



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



The International Treaty
ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

RESOLUTION 9/2017

COOPERATION WITH THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling Article 1.2 as well as Article 19.3 (g) and (l) of the International Treaty, which provide for the Governing Body to establish and maintain cooperation with, as well as to take note of the relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant international organizations and treaty bodies, and the provisions of Article 20.5, which require the Secretary to cooperate with other organizations and treaty bodies, including in particular the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

Recalling its Resolution 7/2015 regarding cooperation with the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, its subsidiary bodies and Secretariat;

Acknowledging the need for continued capacity-building support to Parties, especially developing countries, for the mutually supportive implementation of the International Treaty, the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol;

1. **Takes note** of the decisions of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, that are of relevance to the International Treaty;

2. **Requests** the Secretary to continue monitoring and participating in the relevant processes related to the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol, in order to promote practical, harmonious and appropriate interfaces among them, both nationally and internationally, including in relation to the development of any criteria for specialised instruments under the Nagoya Protocol;

3. **Thanks** the Bureau of the Seventh Session of the Governing Body for having prepared the Elements of Advice for the Global Environment Facility in relation to the International Treaty, and **welcomes** the decision by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to reflect such elements, at strategic level, in the four-year framework of programme priorities for the Global Environment Facility adopted at its thirteenth meeting and related to the seventh replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, and **takes note** of the considerations made by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, through Decision XIII/21, to develop strategic guidance for the eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund;

4. **Requests** the Secretary, together with the Ad Hoc Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilisation and the Bureau, to develop strategic guidance for the eighth replenishment of

the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, according to the invitation contained in Decision XIII/21 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

5. **Invites** Contracting Parties, in line with Article 18.4 (a) of the International Treaty, to ensure due attention to plans and programmes that support the implementation of the International Treaty within the governing bodies of the Global Environment Facility including by making use, if appropriate, of the Elements of Advice for the Global Environment Facility in relation to the International Treaty prepared by the Bureau;
6. **Notes with appreciation** the options for action to enhance cooperation, coordination and synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions developed by the workshop held in Geneva in February 2016;
7. **Welcomes** the Options for Enhancing Synergies Among the Biodiversity-related Conventions at the National Level, and the Road Map for Enhancing Synergies Among the Biodiversity-related Conventions at the International Level 2017-2020, contained in Annexes I and II of Decision XIII/24 of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;
8. **Invites** Contracting Parties to consider supporting implementation of these options, in order to further strengthen cooperation and coordination with other relevant international instruments and to enhance synergies with them;
9. **Requests** the Secretary to undertake relevant actions foreseen in these options, as appropriate and subject to the availability of financial resources, particularly in the context of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, joint work programmes with other relevant international instruments, information and knowledge management, reporting and monitoring, public communication and capacity-development activities;
10. **Notes** that the follow up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 provides an opportunity to further enhance coherence and cooperation between the International Treaty and the Convention on Biological Diversity, as appropriate, and **emphasizes** the importance of maintaining and strengthening targets for plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, including by relying on the monitoring information available through the reporting processes of the International Treaty and the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and by taking into account the experience gained in monitoring target 2.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals, and furthermore **stresses** that targets on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable use of the benefits arising out of their use should take into account the International Treaty and its Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing;
11. **Welcomes** the Secretary's invitation to the Secretariat of the CBD to become key partners in joint research on Aichi Targets related to sustainability in agriculture, and the linkages between *in situ* conservation/on-farm management and community-based initiatives and programmes for the sustainable use of crop wild relatives, landraces and underutilized species;
12. **Requests** the Secretary to continue collaborating and, as appropriate, coordinate with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, but also with the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and other relevant partners, on issues related to digital sequence information¹ in order to promote coherence and mutual supportiveness in their respective activities, and to report to the Governing Body;
13. **Requests** the Secretary to cooperate with the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity by providing information on developments and practical implementation experiences within the International Treaty, with a view to informing future discussions on Article 8(j) of the Convention on Biological Diversity and Article 10 of its Nagoya Protocol;

¹ The term is subject to further discussion. There is a recognition that there is a multiplicity of terms that have been used in this area (including, *inter alia*, "genetic sequence data", "genetic sequence information", "genetic information", "dematerialized genetic resources", "in silico utilization", etc.) and that further consideration is needed regarding the appropriate term or terms to be used.

14. **Requests** the Secretary to continue exploring technical options for increasing the visibility of the Global Information System of the International Treaty with regard to the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House of the Nagoya Protocol in areas of mutual interest for the benefit of Contracting Parties and users;
15. **Welcomes** the efforts of the Secretariats of the International Treaty and the Convention on Biological Diversity in collaborating with Bioversity International, the ABS Capacity Development Initiative and other partners to bring together stakeholders and experts involved in implementation of the International Treaty, the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol, and **requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to continue facilitating such interaction on the mutual supportiveness and harmonious implementation of the instruments, and to report the outcomes of such activities to the Governing Body;
16. **Welcomes** the engagement of the Secretariat of the International Treaty in capacity-development activities on harmonious and mutually supportive implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol and of the International Treaty and **requests** the Secretary to continue engaging in such activities, subject to the availability of financial resources;
17. **Commends** the Secretary for its efforts to cooperate with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and **requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to continue exploring with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, practical means and activities to further enhance this cooperation according to the Memorandum of Cooperation, and the Joint Initiative between the two Secretariats, and to report to the Governing Body;
18. **Requests** the Secretary to continue reporting on cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity at each Session of the Governing Body.