



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



The International Treaty
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

**Views, Experiences and Best Practices as an example of possible options for
the national implementation of Article 9 of the International Treaty**

Note by the Secretary

At its [second meeting](#) of the Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights (AHTEG), the Expert Group agreed on a revised version of the [template](#) for collecting information on examples of national measures, best practices and lessons learned from the realization of Farmers' Rights

This document presents the updated information on best practices and measures of implementing Article 9 of the International Treaty submitted by Sweden on 9 July 2019.

The submission is presented in the form and language in which it was received.



Template for submission of

Measures, Best Practices and Lessons Learned from the Realization of Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty

Basic information

- *Kålrotsakademien (The Swede Academy)*
- 2019-07-05
- Sweden
- Hans Naess (Preses/Governor; hans.naess@gastronomiskasamtal.se) and Martin Ragnar (Secretary; martin@sockerslottet.se)
- NGO

Description of the examples

Mandatory information:¹

The Swede Academy, with 18 members, was founded in 2015. Its purpose is to promote the cultural-historical and geographical links between the raw material, its properties and their expression in processed food products, dishes and meals, as well as related story-telling. An explicit goal is to spread knowledge about it both inside and outside Sweden's borders.

The swede, or rutabaga, is the most internationally known cultivated plant of Swedish origin. It originated through a number of spontaneous hybridizations between turnip and cabbage in the 17th century in the then eastern half of the country, and has spread out over the world from there.

The Academy attaches special importance to the cultural and geographical links of cultivated plants. The fact that the cultural geography contains linguistic dialectal dimensions is of particular value. Through dissemination of knowledge outside Sweden's borders, the Academy promotes Swedish food culture abroad.

The Academy wishes to emphasize nuances of shade rather than overlapping great features. Credible stories about food evoke curiosity and create added value. Story-telling creates a strong weave of culture that binds people and phenomena closer together and builds pride from below. This, according to the Academy, is particularly important in an increasingly unidentified and globalized world.

To which provision(s) of Article 9 of the International Treaty does this measure relate?

- Art. 9.1
- Art. 9.2a
- Art. 9.2b
- Art. 9.2c
- Art. 9.3

¹ This mandatory information is required in order for the measure/practice to be included in the Inventory.



Other information, if applicable

- Please indicate which category of the Inventory is most relevant for the proposed measure, and which other categories are also relevant (if any):

No.	Category	Most relevant ²	Also relevant ³
1	Recognition of local and indigenous communities', farmers' contributions to conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, such as awards and recognition of custodian/guardian farmers		✓
2	Financial contributions to support farmers conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA such as contributions to benefit-sharing funds		
3	Approaches to encourage income-generating activities to support farmers' conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA		
4	Catalogues, registries and other forms of documentation of PGRFA and protection of traditional knowledge	✓	
5	In-situ/on-farm conservation and management of PGRFA, such as social and cultural measures, community biodiversity management and conservation sites		✓
6	Facilitation of farmers' access to a diversity of PGRFA through community seed banks ⁴ , seed networks and other measures improving farmers' choices of a wider diversity of PGRFA.		✓
7	Participatory approaches to research on PGRFA, including characterization and evaluation, participatory plant breeding and variety selection		✓
8	Farmers' participation in decision-making at local, national and sub-regional, regional and international levels		
9	Training, capacity development and public awareness creation		✓
10	Legal measures for the implementation of Farmers' Rights, such as legislative measures related to PGRFA.		
11	Other measures / practices		

- In case you selected 'other measures', would you like to suggest a description of this measure, e.g. as a possible new category? _____
- Objective(s) _____
- Target group(s) and numbers of involved and affected farmers⁵ - all stakeholders associated with crop diversity, local production, terroir, product quality, cultural and geographic history

² Please select only one category that is most relevant, under which the measure will be listed.

³ Please select one or several categories that may also be relevant (if applicable).

⁴ Including seed houses.

⁵ Any classification, e.g. of the types of farmer addressed, may be country-specific.



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- Location(s) and geographical outreach - national scope
- Resources used for implementation of the measure/practice - none; member driven.
- How has the measure/practice affected the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture? Positively, not least from the point of view of raising public awareness and bringing stakeholders together.
- Please describe the achievements of the measure/practice so far (including quantification) (max 200 words)
 - Large impact in various media
 - Setting up of the Academy's Great Prize (awarded three times, so far)
 - The world's largest tasting of swedes (50 cultivars)
 - Setting up of the 'Cultural Food Bag', an initiative whereby domestic grocery stores and supermarkets are inventoried from the point of view of traditional products (i.e. protected geographical indication/origin) incl. plant products
 - Book publication in the pipeline
- Other national level instruments that are linked to the measure/practice - none, but close linkages to the National programme on plant genetic resources
- Are you aware of any other international agreements or programs that are relevant for this measure/practice? CBD articles 8(j) and 10(c), the Nagoya Protocol, and to some degree the UNESCO Convention on the safe-guarding of the intangible cultural heritage.
- Other issues you wish to address, that have not yet been covered, to describe the measure/practice

Lessons learned

- Describe lessons learned which may be relevant for others who wish to do the same or similar measures/practices (max 250 words). An inter-disciplinary academy of this kind, composed by committed and knowledgeable persons, can make a difference not least by bringing together sectors of society that normally do not interact. The combination of crop and cultivar diversity, the cultural and geographical history of plants, and food (through e.g. interested chefs) is an avenue for success. Plants form the basis of human civilisation, and food is what brings us together. By handing down, sharing and learning food traditions, we can strengthen the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA.
- What challenges encountered along the way (if applicable) (max 200 words). None
- What would you consider conditions for success, if others should seek to carry out such a measure or organize such an activity? (max 100 words) Open, interested, knowledgeable and committed persons that see the linkages and possibilities; communicative skills;

Further information

- Link(s) to further information about the measure/practice:
 - http://xn--klrotsakademien-hlb.se/?page_id=256 (The Swede Academy, brief summary in English)
 - <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=175119870077014> (tasting of 50 swede cultivars, incl. landraces, in October 2018)