



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



The International Treaty
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

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Item 2 of the Provisional Agenda

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

7– 8 December 2021

List of Observers

Executive Summary

As established under Article 19.5 of the Treaty, any “body or agency, whether governmental or non-governmental, qualified in fields relating to conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, which has informed the Secretary of the Treaty of its wish to be represented as an observer at a session of the Governing Body, may be admitted unless at least one third of the Contracting Parties present object”.

The Rules of Procedure of the Governing Body provides that “such observers may, upon invitation of the Chairperson, participate without the right to vote in sessions of the Governing Body on matters of direct concern to the body or agency they represent unless at least one third of the Contracting Parties present at the session object”.¹ The Rules of Procedure further foresee that “before the opening of a session of the Governing Body the Secretary will circulate a list of observers who have requested approval to be represented at the session”.²

The following bodies and agencies have requested approval to be represented at the First Special Session of the Governing Body of the Treaty. The organizations that have requested to be admitted as observers for the first time are highlighted in bold letters.

¹ Rules of Procedure of the Governing Body, Rule VII.2

² Rules of Procedure of the Governing Body, Rule VII.4

Documents can be consulted at <http://www.fao.org/plant-treaty/meetings/meetings-detail/en/c/1397828/>

Observers

- 1) African Centre for Biodiversity (ACBIO)
- 2) African Seed Trade Association (AFSTA)
- 3) Asociación de Organizaciones de los Cuchumatanes (ASOCUCH)
- 4) Bruins Seed Consultancy
- 5) China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation (CBCGDF)
- 6) Community Technology Development Trust (CTDT)
- 7) European Seed Association
- 8) Friends of the Earth International (FIE)
- 9) Groupement National Interprofessionnel des Semences et Plants (GNIS – SEMEA)
- 10) International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC)
- 11) International Seed Federation (ISF)
- 12) La Via Campesina - International Farmers Movement
- 13) Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LIBIRD)
- 14) Southeast Asia Regional Initiatives for Community Empowerment (SEARICE)
- 15) University of Louvain