



The International Treaty
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



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Item 9 of the Revised Draft Provisional Agenda
INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
THIRD SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY
Tunis, Tunisia, 1 – 5 June 2009
COMPILATION OF SUBMISSIONS MADE BY CONTRACTING PARTIES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUNDING STRATEGY

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Under Article 18.1 of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, “[t]he Contracting Parties undertake to implement a funding strategy for the implementation of this Treaty”.
2. The Funding Strategy aims to enhance the availability, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of the provision of financial resources to implement activities under the Treaty.¹

II. FIRST SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

3. At its First session, the Governing Body adopted the Funding Strategy for the Implementation of the International Treaty (Resolution 1/2006), recognizing that an effective Funding Strategy is critical to the implementation of the Treaty.² The Governing Body also recognized that Contracting Parties will need to take a number of future actions to support the implementation of the Funding Strategy.³
4. In support of the implementation of the Funding Strategy, the Governing Body requested Contracting Parties and invited non-Contracting Parties to undertake, as appropriate, the following actions:⁴
 - a. To take the necessary measures within the Governing Bodies of relevant international mechanisms, funds and bodies, to ensure due priority and attention to the effective allocation of predictable and agreed resources for plans and programmes relevant for the implementation of the Treaty;
 - b. To promote voluntary contributions from sources within their country for plans and programmes relevant for the implementation of the Treaty;
 - c. To report to the Governing Body, as appropriate, on the results of actions they have taken in line with items (a) and (b) above;
 - d. To provide information to the Secretariat on bilateral assistance provided in line with the reporting provisions of *Annex 4* of the Funding Strategy.
5. The Governing Body further invited Contracting Parties to provide information to the Secretariat of the Governing Body on their own plans and programmes for building capacity in plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, and for the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

III. SECOND SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY

6. The submissions sent from Contracting Parties were compiled by the Secretariat and presented to the Governing Body at its Second Session in the document entitled “Compilation and

¹ para (iv), Resolution 1/2006 (*The Funding Strategy*), IT/GB-1/06/Report, p.2

² para (iii), Resolution 1/2006 (*The Funding Strategy*), IT/GB-1/06/Report, p.2

³ para (xiii), Resolution 1/2006 (*The Funding Strategy*), IT/GB-1/06/Report, p.3

⁴ The requests and invitations are contained in paragraph 3 of Resolution 1/2006 (*The Funding Strategy*), IT/GB-1/06/Report, p.3

Analysis of Submissions by Contracting Parties and other Relevant Organizations Concerning the Implementation of the Funding Strategy”⁵.

7. During the Second Session several Contracting Parties “*recalled Article 18.4(b) which specifies that the extent to which Contracting Parties that are developing countries and Contracting Parties with economies in transition will effectively implement their commitments under th[e] Treaty will depend on the effective allocation, particularly by the developed country Parties, of the resources referred to in this Article. Contracting Parties that are developing countries and Contracting Parties with economies in transition will accord due priority in their own plans and programmes to building capacity in plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. They expressed their disappointment at the slow pace of implementation of the Funding Strategy, and noted linkages between the mobilization of financial resources and the compliance provisions of the Treaty, stressing the need for clear signals from developed country partners of their willingness to fulfil their agreed commitments under the Treaty.*”

8. The Governing Body also stressed that “*the successful mobilization of adequate financial resources is essential to the implementation of the Treaty, and that the Funding Strategy was an essential element in this regard. It emphasized the need for Contracting Parties to provide financial resources for national activities for the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, in accordance with Article 18.4(d) of the Treaty, taking into account the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.*”

IV. SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED

9. In a Circular State Letter dated 11 June 2008, the Secretary of the Governing Body invited Contracting Parties to inform the Secretariat of “*signal and measures taken for the implementation of the Funding Strategy and of ways in which they might facilitate the provision of adequate resources by developed country Contracting Parties for the implementation of the Treaty in Contracting Parties that are developing countries and countries with economies in transition*”.

10. The Secretariat received and compiled in *Annex 1* all the submissions concerning the implementation of the Funding Strategy received before the deadline of 31 August 2008. The submissions compiled are those sent by Ecuador, Germany, Kenya, Lebanon, Niger, Pakistan, Syria and Zambia.

11. The submissions received by the Secretariat after the deadline and before the date of preparation of this document from Australia and Canada have been compiled in *Annex 2*.

⁵ IT/GB-2/07/09, [ftp://ftp.fao.org/ag/agp/planttreaty/gb2/gb2w9e.pdf](http://ftp.fao.org/ag/agp/planttreaty/gb2/gb2w9e.pdf)

**ANNEX I: SUBMISSIONS BY CONTRACTING PARTIES ON THE FUNDING
STRATEGY RECEIVED BEFORE 31 AUGUST 2008**

INTRODUCTION

This annex is a compilation of the submissions by Contracting Parties on the *Funding Strategy for the Implementation of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*, which is contained in *Appendix F* to the *Report of the First Session of the Governing Body*, and its *Annexes*, which were adopted at the Second Session and included in *Appendix D* of the *Report*.

All submissions contained in this annex were received by the Secretariat of the Treaty by 31 August 2008.

The submissions have been inserted into this annex in the form and language in which they were received. Minor editorial changes include formatting, the full rendering of acronyms and the correction of spelling.

ECUADOR

En este sentido, el Ecuador siendo un país en desarrollo, ha realizado ya dos depósitos en la Secretaría del Tratado, con lo cual esta cumpliendo con el compromiso adquirido por las Partes Contratantes, dando una señal de buena fe, en el sentido del interés que el Tratado en sí y todos sus componentes funcionen adecuadamente para cumplir con los objetivos establecidos y con componentes de gran importancia para los países en desarrollo o con economía en transición como son: uso de los RFAA, distribución de beneficios y derechos del agricultor.

GERMANY

Para 4 of annex to CSL of 3 Nov. 2006.

a) Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)

Germany was a founding member of CGIAR and in 2006 contributed 14.5 million Euro to the research centers supported by the CGIAR and other international institutions such as AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center. Funding is provided through a budget line in the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). One of the six priorities for German project funding established in 2006 is “Promoting conservation and characterisation of under-utilised plant genetic resources to increase the income of the poor”. Since 2002 support is provided to the Global Facilitation Unit for Underutilized Species (GFU), hosted by Bioversity International in Rome.

b) German Agency of Technical Cooperation (GTZ)

GTZ operates as a private-sector enterprise, owned by the Federal Republic of Germany, in the field of world-wide development cooperation with the aim to make sustainable improvements regarding the living conditions of people in partner countries, and to conserve the natural resource base on which life depends. Currently GTZ implements a supraregional project of 2.3 million Euro on food security and agrobiodiversity. Amongst other activities it is concerned with Farmers' Rights in selected countries and cooperates in this field with a Norwegian research institute which has a focus on Farmers' Rights and capacity building in view of the implementation of the Treaty. It also supports the development of improved value chains for neglected crops and breeds in technical cooperation projects. In addition, GTZ supported between 2000 and 2006 the establishment of a regional Network for the Promotion of Plant Breeding and Seed Production with regard to on-farm management.

Furthermore, bilateral projects on the sustainable management of agrobiodiversity are supported with 3.5 million Euro between 2005 and 2009, e.g. in cooperation with different provinces in China. Another bilateral project in Afghanistan, funded with 1.3 million Euro from 2007 to 2009, aims at sustainable use of the local diversity of wild plant species for nutrition and commercialisation.

KENYA

No action yet.

LEBANON

Not yet addressed.

NIGER

En tant que pays en développement, le Niger n'est pas en position de fournir d'informations sur ce point. Cependant le Niger appuie vivement cette position des pays en développement ou à économie en transition.

- Informations sur les fonds bilatéraux intéressant la stratégie de financement, disponibles auprès de sources situées sur le territoire des Parties contractantes.

Le Niger n'abrite ni mécanisme, ni fonds ou organe international (sous sa responsabilité) qui puisse allouer des fonds ou financer des activités du Traité.

PAKISTAN

The Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock during 2007-08 allocated Pak. Rs.17.193 million to Pakistan Agricultural Research Council for ex-situ conservation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and their sustainable use in accordance with Article 8.4(d) of the Treaty. The Plant Genetic Resources Institute of National Agricultural Research Centre (NARC), was further able to get financial support of US \$ 33400/- from Global Crop Diversity Trust under competitive research grants. The conservation of genetic resources for food and agriculture has been given high priority in our plans, and a national genebank with associated research labs has been established. The signals from developed countries to support the developing countries and contracting parties with economies in transition are still awaited. Pakistan has already prepared the 2nd Country Report on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture which is available on Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) and FAO Websites.

SYRIA

The Public Authority for Agriculture Scientific Research in Syria allocates some of its budget to fund programmes for the protection and development of genetic resources. However, this budget is insufficient and the Treaty could play a major role in making the necessary funds available through its mechanism; in addition to the urgent need of developing countries to donor funding.

ZAMBIA

- Information on the plans and programmes of Contracting Parties for building capacity in plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, and for the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

The National Plant Genetics Resources Programme has bilateral funding which includes support through the SADC Plant Genetics Resources Centre, support through the Genetic Resources Policy Initiative Project and support through the Government.

ANNEX II: SUBMISSIONS BY CONTRACTING PARTIES ON THE FUNDING STRATEGY RECEIVED AFTER AUGUST 2008

INTRODUCTION

This annex is a compilation of the submissions by Contracting Parties on the *Funding Strategy for the Implementation of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*, which is contained in *Appendix F* to the *Report of the First Session of the Governing Body*, and its *Annexes*, which were adopted at the Second Session and included in *Appendix D* of the *Report*.

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AUSTRALIA

Information on actions taken by Contracting Parties:

- a) *Within the Governing Bodies of the relevant international mechanism, funds and bodies to ensure due priority and attention to the effective allocation of predictable and agreed resources for plans and programmes relevant to the implementation of the treaty; and*

The Australian government is committed to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. Australia has pledged AUD \$16.5 million to the Global Crop Diversity Trust and is represented on both the Trust's Board and the Donors' Council. The Australian Government actively supports the objectives of the Trust and its close working association with the Treaty.

- b) *to promote voluntary contributions from sources within their country for plans and programmes relevant for the implementation of the Treaty.*

Australia is a federation of states. The major functional collections of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) in Australia, including significant collections of Annex 1 material, are owned by individual states. The Australian Government has briefed state and territory governments about Australia's obligations as a contracting party to the Treaty including provisions in Article 18 regarding voluntary contributions from sources with a contracting party's jurisdiction.

3. Information on bilateral funding relevant to the funding Strategy, available from sources within Contracting Parties.

Australia has funded regional workshops in the South West Pacific Region aimed at developing capacity in the field of sustainable use and conservation of both plant and animal genetic resources.

CANADA

Provision of information on signals and measures taken for the implementation of the Funding Strategy.

Canada has participated in the discussion helping for formulate the strategy and looks forward to its further development.

Contributions to the Benefit-sharing Fund.

Canada initiated the use of the SMTA on July 1, 2008. Canada plans to make an announcement concerning our first contribution to the benefit-sharing fund.

Information on actions taken by Contracting Parties:

- a) Plant Genetic Resources remain a priority for Canada which has been identified in FAO including FAO budget discussions and relevant FAO bodies (e.g. Commission on Genetic Resources).
- b) Under the umbrella of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and PROCINORTE Canada has actively participated and contributed financial resources to the northern tier task force on genetic resources (NORGEN).
- c) Canada sent approximately 6000 accessions representing about 90 species to the newly inaugurated Svalbard seed gene bank. More than 65% of the accessions were barley.

Information on bilateral funding relevant to the Funding Strategy, available from sources within Contracting Parties.

Canada (AAFC) provided CAN \$50,000.00 to FAO for development of the National Information-Sharing Mechanism and Country Reports on PGR in Algeria. The project was completed in April 2007.

Information on the plans and programmes of Contracting Parties for building capacity in plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, and for the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

Canada (CIDA) was a key earlier supporter of the Global Crop Diversity Trust and pledged US\$ 10,000,000 over a 10 years period to assist in the rapid establishment of the important initiative

Canada (CIDA) provided US \$ 304,000.00 to Bioversity International for development of the National Information-Sharing Mechanism and Country Report on PGR in eight African countries:

- Angola,
- Cameroon,
- Congo (Brazzaville),
- Guinea (Conakry),
- Malawi,
- Niger,
- Zambia and
- Uganda.

Completion of the project is planned for the end of calendar 2008.

Canada was a player in the development of the hemispheric conservation strategy for plant genetic resources in the America's and played an instrumental role in preparing the report entitled "Towards a rational Hemispheric Conservation Strategy for PFGRA" presented to the Global Crop Diversity Trust.

Numerous Canadian have participated in the development of crop specific (Barley, Fragaria, Avena, Pulse crops, Triticum, etc) conservation strategies also for the Global Crop Diversity Trust.

Canada has hosted numerous visitors to our genebank in Saskatoon and assisted in training scientists from Pakistan and China. Additionally in recent years staff at PGRC has assisted in training 2 PhD students, 3 Post-doctoral fellows, and currently 3 MSc students. A senior undergraduate course on plant genetic resource was taught in the Plant Science department, University of Saskatchewan.

Canada participates in the Bioversity International - Steering Committee of the Genetic Resources Policy which is a PGR policy capacity-building program.