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COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Item 3.3 of the Provisional Agenda

INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON FOREST GENETIC RESOURCES

Fourth Session

Rome, 10 - 12 May 2016

DRAFT SCHEDULE FOR MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE CONSERVATION, SUSTAINABLE USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF FOREST GENETIC RESOURCES

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its Fifteenth Regular Session in 2015, the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (the Commission) requested FAO to prepare a draft schedule for monitoring the implementation of the *Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources* (the Global Plan of Action) for the consideration of the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Forest Genetic Resources (the Working Group) and the Commission at their next sessions¹. Furthermore, the Commission adopted the *Strategy for the Implementation of the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources*² (the Strategy).

2. The Strategy identifies monitoring of and reporting on the implementation of the Global Plan of Action as one of its key areas. Countries should report in regular intervals (every five years) their progress in implementing the Global Plan of Action and provide FAO with implementation reports and reports on the status and trends of forest genetic resources.

3. This document provides information on the monitoring process and proposes a draft schedule, for monitoring the implementation of the Global Plan of Action. To facilitate planning efforts, the proposed draft schedule also presents key steps for preparing *The Second Report on the State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources* (SoW-FGR-2).

II. PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION

4. According to the Commission's Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW), the SoW-FGR-2 should be launched at the Commission's Nineteenth Regular Session (tentatively 2023)³. It is proposed that, prior to the launch of the SoW-FGR-2, FAO prepares two reports on the implementation of the Global Plan of Action that will be based on Country Progress Reports.

5. The First Implementation Report should be presented to the Commission at its Seventeenth Regular Session (tentatively 2019), as foreseen in the Commission's MYPOW. The Second Implementation Report should then be prepared in parallel with the SoW-FGR-2 and presented to the Commission at its Nineteenth Regular Session together with the SoW-FGR-2. Monitoring the implementation of the Global Plan of Action and the preparation of the SoW-FGR-2 will be closely integrated and complementary processes. The draft targets and indicators for forest genetic resources⁴, to be reviewed by the Working Group at its Fourth Session, will determine the scope and type of information that countries are expected to submit in their Country Progress Reports to FAO for the First and the Second Implementation Reports.

6. The proposed schedule, as presented in the *Appendix* to this document, outlines steps and activities for monitoring the implementation of the Global Plan of Action. It also shows how the monitoring efforts relate to the main steps of the SoW-FGR-2 preparation process. The proposed schedule is based on the assumption that the Commission will adopt the targets and indicators for forest genetic resources at its Sixteenth Regular Session that will be held in January 2017. This would allow FAO to finalize reporting guidelines for Country Progress Reports, as well as for progress reports of regional networks and international organizations, by March 2017. Countries, regional networks and international organizations would then be invited to submit their reports to FAO by December 2017. During 2018, FAO would process and analyse the information and data received, and prepare the Draft First Implementation Report for review by the Working Group at its Fifth Session. Quality and

¹ CGRFA-15/15/Report, paragraph 20.

² CGRFA-15/15/Report, Appendix E.

³ CGRFA-14/13/Report, Appendix I.

⁴ CGRFA/WG-FGR-4/16/3.

comprehensiveness of the First Implementation Report will largely depend on the number of countries that provide First Country Progress Reports and the quality of the information contained in these reports. Following the review by the Working Group, FAO will finalize the First Implementation Report for consideration by the Commission, at its Seventeenth Regular Session (2019).

7. Concerning the preparation of the Second Implementation Report, it is proposed that the reporting interval is shortened from five to three years. With this arrangement, countries could prepare one report that provides information for both the Second Implementation Report and the SoW-FRG-2 to be submitted to FAO by June 2020. As the next *Global Forest Resources Assessment* is also scheduled for 2020, FAO would not request any overall data on forest resources as part of this report. The proposed arrangement would allow the Working Group to review both the Draft Second Implementation Report and the Draft SoW-FGR-2 at its Seventh Session in 2022, and recommend, if needed, a review of the Global Plan of Action to the Commission's Nineteenth Regular Session in 2023. This would subsequently allow the Commission to agree upon the updated Global Plan of Action at its Twentieth Regular Session in 2025.

8. It is important to distinguish the different scopes of the Implementation Reports and the SoW-FGR-2. While the Implementation Reports mainly track national implementation of the Global Plan of Action and the status and trends of forest genetic resources in various countries and regions, the SoW-FGR-2 aims to provide a global, more comprehensive and in-depth assessment of the conservation, use and development of forest genetic resources and related issues.

III. GUIDANCE SOUGHT

9. The Working Group may wish to:

- i) review and revise, as needed, the draft schedule for monitoring the implementation of the Global Plan of Action; and
- ii) review the key steps outlined for the preparation of *The Second Report on the State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources*, and provide guidance, as appropriate.

10. The Working Group may wish to recommend that the Commission:

- i) consider the schedule for monitoring the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, as revised by the Working Group, with a view to adopt it;
- ii) encourage countries to take action, as appropriate, and prepare themselves for the collection of information and data, and timely submission of the First Country Progress Report; and
- iii) request FAO to invite regional networks on forest genetic resources and relevant international organizations to report on their contributions at the regional and global levels, respectively, to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action.

Appendix

Draft schedule for monitoring the implementation of the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources, including key steps for preparing *The Second Report on the State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources (SoW-FGR-2)*

Timeline	Steps / Activities
Preparatory steps	
2017	CGRFA-16 considers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAO progress report; • Targets and indicators for forest genetic resources; • Schedule for monitoring the implementation of the Global Plan of Action.
March 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulation of <i>Guidelines for the Preparation of Country Progress Reports</i> / guidelines for progress reports by regional networks and international organizations.
First Implementation Report	
December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline for the submission of First Country Progress Reports/ progress reports by regional networks and international organizations.
2018	ITWG-FGR-5 considers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAO progress report; • Draft First Implementation Report, prepared on the basis of First Country Progress Reports and progress reports by regional networks and international organizations; • Preparation of The Second Report on the State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources (the SoW-FGR-2); • <i>Draft Guidelines for the Preparation of Country Reports</i> (combined reporting for Second Implementation Report and for SoW-FGR-2).
2019	CGRFA-17 considers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAO progress report; • First Implementation Report, as reviewed by ITWG-FGR-5; • Preparation of the SoW-FGR-2; • <i>Draft Guidelines for the Preparation of Country Reports</i> (combined reporting for Second Implementation Report and for SoW-FGR-2).
Second Implementation Report / Preparation of SoW-FGR-2	
June 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulation of Guidelines for the Preparation of Country Reports/ guidelines for progress reports by regional networks and international organizations.
2020	ITWG-FGR-6 considers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAO progress report; • Status of preparation of the SoW-FGR-2; • Status of submission of progress reports by regional networks and international organizations.

June 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deadline for the submission of Country Reports to the Second Implementation Report and the SoW-FGR-2.• Deadline for the submission of progress reports by regional networks and international organizations.
2021	CGRFA-18 considers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FAO progress report;• Status of preparation of the Second Implementation Report and the SoW-FGR-2.
2022	ITWG-FGR-7 considers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FAO progress report;• Draft Second Implementation Report;• Draft SoW-FGR-2.
2023	CGRFA-19 considers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FAO progress report;• Second Implementation Report, as reviewed by ITWG-FGR-7;• Draft SoW-FGR-2, as reviewed by ITWG-FGR-7.
2024	ITWG-FGR-8 considers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FAO progress report;• Draft updated Global Plan of Action.
2025	CGRFA-20 considers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FAO progress report;• Draft updated Global Plan of Action, as reviewed by ITWG-FGR-8.