



联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Item 4.2 of the Provisional Agenda

Sixteenth Regular Session

Rome, 30 January - 3 February 2017

REVIEW OF THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Paragraphs
I. Introduction	1-3
II. Consultations	4-6
III. Review of the Global Plan of Action	7-13
IV. Guidance sought.....	14
<i>Appendix I:</i> Reaffirming the World's Commitment to the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources - Draft Resolution	

*This document can be accessed using the Quick Response Code on this page;
an FAO initiative to minimize its environmental impact and promote greener communications.
Other documents can be consulted at www.fao.org*



mr410

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In response to the first report on *The State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*,¹ the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Commission) identified, based on regional consultations, strategic priorities for action for the sustainable use, development and conservation of animal genetic resources. These strategic priorities formed the basis for the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources (Global Plan of Action) adopted by the International Technical Conference on Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, held in 2007 in Interlaken, Switzerland. The outcomes of the Interlaken Conference were subsequently endorsed by the FAO Conference, which requested the Commission to oversee and assess the implementation of the Global Plan of Action. The Global Plan of Action is a rolling plan, with an initial time horizon of ten years.²

2. For the purpose of preparing *The Second Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* (Second Report) countries were asked to list any aspects of animal genetic resources management that are not addressed in the current Global Plan of Action but will be important to address in the future (approximately the next ten years). The Commission, at its Fifteenth Regular Session, agreed to review the Global Plan of Action through a two-step approach: Commission Members and observers were given the opportunity to recommend, in the light of the Second Report and other relevant information, adjustments to the Global Plan of Action. In a second step, the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Working Group) was invited to consider at its Ninth Session the recommendations by Members and observers, as consolidated by the Secretariat and to make recommendations to the Commission.

3. The current document summarizes the consultations held by FAO to facilitate the review of the Global Plan of Action and presents inputs and recommendations, as revised by the Working Group at its last session. The Working Group noted that the Commission may consider submitting a draft resolution on this topic to the Director-General and inviting him to bring it to the attention of the Conference for its consideration. *Appendix I* to this document therefore presents inputs and recommendations, as revised by the Working Group, in the form of a draft Conference Resolution, for consideration of the Commission.³

II. CONSULTATIONS

4. FAO gathered inputs and recommendations for the updating of the Global Plan of Action from country responses to the Second Report questionnaire,⁴ in particular Question 77: "*In view of the possibility that at some point countries may wish to update the Global Plan of Action, please list any aspects of animal genetic resources management that are not addressed in the current Global Plan of Action but will be important to address in the future (approximately the next ten years). Please also describe why these issues are important and indicate what needs to be done to address them.*", and from an online survey distributed through the Domestic Animal Diversity Network (DAD-Net) on new and emerging issues and trends in animal genetic resources management.

5. Question 77 invited countries to indicate aspects of animal genetic resources management that are not addressed by the current Global Plan of Action and should be addressed within the next ten years. The responses to the Second Report questionnaire are reflected in *Table 1*. Based on these responses, five major emerging issues and trends were identified (see below, section III).

6. The online DAD-Net survey on new and emerging issues and trends in animal genetic resources management requested inputs on the five major emerging issues identified on the basis of responses to the questionnaire. The DAD-Net survey generated 69 responses. The respondents

¹ <http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/a1250e/a1250e00.htm>.

² Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources, Part 1, paragraph 14.

³ CGRFA-16/17/12, paragraph 21.

⁴ *Questionnaire for collecting national data to support the preparation of The Second Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*:
http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/programmes/en/genetics/documents/SoW_Country_report_questionnaire.pdf.

included 27 from national government institutions, 3 from international organizations, 1 from a sub-regional organization, 32 from research or academic institutions and 6 from non-governmental or civil society organizations. The results of the DAD-Net survey are also reflected in *Table 1*.

III. REVIEW OF THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION

7. Based on the above consultations and the Second Report, one may conclude that the Global Plan of Action continues to be relevant. None of its Strategic Priorities have become obsolete or have been fully met. Four key messages might be of particular relevance:

- Characterization, surveying and monitoring of animal genetic resources (Strategic Priority 1) at the national level, especially in developing countries, do not yet happen at satisfactory level, quality and scale. This deficiency hinders effective prioritization and planning of breeding and conservation efforts in many countries. The low level of breed population surveying and monitoring is another cause of concern.
- There continues to be an urgent need for capacity building for the management of animal genetic resources amongst government personnel and other stakeholders as described in Strategic Priority 14. Gaps exist in all relevant areas of expertise, including methods and the use of technologies for characterization, breeding and conservation; planning and policy formulation skills; as well as monitoring and evaluation.
- Many countries still lack institutional, policy, planning and regulatory frameworks for the management of animal genetic resources (Strategic Priorities 13 and 20). The absence of such frameworks hinders effective implementation of the Global Plan of Action and the communication and collaboration among relevant government agencies, institutions, donors and other partners.
- Lack of funding continues to be a major obstacle for the implementation of the Global Plan of Action. Strategic Priority 23 of the Global Plan of Action recognizes this constraint.

8. Based on the replies to the Second Report questionnaire, including Question 77, and the DAD-Net survey, five emerging issues seem to require close attention in the future management of animal genetic resources and, thus, the implementation of the Global Plan of Action:

- Climate change and animal genetic resources management;
- Impacts of the shrinking natural resource base for animal production and of natural resource degradation on animal genetic resources;
- Contribution of animal genetic resources to the delivery of ecosystem services;
- International developments with regard to access and benefit-sharing (ABS); and
- New technologies in animal genetic resources management.

9. The consultation process yielded possible actions⁵ to address the five emerging issues, to be considered in new or revised National Strategies and Action Plans for the management of animal genetic resources and prioritized in future calls for proposals under the Funding Strategy for the Implementation of the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources (Funding Strategy). These actions include the following:

- Facilitating research to better understand the relation between climate change and animal genetic resources and ecosystem services,⁶ including characterization of adaptive traits of animal breeds in their production environments;
- Raising awareness of the roles and values of local production systems harbouring locally adapted breeds within landscapes, including in relation to wildlife, and of the ecosystem services⁷ associated with these production systems and breeds;

⁵ CGRFA/WG-AnGR-9/16/2.2; paragraphs 13, 16, 18, 21 and 22.

⁶ CGRFA-16/17/Inf.16.

Table 1. Most frequently mentioned emerging issues and trends

Emerging issues and trends	<i>Questionnaire for collecting national data to support the preparation of The Second Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture</i>		DAD-Net survey	Reference in the Global Plan of Action
	Q77	Executive summary		
Climate Change ⁷	7	28	37	long-term goal of Strategic Priority Area 2
The impacts of the shrinking natural resource base for animal production on animal genetic resources	1	23	35	Strategic Priority 6
The contributions of animal genetic resources to the delivery of ecosystem services	4	18, with 7 answers highlighting the importance of breed diversity in relation to nature conservation	36	Strategic Priority 5
International developments in access and benefit sharing	4	1	32	Strategic Priorities 3, 4, 9, 21
New technologies in animal genetic resources management	2	...	33	Strategic Priorities 13, 14, 15, 16

- Protecting the natural resource base available for locally adapted production systems harbouring locally adapted breeds, as well as providing better services to livestock keeping populations operating such systems, including in times of emergencies;
- Encouraging human capacity building efforts on issues related to access and benefit-sharing of animal genetic resources, monitoring the implications of the Nagoya Protocol for the management and exchange of animal genetic resources and ensuring that the needs of the subsector are adequately addressed; and
- Monitoring and reviewing emerging technologies and their economic, social and environmental implications, especially those technologies that can advance the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, and facilitating technology transfer and capacity building to close the technology and knowledge gaps between countries.

10. The Working Group, at its Ninth Session, welcomed the stakeholder consultation process that led to the identification of existing and newly emerging issues in the management of animal genetic resources.⁸ The Working Group stressed the importance of the Second Report in identifying the needs, challenges and trends in the management of animal genetic resources, in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.⁹

11. The Working Group reaffirmed that the Global Plan of Action adopted in 2007 continues to be the key international instrument to guide the management of animal genetic resources for food and agriculture at national, regional and international levels.¹⁰

⁷ One country raised the issue both under Question 77 and in the Executive Summary of their Country Report.

⁸ CGRFA-16/17/12, paragraph 15.

⁹ CGRFA-16/17/12, paragraph 16.

¹⁰ CGRFA-16/17/12, paragraph 17.

12. The Working Group recommended that countries, in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, take into consideration current as well as new and emerging challenges and trends in the management of animal genetic resources as identified in the light of the Second Report.¹¹

13. The Working Group also agreed on a number of recommendations,¹² which are reflected in *Appendix I* to this document.

IV. GUIDANCE SOUGHT

14. The Commission may wish to:

- Review and revise, as appropriate, the recommendations contained in *Appendix I* to this document; and
- Take a decision as to whether the recommendations should be simply reflected in the report of this session or presented in the form of a draft resolution to the Director-General for submission to the Conference for its consideration.

¹¹ CGRFA-16/17/12, paragraph 18.

¹² CGRFA-16/17/12; paragraphs 19 and 20.

APPENDIX I

Reaffirming the World's Commitment to the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources

Draft Resolution

THE CONFERENCE,

Recalling the Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources (Global Plan of Action) and the Interlaken Declaration as key milestones in international efforts to manage and conserve animal genetic resources and ensure their fair and wise use in order to achieve global food security and sustainable development;

Welcoming *The Second Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* and highlighting its importance to identify and address new and emerging issues and trends in the management of animal genetic resources;

Affirming that The Global Plan of Action is a robust instrument continuing to be the key framework to address these new and emerging issues and trends at national, regional and international levels;

Recognizing the important linkages between biodiversity for food and agriculture and relevant and globally agreed instruments and frameworks, especially the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other related instruments and frameworks;

Invites Members to:

- **develop** or **strengthen** national policies, strategies and actions plans for the management of animal genetic resources, furthering the implementation of the Global Plan of Action;
- **continue** or **strengthen** characterization, surveying and monitoring of animal genetic resources;
- **integrate** animal genetic diversity into national climate change adaptation planning, addressing both their potential for adaptation to and mitigation of the effects of climate change;
- **address** the challenge of a shrinking natural resource base available for animal production by undertaking a range of measures, including, as appropriate: improving land-use planning and reducing habitat loss for livestock production and the breeds utilising such areas, especially the locally adapted breeds; strengthening the rights of indigenous peoples and pastoralist livestock keeping communities over territories, lands and natural resources; strengthening the roles of locally adapted breeds in sustainable land management; and promoting collaboration among stakeholders involved in the management of animal genetic resources and nature conservation organizations;
- **protect** the animal genetic resource base by promoting appropriate breeding and husbandry practices to control factors that contribute to the erosion of animal genetic resources diversity, and by making efforts to improve animal health, with emphasis on reducing mortality of animals;
- **support** the continued provision of ecosystem services by livestock systems, giving special consideration to locally adapted breeds, kept by small-scale livestock keepers and pastoralists, through better articulating and enhancing the economic value of these ecosystem services, and developing results-based incentive systems; and
- **consider** the distinctive features of the subsector of animal genetic resources for food and agriculture in the development and implementation of domestic access and benefit-sharing legislation, taking into account international developments in access and benefit-sharing.

Requests the Organization to:

- **continue** monitoring the current, as well as new and emerging challenges in the management of animal genetic resources, and to facilitate the reporting process on such issues under the

Global Plan of Action, *inter alia*, by further strengthening and developing DAD-IS as the global communication tool and clearing house mechanism for animal genetic resources;

- **review** the progress in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action and its relevance and orientation in light of new and emerging challenges and opportunities in the management of animal genetic resources;
- **continue** the development of technical guidelines and tools to support the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, including on emerging issues;
- **ensure** that all relevant parts of the Organization, at Headquarters, regional and country levels, are actively engaged and coordinated in promoting work on animal genetic resources, within the parameters of the FAO Strategic Objectives;
- **further support** the development and implementation of measures and tools to promote the mainstreaming of biodiversity in the livestock sector, with a view to supporting countries in the transition to sustainable food and agricultural systems.
- **support** capacity development, specifically for developing countries, and collaboration in all areas required for the integrated implementation of the Global Plan of Action, particularly in new technologies; and
- **continue** to pursue extra-budgetary funds to support the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, and to **encourage** donors to provide support to its implementation.

Calls on all partners and stakeholders, including donors, academic and research institutions, indigenous peoples, pastoralists and other livestock keeping communities, non-governmental and civil society organizations, animal breeders, private sector entities and other relevant stakeholders, to collaborate on the implementation of the Global Plan of Action.