB6_NCP_COGISinputs1_en.pdf)