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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations

Subject: 11th Session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Lima, 24-29 November 2025)
- *Declaration of Competence and Voting Rights and final statements*

Delegations will find in annex the Declaration of Competence and Voting Rights (ANNEX I) and the final statements delivered on behalf of the European Regional Group (ERG) (ANNEX II) for the 11th Session of the Governing Body (GB-11) of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) (Lima, 24-29 November 2025).

The Declaration of Competence and Voting Rights was approved by the Working Party on Genetic Resources and Innovation in Agriculture (Genetic Resources) at its meeting of 29-30 October 2025. All statements were agreed by the Working Party at its meeting of 10-11 November 2025, with the exception of the statements for items 9.1, 9.2, 10, 11 and 16.1 (agreed by the Working Party at its meeting of 29-30 October 2025), 17.1 (agreed on 18 November 2025 by written consultation) and 18 (agreed on 22 November 2025 by written consultation), and then further discussed at ERG coordination with a view to reaching a common ERG position.

All positions were agreed by the ERG during coordination meetings on 22-23 November 2025 and in the margins of GB-11, and the corresponding statements were delivered on behalf of the ERG.

**Eleventh session of the GOVERNING BODY
of the INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
24 -29 November 2025, Lima, Peru**

**Statement of Competences and Voting Rights
Submitted by the European Union and its Member States**

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

1. Adoption of the Agenda and Timetable

MS Competence - MS Vote

2. Election of the *Rapporteur*

MS Competence - MS Vote

3. Appointment of the Credentials Committee

MS Competence - MS Vote

4. Establishment of the Budget Committee

Shared Competence - MS Vote

II. REPORTS AND GENERAL POLICY MATTERS

5. Report of the Chair

Shared Competence - MS Vote

6. Report of the Secretary

- 6.1 Capacity Development Strategy

Shared Competence - MS Vote

7. Fostering Biodiversity and Food Security: Preserving Heritage, Cultivating a Shared Future

Shared Competence - MS Vote

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY

8. Proposal for an Amendment of the International Treaty

Shared Competence - MS Vote

9. The Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing

- 9.1 Implementation and Operations of the Multilateral System

Shared Competence - MS Vote

9.2 Enhancement of the Multilateral System

Shared Competence - MS Vote

10. The Funding Strategy of the International Treaty

Shared Competence - MS Vote

11. The Global Information System

Shared Competence - MS Vote

12. Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Shared Competence - MS Vote

13. Farmers' Rights

Shared Competence - MS Vote

14. Compliance

Shared Competence - MS Vote

15. Contribution of FAO to the Implementation of the International Treaty

Shared Competence - MS Vote

16. Cooperation with International Instruments and Organizations

16.1 Cooperation with the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Shared Competence - MS Vote

16.2 Cooperation with the Global Crop Diversity Trust

Shared Competence - MS Vote

16.3 Cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol

Shared Competence - MS Vote

16.4 Cooperation with other International Bodies and Organizations

Shared Competence - MS Vote

IV. PROGRAMME OF WORK AND BUDGET AND RELATED MATTERS

17. Multi-Year Programme of Work of the International Treaty

17.1 Review of the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the International Treaty

Shared Competence - MS Vote

17.2 Consideration of "Digital Sequence Information/Genetic Sequence Data" on Genetic Resources for the Objectives of the International Treaty

Shared Competence - MS Vote

18. Adoption of the Work Programme and Budget

Shared Competence - MS Vote

V. ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER MATTERS

19. Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Twelfth Session

MS Competence - MS Vote

20. Date and Place of the Twelfth Session

MS Competence - MS Vote

21. Adoption of the Report

Shared Competence - MS Vote

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Opening statement of the European Regional Group
23 November 2025**

Mr Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of the European Regional Group, allow me to begin by expressing our sincere gratitude to the Co-hosts and the Secretariat for their dedicated work in preparing this Eleventh Session of the Governing Body. We also thank all Parties and stakeholders for their continued commitment to the objectives and the implementation of the International Treaty.

It is a unique opportunity to have this important Governing Body in Peru, one of the centres of origin of crop diversity, as well as the first time in South America.

We approach this session with optimism and determination. This Governing Body is in a critical phase, particularly the enhancement of the Multilateral System — yet we believe that through constructive dialogue, flexibility, and mutual understanding, we can identify solutions that are fair, balanced, and sustainable. The European Regional Group stands ready to engage in good faith and to work towards compromises that can deliver realistic and workable outcomes at this Governing Body.

At the same time, we recognize the importance of advancing on other key areas of the Treaty, including the realization of Farmers' Rights, the strengthening of the Global Information System, Conservation and Sustainable Use, and the effective implementation of the Funding Strategy. These elements are essential to achieving the Treaty's vision and to ensuring sustainability, resilience and innovation in our agriculture and food systems, particularly in the face of global challenges such as climate change and food security.

We are confident that, together, we can make meaningful progress that reinforces the Treaty's role as a cornerstone of global food security and crop diversity conservation. The European Regional Group remains fully committed to supporting this collective endeavor.

We wish all participants a successful and productive GB-11.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
23 November 2025**

Agenda item 4: Establishment of the Budget Committee

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We thank the Secretariat and the Bureau of the Eleventh Session for preparing the draft Work Programme and Budget for the biennium 2026–2027.
3. In order to guide the work of the Budget Committee, we would like to highlight the two following main elements:
4. First, given the importance of the Treaty’s objectives and the ambitious workplan we are likely to set, a strengthened core budget would have been desirable, but given the difficult overall financial situation, we agree to a zero nominal growth budget.
5. Second, an enhanced MLS will require important support for its implementation. We appreciate the estimate provided for this work and support that such investments are made as well as the combinations of measures to finance them.
6. With these remarks, we look forward to hearing the recommendations of the Budget Committee later this week.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
22 November 2025**

Agenda item 5: Report of the Chair

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We thank you for preparing the Report that describes the high number of activities and achievements undertaken by you in your capacity as Chair of the Eleventh Session of the Governing Body and in close cooperation with the Bureau and Secretary of the International Treaty and his Team.
3. We highly appreciate all efforts that have been made to continue our work to meet the challenges surrounding conservation, sustainable use and access and benefit-sharing of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA). These are indeed issues that demand global solutions.
4. We appreciate the active collaboration and support of the Bureau to deliver the outputs the Governing Body has requested.
5. Mr Chair, we would like to warmly thank you for the determined and efficient work undertaken and for the manner in which you have led the implementation of the International Treaty towards this session.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

Amendments to the draft resolution

- No draft resolution.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
22 November 2025**

Agenda item 6: Report of the Secretary

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We thank the Secretary for the comprehensive Report. We express our appreciation to the Secretary and his entire team for their continuous efforts, work and organisation of all activities mentioned in the Report.
3. We welcome the steady increase of Contracting Parties to the Treaty, now reaching 155. We congratulate The Kingdom of Bahrain, The Republic of Colombia, South Africa and Barbados for joining the Treaty.
4. We highlight the progress achieved in the implementation of the Funding Strategy and the Benefit-sharing Fund, and the completion of contracting 28 projects under its 5th cycle. We commend all contributors for their financial support and note with satisfaction the preparations for launching the 6th funding cycle.
5. We highly value the effective cooperation between the Secretariat, the Global Crop Diversity Trust and other partners, in providing emergency support to germplasm collections at risk in several countries and in supporting the successful relocation and safeguarding of Ukraine's national seed collection.
6. We welcome the progress achieved under the MLS, which continues to facilitate a growing number of material transfers globally. We encourage continued efforts to enhance the MLS and particularly note the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to prepare the draft proposal for enhancing the functioning of the MLS.

7. We appreciate the finalization of the draft Capacity Development Strategy and the draft Action Plan for its implementation, which provide important tools to strengthen national capacities for Treaty implementation.
8. We further welcome the Secretariat's effort to modernize and enhance communication, visibility and youth engagement, notably through the redesigned website, expanded social media presence and the 20th anniversary campaign.
9. We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the organisation of the 11th Session of the Governing Body. We reaffirm our continued support for the International Treaty as a cornerstone of global efforts to conserve and sustainably use plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
23 November 2025**

Agenda item 6.1: Capacity Development Strategy and Draft Action Plan of the International Treaty

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We would like to thank the Secretariat for preparing the draft Capacity Development Strategy of the International Treaty (2026 – 2030) and the draft Action Plan that were circulated for comments to the Contracting Parties and other stakeholders.
3. We thank the Secretariat for reflecting in the draft Capacity Development Strategy the agreed guidance of the Governing Body included in Resolution 10/2023 and for ensuring full consistency with the ITPGRFA and all relevant resolutions of the Governing Body, as well as with other relevant processes and bodies, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA).
4. We are pleased to see the text of the draft Capacity Development Strategy (2026 – 2030) significantly strengthened and made more operational, notably through the explicit inclusion of gender- and youth-responsive approaches, collaboration between the public and private sectors, the emphasis on mutual cooperation, and the clearer articulation of practical activities to support implementation.
5. We also welcome the decision to use the Global Information System (GLIS) rather than creating a new portal, with a dedicated GLIS section for sharing capacity-development opportunities and the publication of a landscape report, which will enhance coherence and improve the efficient use of resources.

6. We think that Activities I and III in the Action Plan of tasks to be conducted by the Secretariat should be prioritised. Therefore, we ask that Activity II be postponed to the next biennium.
7. Our expectations are that this strategy and action plan on capacity building will facilitate a coherent and coordinated approach. Resolutions on the different agenda items related to capacity building should take this strategy and action plan into consideration.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

Amendments to the draft resolution

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Reaffirming the importance of having a Capacity Development Strategy to promote and enhance implementation of the International Treaty by improving coherency in planning and delivering capacity development, using resources efficiently and optimizing results and impact through sectoral capacity development activities brought into a coherent vision of implementation;

Further reaffirming the importance of accompanying the Strategy with an Action Plan to make the Strategy operational;

1. **Approves** the Capacity Development Strategy of the International Treaty (2026–2030), as contained in Annex 1 to this Resolution;
2. **Further approves** the Action Plan (2026–2030), **as amended by the Eleventh Session of the Governing Body and** contained in Annex 2 to this Resolution, as an integral part of the Strategy;
3. **Requests** the Secretary to support and facilitate the implementation of the Strategy in accordance with its Action Plan, in partnership with key players and stakeholders for the realisation of the overall goal and outcomes;
4. **Calls on** Contracting Parties and other stakeholders with the capacity to do so, to promote access to available financial and other resources, including those derived from non-monetary benefit-sharing, in order to implement the Strategy and the Action Plan;
5. **Requests** the Secretary to report on progress in the implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan at the Twelfth Session **and subsequent sessions** of the Governing Body.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Lima, 24-29
November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
23 November 2025**

Agenda item 7: Fostering Biodiversity and Food Security: Preserving Heritage, Cultivating a Shared Future

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We would like to thank the Secretary for a thoughtful document that combines both substantive content and symbolic value.
3. We thank Peru and Switzerland for co-hosting this Eleventh Session and wish in particular to recognize Peru's importance as a center of origin for globally significant crops, and for its rich traditional knowledge and sustainable agricultural practices that contribute to a shared and sustainable future.
4. We welcome the call to strengthen multilateral cooperation through the Treaty, as we renew our commitment to promoting plant genetic diversity and ensuring food security and nutrition for all.
5. We recognize the importance of the Treaty in promoting opportunity crops and fostering their adoption and use to enhance food security in the context of climate change.
6. We recognize the importance of involving and engaging youth groups in the work of the Treaty. Therefore, we encourage continued efforts to ensure their meaningful inclusion and look forward to the preparations for a strategy in this regard.

7. We agree with the resolution but would request for consistent use of terminology. In particular, to refer to “food security and nutrition”, as well as to “productive, inclusive, sustainable and resilient food systems”.
8. Additionally, in paragraph 7, the Governing Body should “invite” Contracting Parties to implement policies and programs that support family farming initiatives, rather than “recommending” them. All the suggested changes will be submitted to you in writing, and I will read them out now.
9. But most of all, we would like to express again our sincere appreciation to the Secretary and his entire team for the preparation of the 11th Session of the Governing Body and wish you the best of luck during the week ahead.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

Amendments to the draft resolution

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Noting the theme of the Eleventh Session, “**Fostering Biodiversity and Food Security: Preserving Heritage, Cultivating a Shared Future**,” which reflects the interconnectedness of biodiversity, food security, cultural heritage, and intergenerational equity;

Recognizing that biodiversity is the foundation of sustainable agriculture, food security **and nutrition**, and climate resilience, and that plant genetic resources are essential to the protection and advancement of **sustainable** food systems;

Recalling the objectives of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, particularly the commitment to the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, the fair and equitable sharing of benefits, as well as the provisions related to the protection and promotion of Farmers' Rights;

Noting with concern the growing challenges to food security from climate change, land degradation, soil erosion, biodiversity loss and other facets of the multidimensional global crisis and emphasizing the need for **productive, inclusive, sustainable and resilient food systems** through the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA;

Recognizing the critical role of biodiversity, traditional knowledge, and innovation in addressing global challenges, including climate change, food insecurity, the erosion of agricultural diversity and poverty alleviation;

Affirming the shared responsibility of all nations to conserve biodiversity and promote **productive, inclusive, sustainable and resilient and inclusive agrifood systems;**

Recognizing that our interconnectedness across generations and borders shapes our collective future;

Acknowledging the critical role of smallholder, family farmers, indigenous and local communities, and women farmers as custodians of crop diversity and traditional knowledge, which are essential for maintaining the resilience and sustainability **of food systems to achieve food security and nutrition** ~~global agrifood systems and food security;~~

Acknowledging the essential contributions of collection managers, plant breeders, genetic resource curators, and researchers, whose work underpins the conservation, characterization, and sustainable use of PGRFA; their expertise contributes to the conservation of diverse genetic material, its accessibility, and effective use to develop improved crop varieties, enhance resilience to pests and climate stress, and support innovation across **agrifood systems;**

Emphasizing the importance of youth engagement in ensuring the Treaty implementation, including the preservation of traditional knowledge and fostering innovation for the sustainable use of plant genetic resources;

Affirming that the preservation of traditional knowledge and **sustainable** agricultural practices is crucial for maintaining plant genetic diversity, strengthening food security, and enhancing resilience to climate change;

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation under the framework of the International Treaty in strengthening global and local efforts to conserve and sustainably use crop diversity and promote **productive, inclusive, sustainable and resilient food systems to achieve food security and nutrition** ~~agriculture and food security;~~

1. **Thanks** the Governments of Peru and Switzerland for their collaboration in co-hosting the Eleventh Session of the Governing Body in Lima, exemplifying the spirit of international partnership and shared responsibility, and **encourages** further collaboration among Contracting Parties to foster innovative solutions for biodiversity conservation and food security;
2. **Affirms** the central role of the International Treaty in fostering the link between biodiversity conservation and food security, and in supporting the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources;
3. **Encourages** Contracting Parties to support the role of smallholder and family farmers, women farmers, indigenous and local communities, and youth in PGRFA conservation, and to promote policies that protect traditional knowledge and ensure equitable access to resources;
4. **Welcomes** the designation of 2026 as the International Year of the Woman Farmer, and invites Contracting Parties to actively participate in and support the observance of the Year, including by celebrating the role of women in agriculture and their contributions to biodiversity conservation and by promoting concrete initiatives led by women and policies that encourage their economic autonomy;
5. **Calls** for increased recognition of women farmers' contributions to food security, nutrition, and biodiversity conservation, and **urges** Contracting Parties to adopt measures that protect and promote their rights and enhance their participation in decision-making processes;
6. **Requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to participate in and contribute to the broader efforts and relevant activities for the observance, promotion or celebration of the International Year of the Woman Farmer, at both the international and national levels, and report on such efforts and activities to the Twelfth Session of the Governing Body;
7. **Recalls** the ongoing relevance of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028) and **recommends that invites** Contracting Parties **to implement** policies and programs that support family farming initiatives, aligning with the goals of the Decade of Family Farming and the implementation of relevant activities under the Treaty;
8. **Recognizes** Peru as a center of origin or diversification of important crops essential for **the** world's food security and a leader in safeguarding such crops and agricultural knowledge;
9. **Emphasizes** the importance of building **climate-resilient, productive, inclusive, sustainable and resilient** food systems grounded in diverse, nutritious, and climate-adapted crops grown in a sustainable manner;

10. **Recognizes** that a wide range of indigenous and traditional food crops still under cultivation are highly nutritious and adaptable to local conditions and **climate change** erratic weather; and that despite being underutilized and underinvested, they offer great economic opportunities, especially **including** for women and youth **and hold potential for improved livelihoods, poverty alleviation and broader sustainable development.**
11. **Stresses** the importance of elevating the nexus between plant genetic resource conservation and use of these opportunity crops and the building of **productive, inclusive, sustainable** and resilient agri-food systems into the global and national agendas;
12. **Urges** Contracting Parties to:
 - a. improve conservation of plant genetic resources of opportunity crops in seed banks;
 - b. accelerate plant breeding efforts and enhance value chain development by also stimulating local markets, and strengthening local seed systems support;
 - c. promote consumer demand and consumption of foods from opportunity crops as part of healthy diets, **and incorporate taking into account** local preferences and local production;
 - d. improve sustainable agricultural practices and the efficiency and resilience of crop systems by making use of opportunity crops and their genetic diversity;
 - e. mainstream opportunity crops within national policies and plans for diversification of food production to reduce overreliance on a few staple crops as well as diversification of food consumption in favour of more diverse, nutritious, **balanced** and healthy diets;
13. **Urges Encourages** Contracting Parties to participate in collaborative international efforts to promote the adoption of “opportunity crops” and the enhanced conservation and sustainable use of their plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;
14. **Encourages** Contracting Parties to facilitate the active involvement of youth in the implementation of the Treaty, including through education, capacity-building, and structured opportunities for innovation and intergenerational knowledge exchange, recognizing them as present and future custodians of agricultural biodiversity, and **to in particular consider including** youth representatives and experts in their delegations to the Governing Body or its subsidiary bodies;
15. **Requests** the Secretariat to develop a draft Strategy to facilitate the engagement of youth groups in supporting the implementation and discussions of the International Treaty, for consideration by the Governing Body at its Twelfth Session. Such a Strategy should aim at facilitating the inclusion of young people;

16. **Urges** Contracting Parties to respect and promote the preservation of cultural and culinary traditions and heritage linked to PGRFA, showcasing the role of biodiversity in food systems;
17. **Invites** Contracting Parties to continue supporting the implementation of the Treaty's objectives, especially through capacity development and inclusive and effective engagement of women, youth, smallholder and family farmers, indigenous and local communities;
18. **Encourages** all Contracting Parties to embrace the theme of GB-11 and work together to build a sustainable, biodiverse future for food security and nutrition, recognizing that our shared future depends on our collective efforts today.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
22 November 2025**

Agenda item 9.1: Implementation and Operations of the Multilateral System

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We thank the Secretariat for preparing the documentation on the MLS and also for their efforts in supporting the implementation and operations of the MLS, and in particular their support to users. We thank the CGIAR for the fourth report on the Status of Implementation of the CGIAR Principles on the Management of Intellectual Assets.
3. Regarding availability of material in MLS, we were pleased to note that detailed information has been included about the number of accessions notified as available in the MLS. We were happy to read that the total number of accessions available in the MLS has continued to increase.
4. Having said that, we note that a large number of contracting parties have not made any material available in the MLS. As the availability of a wide range of PGRFA for research and breeding is essential to address the challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss, and to achieve food security, we propose an addition to paragraph 1 bis to the Draft Resolution, reiterating the call for Contracting Parties as well as natural and legal persons to make material available under the MLS.
5. We are looking forward to the *Comprehensive Analysis of the Operations of the Multilateral System – Insights and key figures*, but regret it was not made available before GB11.
6. We welcome the support and capacity building activities conducted by the Secretariat on the implementation of the MLS and recommend that these activities continue. These activities should include guidance and training to support the understanding and uptake of the new SMTA, if agreed at GB11.

7. We noted with appreciation the continuing increase in the use of the SMTA and in transfers of PGRFA, and the increased share of the Contracting Parties in these transfers. We appreciate the information on the number of transfers broken down by source region, region of the recipient, and individual CGIAR centres, but would also like to see this information per individual country.
8. As requested by previous Governing Bodies, we would also like to see a distinction between domestic and international transfers. Accordingly, we propose an addition to paragraph 5 of the draft resolution.
9. We welcome the documentation on Possible Measures to Encourage Natural and Legal Persons to Include Material in the MLS. We recommend that all National Focal points are made aware of this, so that they can use it as a basis to encourage and support natural and legal persons in their countries to make material available in the MLS.
10. We highly appreciate the assistance provided under the Emergency Reserve to gene banks in Ukraine, Laos, Guatemala, Sudan, the Philippines, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Zambia.
11. With respect to the Draft Resolution, we will read out our proposals. We agree with the draft resolutions in the documents 9.1.2, 9.1.3, and 9.1.4, which we noted to be partly, but not completely, integrated in the Draft Resolution contained in document 9.1.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

Amendments to the draft resolution

DRAFT RESOLUTION **/2025 IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATIONS OF THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM OF ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling previous Resolutions on the operations and implementation of the Multilateral System, in particular, Resolutions 2/2023 and 2/2022;

Recalling the importance of continued guidance to Contracting Parties and Article 15 institutions for effective and efficient operations of the Multilateral System;

Recalling the provisions of Articles 11.2 and 5.1 (a) of the International Treaty;

Recalling further the provisions of Articles 6.5 and 6.6 of the Standard Material Transfer Agreement (SMTA) d Article 15.1(a) of the International Treaty;

PART I: AVAILABILITY AND TRANSFER OF MATERIAL IN THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM

Recognizing the significant increase in the material available in the Multilateral System,

1. **Welcomes** the continued growth in the availability of PGRFA in the Multilateral System, which reached approximately 2.6 million PGRFA in 2025;

Ibis. Reiterates its appeal to both Contracting Parties and natural and legal persons to make their plant genetic resources for food and agriculture available in the Multilateral System;

2. **Reiterates** the invitation to Contracting Parties and other holders to report on PGRFA under their management and control that are in the Multilateral System, in accordance with Article 11.2 of the International Treaty;

3. **Encourages** Contracting Parties and other providers to ensure that materials made available in the Multilateral System are accompanied, where possible, by high-quality passport data, characterization and other available information, thereby enhancing their value for users;

4. **Invites** Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholders to strengthen linkages between the Multilateral System and global efforts to secure crop diversity, including through safety duplication in the Svalbard Global Seed Vault and other secure facilities;

5. **Requests** the Secretary to continue publishing the report on the availability **and transfer** of material in the Multilateral System, **and to include in the report information on transfers of PGRFA per individual country and a distinction between domestic and international transfers as well as the information requested in Resolution 2/2022 § 4 and recalled in resolution 2/2023;**

6. **Encourages** the voluntary use of Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) from the Global Information System (GLIS) for identifying Multilateral System material;

7. **Invites** Contracting Parties to promote capacity development and awareness-raising to increase the availability of PGRFA in the Multilateral System, and **requests** the Secretary to facilitate such activities, subject to the availability of resources.

PART II: OPERATIONS OF THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM

Acknowledging the critical role of Easy-SMTA in facilitating the reporting and management of Standard Material Transfer Agreements, which has supported the registration of over 28 000 users and the reporting of more than 116 000 SMTAs;

Highlighting the importance of ensuring equitable access to PGRFA for all users, including smallholder farmers, Indigenous and local communities, and institutions in developing countries;

1. **Takes note of Thanks** the **Secretariat for its** continued support ~~provided by the Secretariat~~ to providers and users of the Multilateral System through the help-desk, online training, webinars and regional workshops;
2. **Welcomes** the enhancement of Easy-SMTA and the publication of training materials in multiple languages, and **requests** the Secretary to continue updating and promoting it, including through multilingual training materials and technical support, to ensure inclusive and effective participation in the Multilateral System;
3. **Requests** the Secretary to continue exploring innovative digital solutions or other secure tools to enhance transparency and trust in SMTA reporting, subject to the availability of resources;
4. **Welcomes** the adaptation and translation of the online training Module on the Multilateral System in French and **requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to make it available in other official languages and to promote its use;
5. **Requests** the Secretary to maintain and improve the MLS Data Store and reporting tools, including support for manual and automated SMTA reporting;
6. **Welcomes** the preparation of the *Comprehensive analysis of the operations of the Multilateral System – Insights and key figures*, and **requests** the Secretary to continue to document and publish national experiences in implementation of the Multilateral System in reports on the International Treaty website, and through other communication channels;
7. **Encourages** closer collaboration with other relevant international initiatives (such as the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, CGIAR initiatives, and regional networks) to harmonize data standards and improve interoperability of information systems;
8. **Recognizes** the role of the Multilateral System in contributing to SDG Targets 2.5 and 15.6, and **encourages** continued reporting to support global biodiversity frameworks, especially the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, thereby enhancing policy coherence and visibility of the Multilateral System’s contributions;
9. **Calls upon** Contracting Parties and stakeholders to support inclusive capacity development initiatives.
10. **Calls upon** Contracting Parties and other donors, in a position to do so, to provide adequate financial and technical resources to strengthen national focal points and designated authorities responsible for the Multilateral System;

PART III: CONTRIBUTION OF THE CGIAR CENTERS TO THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM

Recognizing the commitment of all Article 15 institutions as a vital contribution to the effective functioning of the Multilateral System and the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA;

1. **Expresses appreciation** to the CGIAR Centers for their continued dedication to the management of the Article 15 collections under the International Treaty, including their efforts to add value to these collections through robust information management systems, scientific research and the maintenance of high phytosanitary standards;
2. **Notes** that CGIAR Centers have distributed about 6 million PGRFA since 2007, with significant regional spread and outreach;
3. **Acknowledges** the commitment of Article 15 institutions to the regeneration and distribution of PGRFA, ensuring their availability and integrity for users of the Multilateral System;
4. **Thanks** the CGIAR System for its consistent and sustained support to the international network of gene banks amid evolving institutional and financial challenges;
5. **Encourages** the CGIAR System to further integrate benefit-sharing considerations into their partnerships with private sector entities, ensuring alignment with the objectives of the International Treaty;
6. **Invites** the CGIAR Centers to report, where feasible, on the socio-economic impacts of their distributions of PGRFA, especially in developing countries;
7. **Thanks** the CGIAR System for submission of the report on the *Status of Implementation of the CGIAR Principles on the Management of Intellectual Assets* and the increased transparency in Centers' communications when entering into restrictive agreements concerning plant germplasm or information generated from the use of such germplasm;
8. **Invites** the CGIAR System to continue to report on the application of the CGIAR Principles on the Management of Intellectual Assets to germplasm managed under the framework of the International Treaty, parts thereof, or information generated from the use of this germplasm;

PART IV: OPERATION OF THE THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARY

Recalling that the Governing Body, at its Third Session, had approved the *Third Party Beneficiary Procedures* for the carrying out of the roles and responsibilities of the Third Party Beneficiary, as identified and prescribed in the Standard Material Transfer Agreement under the direction of the Governing Body;

Recalling further that, in accordance with Article 4.2 of the *Third Party Beneficiary Procedures*, the Third Party Beneficiary may receive information on possible non-compliance with the obligations of the provider and recipient under an SMTA from any natural or legal persons;

Recognizing that the Third Party Beneficiary will require adequate financial and other resources and that FAO, acting as Third Party Beneficiary, shall not incur any liabilities in excess of the funds available in the Third Party Beneficiary Operational Reserve;

1. **Notes** the Report on the Operation of the Third Party Beneficiary and further **requests** the Secretary and FAO to continue to provide, at each Session of the Governing Body, such a report;

2. **Stresses the importance** for the effective functioning of the Third Party Beneficiary, of Article 4.2 of the *Third Party Beneficiary Procedures*, according to which the Third Party Beneficiary may receive information on possible non-compliance with the obligations of the provider and recipient under an SMTA from the parties under the SMTA or any other natural or legal persons;

3. **Decides** to maintain the Third Party Beneficiary Operational Reserve for the 2026–2027 biennium at the current level of USD 283 280 and to review the same at its Twelfth Session, and **calls** upon Contracting Parties that have not yet done so, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other entities to contribute to the Reserve;

4. **Authorizes** the Secretary to draw upon the Third Party Beneficiary Operational Reserve, as may be needed, for implementation of the functions of the Third Party Beneficiary;

5. **Welcomes** the exercise of amicable dispute settlement functions by the Secretariat of the International Treaty for the resolution of potential cases involving the application to the SMTA for transfers of PGRFA available in the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing;

6. **Further welcomes** the functional and cost-effective information technology tools and infrastructure that the Secretary has developed to facilitate the submission, collection and storage of information in the implementation of Article 4.1 of the *Third Party Beneficiary Procedures*, and **requests** the Secretary to apply adequate measures to ensure the integrity and, where required, the confidentiality of information, while continuing the further development of the International Treaty information technology tools and infrastructure, including in accordance with the Vision and the Programme of Work of the Global Information System.

PART V: REVIEWS AND ASSESSMENTS UNDER THE MULTILATERAL SYSTEM AND OF THE IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION OF THE STANDARD MATERIAL TRANSFER AGREEMENT

1. **Encourages** natural and legal persons to consider including plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in the Multilateral System as a trust-building measure during the implementation phase of the enhanced Multilateral System;
2. **Invites** Contracting Parties to capitalize on the measures already taken to encourage and support natural and legal persons to make plant genetic resources for food and agriculture available in the Multilateral System, and to adopt additional measures;
3. **Encourages** Contracting Parties to share national experiences, case studies and best practices on measures taken to include materials in the Multilateral System, for wider dissemination through the Secretariat's platforms;
4. **Invites** Contracting Parties, especially national focal points, to make use of the briefing note prepared by the Secretary and available on the website of the International Treaty, when encouraging natural and legal persons to voluntarily include plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in the Multilateral System;
5. **Further invites** Contracting Parties, and other stakeholders in a position to do so, to promote capacity development and awareness-raising in order to increase the availability of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in the Multilateral System, and **requests** the Secretary to facilitate such activities, subject to the availability of resources;
6. **Requests** the Secretary to monitor progress on the voluntary inclusion of PGRFA in the Multilateral System by natural and legal persons and to report to the relevant intersessional bodies that request data from the Multilateral System;
7. **Encourages** the Secretary to integrate considerations of the role of youth in the reviews and assessments of the Multilateral System, to better reflect the inclusive objectives of the International Treaty;
8. **Decides** to undertake the reviews and assessments foreseen under Articles 11.4 and 13.2d(ii) of the International Treaty [as part of its decision on enhancing the functioning of the Multilateral System].

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
23 November 2025**

Agenda item 9.2: Enhancement of the Multilateral System

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We thank the Secretariat for the report on the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System, and the Working Group for its intensive work during the biennium. We acknowledge the excellent and inclusive leadership of the co-Chairs and also wish to thank the Standing Group of Legal Experts for their outstanding work and highly valuable inputs despite the tight deadlines.
3. Availability of and facilitated access to plant germplasm for research and breeding is key to address the challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss, and to achieve food security. It is necessary in order to develop the plant varieties which are needed for our future food systems.
4. An enhanced MLS must be a win-win system, generating a predictable and continuous flow of money into the Benefit-Sharing Fund, particularly user-based income, as well as providing a much broader range of material available in the system. These two aspects are closely linked, and one cannot be achieved without the other. We are committed to seeking a balanced and legally certain solution that generates trust.
5. The expansion of Annex I to all PGRFA in *ex situ* collections under management and control of Contracting Parties and in the public domain, with the introduced safeguards, is crucial to attract commercial users to participate in the enhanced MLS.

6. The enhanced MLS requires to provide continued access for a wide range of users with different needs and operating realities. There are still different views within our region, which access options to include to achieve this. Payment rates and threshold need to reflect the economic realities of the different users, this is a key to a balanced package of measures.
7. It is key for us that the enhanced system remains attractive to the breeding sector.
8. Regarding DSI/GSD, we acknowledge the changing ABS landscape and the need to address it within the package of measures in a way that suits the specificities of our sector. In doing so, we need to keep in mind both the need to ensure a mutually supportive implementation of different instruments, and avoid double payments. Realistic payment rates will also be key in contributing to a balanced package of measures.
9. Besides the three hotspots, there are several additional issues to be addressed at this session. The most salient ones are: the genetic contribution as criterion for use of the SMTA for material under development and payment requirements in the single access option; the transparency with regard to user-based payments into the Benefit-sharing Fund; the aspect of addressing intellectual property rights in the SMTA; the definition of sales; the inclusion of affiliates; the distinction between restricted and unrestricted products in the subscription system; and an agreement on the fall-back system when the Governing Body will review the implementation of the enhanced system.
10. We appreciate that all Contracting Parties and regions have already made major concessions and compromises to move towards each other and find a joint solution. We consider the draft package developed by the working group as a good basis to reach a final agreement.
11. We are committed to search for compromises to solve all outstanding issues in order to see the enhanced MLS come into force, and you can count on our region to work constructively towards a successful outcome. A success in Lima would leave us with an enhanced MLS fit for the future.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
23 November 2025**

Agenda item 10: Report of the Standing Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilization to the Eleventh Session of the Governing Body

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group .
2. We thank the Secretariat for the working documents prepared for this agenda item.
3. We welcome the report of the Funding Committee and thank it for its significant contribution during the biennium to the different ongoing topics and processes. We appreciate the significant work that has been conducted.
4. We look forward to continuing to hear about further developments in the implementation of the Funding Strategy at the next sessions of the Governing Body, including on the results from the implementation of the Processing Industry Engagement Strategy, which adds an important element for resource mobilization.
5. We commend the Secretariat for its ongoing collaboration with other FAO units and other relevant agencies in implementing the Funding Strategy. We hope that these partnerships and synergies will continue to be strengthened in the future, particularly with respect to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the support for countries in the integration of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in relevant policies and strategies, such as the NBSAPs, and the overall efforts on resource mobilization.
6. The Committee had the privilege to be updated on many relevant processes of relevance to funding opportunities for PGRFA that we believe could be beneficial to Contracting Parties that are eligible for support from the different funding mechanisms. Thus, we encourage the Secretariat to consider how to make sure that more Contracting Parties benefit from the information provided to the Funding Committee.

7. We thank all countries, that have financially supported the Fund for Agreed Purposes, and other funds under the direct control of the Governing Body, as well as making the launch of the Fifth Project Cycle of the Benefit-sharing Fund possible. Our region is a firm contributor to the different funds of the Treaty. We urge Contracting Parties and stakeholders from other regions to also support the funding tools of the Treaty.
8. We also thank the Contracting Parties that have provided support for the participation of representatives from developing countries and from countries with economies in transition in this Governing Body.
9. In this regard, we request the Secretariat to report, at subsequent sessions of the Governing Body, on the contributions made by Contracting Parties to the Funds established for this purpose.
10. We welcome the further user-based payments under the Multilateral System to the Benefit-sharing Fund as well as all voluntary contributions received. We are pleased to note a positive trend in user-based payments.
11. However, we note that to date only 2% of the income of the Benefit-sharing Fund are mandatory user-based contributions.
12. We reiterate the ongoing need for ensuring an enhanced and predictable flow of resources to the Benefit-sharing Fund. A target for Benefit-sharing Fund is closely linked to the enhancement of the Multilateral System, and should therefore be taken into considerations in our discussions. Therefore, we would like to come back to this issue at the end of the week.
13. We agree with the draft resolution, with the additions raised in this statement and the further following amendments.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

Amendments to the draft resolution

DRAFT RESOLUTION **/2025 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUNDING STRATEGY OF THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY 2020 – 2027

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling Articles 13.2, 13.3, 18 (in particular 18.4) and 19.3f of the International Treaty;

Recalling Resolution 3/2019 through which the Funding Strategy of the International Treaty for the period 2020 to 2025 was adopted, in order to enhance the availability, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of the provision of financial resources to implement activities under this Treaty, and through which it decided to make the Committee a standing Committee;

Recalling Resolution 4/2023 through which it decided to revise the timeline of the Funding Strategy from 2020-2025 to 2020-2027 to enable the Treaty to build upon the opportunities and momentum arising from the recent adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF or GBF), and to enable the Funding Committee to support the finalisation of the process for the enhancement of the Multilateral System in the next biennium;

Recalling its previous Resolutions on the Funding Strategy, in particular, Resolution 4/2022 and Resolution 4/2023;

1. **Welcomes** the report of the Standing Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilization (the Funding Committee or Committee) and the progress made in implementing the Funding Strategy since its adoption, and thanks the Committee for its significant contribution during the biennium to the process for the enhancement of the Multilateral System;

PART I: FUNDING STRATEGY

2. **Recalling** that the review of the Funding Strategy is scheduled for the 2025-2027 biennium and that the first three years of the Funding Strategy were implemented mostly during the COVID-19 pandemic, requests the Committee to undertake a light review of the implementation of the Funding Strategy for the consideration of the Governing Body at its next session;

3. **Requests** the Funding Committee to continue to play a leading role in advancing the implementation and monitoring of the Funding Strategy in order to provide the necessary strategic guidance as well as operational oversight of relevant processes and activities relating to the Funding Strategy;

4. **Encourages** Contracting Parties to consider integrating **PGRFA and the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, including through sustainable** on-farm management in national policies and planning, such as in NBSAPs and National adaptation plans (NAPs), and to leverage funding opportunities within **existing** biodiversity and climate funding sources such as GEF and GCF, **as appropriate**;

5. **Thanks** FAO, in particular the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and Global Climate Fund (GCF) Units, for the efforts made to engage with and contribute to the work of the Committee, and invites FAO to prioritize the delivery of programmes and projects supportive of implementation of the Treaty through the Ninth Replenishment of the GEF and FAO's GCF programme formulation and implementation, and to continue to actively contribute to the work of the Committee;

6. **Recognizes** the critical contributions that the Benefit-sharing Fund made in the process for FAO to become a GEF Small Grants Program (SGP) agency, and **welcomes** the increased prospects for synergies and potential co-funding opportunities for the Benefit-sharing Fund, including through FAO's GEF SGP 2.0;

7. **Recalls** that the Global Crop Diversity Trust is an essential element of the Funding Strategy and **thanks** it for the significant efforts made to engage with the Committee as an active observer, providing inputs to the work of the Committee, and collaborating with the Treaty Secretariat on a number of resource mobilization and communication initiatives;

7.bis Requests the Secretariat to facilitate information to eligible Contracting Parties on how GEF, GCF and other funding mechanism could be supportive to the implementation of the Treaty;

8. **Decides** that the costs of the meetings of and the relevant preparatory work for the Funding Committee shall be included in the Core Administrative Budget as may be adopted by the Governing Body, supplemented by any voluntary contributions made available for that purpose, and **requests** the Secretary to include such costs into the Core Administrative Budget that is presented to the Governing Body for approval at its Regular Sessions;

9. **Invites** Contracting Parties and donors, in a position to do so, to support the work of the Committee, in particular for the participation of developing countries;

PART II: RESOURCE MOBILIZATION WITHIN THE FUNDING STRATEGY

10. **Encourages** Contracting Parties **and other stakeholders** to mobilize **adequate** resources from various sources to meet the targets of the Funding Strategy;

11. **Welcomes** the progress made in implementing the approved Food Processing Industry Engagement Strategy, and **requests** the Committee to continue to provide regular updates to the Governing Body on its implementation;

12. *Thanks* Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland for their financial contributions during the period 2024–2025 to the Fund for Agreed Purposes of the International Treaty and other funds under the direct control of the Governing Body, and *encourages* other Contracting Parties and donors to also make financial contributions to the Fund to further support the implementation of the International Treaty;

12bis. Requests the Secretariat to report, at subsequent sessions of the Governing Body, on the contributions made by Contracting Parties to the Fund established to support the participation of representatives from developing countries and from countries with economies in transition in the meetings of the Governing Body;

13. *Welcomes and commends* the substantial increase in cooperation on resource mobilization between the Global Crop Diversity Trust and the Treaty Secretariat, and *thanks* the Government of Norway for its financial contributions in support of joint initiatives such as the Biodiversity for Opportunities, Livelihoods and Development (BOLD) project, the Emergency Reserve for Germplasm Collections at Risk, and the Funding Facility for short-term support of International Collections;

14. *Emphasizes* the importance of continuing the work on resource mobilization, communication, promotion and the International Treaty’s branding and media presence to enhance funding for, and the visibility of the Fund for Agreed Purposes of the International Treaty, in particular, and for joint funding initiatives between the Treaty Secretariat and the Global Crop Diversity Trust;

PART III: RESOURCE MOBILISATION WITHIN THE BENEFIT-SHARING FUND

15. *Recalls* that text regarding a target range for the Benefit-sharing Fund remains bracketed in paragraph 36 of the Funding Strategy, and [text to be added by the Governing Body];

16. *Further thanks* the European Union, Italy, Norway and Switzerland for their financial contributions in support of the fifth cycle of the Benefit-sharing Fund, ~~and invites them, through their ongoing discussions with the Secretariat, to further strengthen these relationships;~~ **and encourages the Secretariat to further strengthen relationships with all types of donors,** with a view to establishing a longer term strategic partnership with the International Treaty in areas of common interest;

17. *Welcomes* the further user-based payments under the Multilateral System on Access and Benefit-sharing to the Benefit-sharing Fund, received from Nunhems Netherlands BV, Bejo Zaden BV, and NuCicer and also *thanks* ProSpecieRara ~~Hauptsitz~~ for its contribution;

18. **Stresses** the ongoing need for ensuring an enhanced and predictable flow of resources to the Benefit-sharing Fund, including increased user-based payments to the multilateral system, which comprise approximately 2% of the total contributions to the Benefit-sharing Fund to date;

19. **Notes** that no voluntary contributions to the Benefit-sharing Fund were received from the private sector in the 2024-2025 biennium and **invites** the private sector and **others other stakeholders** to make and increase financial contributions in order to meet the targets of the Funding Strategy;

20. **Invites** Contracting Parties, the private sector, the food processing industry and other donors to make financial contributions towards the Sixth Cycle of the Benefit-sharing Fund;

PART IV: BENEFIT-SHARING FUND OPERATIONS

21. **Thanks** the Funding Committee for providing guidance to the operations of the Benefit-sharing Fund during the biennium and, in particular, for its work in the launch and implementation of the Fifth Cycle of the Benefit-sharing Fund and the BSF Monitoring Evaluation and Learning framework to improve the approaches to reporting, knowledge management, learning and communication of the BSF, and **welcomes** the opportunities that these may bring through generating results and visibility to reach new and existing donors and to inform relevant FAO communications initiatives;

22. **Welcomes** the significant progress made in the development of the BSF community of practice and related knowledge pathways that will enable regular, cross-project knowledge sharing, learning and collaboration to optimise opportunities for synergies and address shared challenges;

23. **Welcomes** the report on the Benefit-sharing Fund for the 2024-2025 period submitted to the Governing Body, and **stresses** the importance of communicating the results of the Fourth Cycle and the results of the on-going projects under the Fifth Cycle within the framework of the broader communication strategy of the International Treaty, and in this regard **encourages** the Secretariat to continue to hold, **preferably virtual**, regional briefings to update Contracting Parties, donors and stakeholders on progress and relevant developments, as well as to receive feedback;

PART V: MONITORING, LEARNING AND REVIEW

24. **Invites** Contracting Parties, international mechanisms, funds, bodies, stakeholder groups and other international organizations to provide information to the Secretary to assist the Funding Committee in undertaking regular reviews of the Funding Strategy, and **requests** the Funding Committee to continue to work in collaboration with the Compliance Committee so as to agree the best way to integrate information in existing reporting formats;

25. **Welcomes** the updates on progress made by Contracting Parties to define national biodiversity targets and to update or revise National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), and **emphasizes** the importance of FAO, the Treaty Secretariat and other Treaty partners working together to increase the integration of PGRFA in national biodiversity targets, and to support countries that have not yet done so to update or revise their NBSAPs with a view to including PGRFA;
26. **Calls upon** Contracting Parties to share information about the results of the further integration of PGRFA in national budgets and priorities with the Secretariat for the development of strategic tools that National Focal Points and others can use to leverage new resources;
27. **Welcomes** the progress made in developing and testing the methodology for measuring nonmonetary benefit-sharing (NMBS), **invites** relevant international mechanisms, funds and bodies, stakeholder groups and other international organizations to provide information to the Secretariat that will enable the Funding Committee to better leverage funding from all sources for Treaty implementation and the delivery of non-monetary benefit-sharing, and **requests** the Committee to provide regular updates to the Governing Body on the results arising from the implementation of the NMBS measuring methodology;
28. **Thanks** the Committee for the development of the general policy and criteria for specific assistance under the agreed Funding Strategy for PGRFA conservation and having considered them, **approves** them;
29. **Welcomes** the preparations for the Independent Evaluation of the Fourth Project Cycle projects in accordance with the Benefit-sharing Fund Operations Manual and Monitoring Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Framework.

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(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
22 November 2025**

Agenda item 11: Report on the Implementation of the Global Information System

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We thank the Secretariat for preparing the report on the implementation of the Global Information System (GLIS).
3. We welcome the progress made towards the implementation of the Programme of Work on the Global Information System including the re-design of the GLIS homepage, as well as the continued work on development of descriptors and the fruitful collaboration with other initiatives.
4. We acknowledge the importance of permanent unique identifiers for PGRFA management and we appreciate the promotion, and, on a voluntary basis, the registration and use of Digital Object Identifiers (DOI).
5. We welcome the two new descriptor lists, the new module for *in situ* conservation of CWR in the GLIS portal, the expansion of the directory of links and of the Toolbox for sustainable use of PGRFA, and the integration of the Inventory of farmers' rights national measures, best practices and lessons learned.
6. Furthermore, we recognize and value the ongoing collaboration with WIEWS, Genesys, EURISCO, the CGIAR Genebank Initiative and other initiatives, and encourages the Secretary to strengthen these partnerships even further in order to maximize synergies and mutual support in the area of PGRFA information management.

7. We also thank the members of the Scientific Advisory Committee for their efforts, and we support reconvening the Committee in the next biennium, subject to the availability of financial resources, in order to continue to receive its valuable advice.
8. Mr Chair, we support the draft resolution, with two suggestions for addition in paragraphs 9 and 10. At its 6th meeting, the Scientific Advisory Committee requested to be informed about important additional details, such as the type of material registered in GLIS, the rationale for assigning DOIs to each record in the Inventory of Farmers' Rights, and the GLIS budget. With regard to DSI/GSI, we request an addition, according to agreed language in resolution 5/2023.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

Amendments to the draft resolution

DRAFT RESOLUTION **/2025

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling its previous Resolutions and decisions on the Vision and the Programme of Work on the Global Information System (PoW-GLIS), and particularly Resolutions 5/2022 and 5/2023;

Further recalling the contribution of the Global Information System of Article 17 of the International Treaty (GLIS) to the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing, in particular to the provisions of Article 13.2.a;

1. **Thanks** the members of the Scientific Advisory Committee on the Global Information System of Article 17 for the advice provided to the Secretary and their inputs to the various work tracks on GLIS;

2. **Takes note** of the progress made in the implementation of the PoW-GLIS since the Tenth Session of the Governing Body, in particular, regarding the development of the GLIS Portal, the integration of the Toolbox for Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Toolbox), the *Inventory of National Measures, Best Practices and Lessons Learned from the Realization of Farmers' Rights*, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty (Inventory), and the new module for the documentation of PGRFA conserved *in situ* conditions;

3. **Welcomes** the development and publication of the key descriptors for olive (*Olea europaea*) and peas (*Pisum sativum*), published by the Secretariat in 2025, and acknowledges all the institutions and individuals who contributed to their accomplishment.
4. **Invites** the Secretary to actively promote the use of the descriptor booklets for olive and peas and to facilitate the development of further descriptor lists, as appropriate, and subject to the availability of financial resources;
5. **Takes note** of the collaboration with the FAO Early Warning System on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (WIEWS); Genesys; the European Search Catalogue for Plant Genetic Resources (EURISCO); the SADC Plant Genetic Resources Centre (SPGRC) for the Documentation & Information System database (Web-SDIS), and the CGIAR Genebank Initiative on PGRFA documentation and **invites requests** the Secretary to continue the collaboration with these entities and systems to enhance synergies and mutual support;
6. **Takes note** of the progress made in the promotion of use of Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) and encourages the Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to continue to promote their use, on a voluntary basis, and to expand efforts to build the capacity of relevant stakeholders, especially in developing countries;
7. **Requests** the Secretary to promote capacity development for the improvement of national databases, the access and use of information in the GLIS Portal and the voluntary use of DOIs, which will contribute to implementation of the five objectives of the PoW-GLIS;
8. **Reiterates** the invitation to Contracting Parties that have not yet done so to consider the development of national inventories on Crop Wild Relatives and **requests** the Secretary, in partnership with relevant stakeholders, to support Contracting Parties in these efforts through extra-budgetary resources, and to list them in the GLIS Portal;
9. **Decides** to reconvene the Scientific Advisory Committee with the same terms of reference as the previous biennium, and subject to the availability of financial resources, to hold at least one meeting in presence and, if necessary, additional virtual meetings, and **requests** the Secretary to continue to update the Committee on progress in implementation of the PoW-GLIS, **including providing the additional data and information as requested by the Committee at its 6th meeting.**
10. **Requests** the Scientific Advisory Committee to continue considering scientific and technical issues related to **the conservation and use of PGRFA with relevance to** Digital Sequence Information/Genetic Sequence Data (DSI/GSD), as they relate to Article 17 of the International Treaty, and the implications of relevant processes within other relevant international instruments and fora and their implementation on the PoW-GLIS in future years;

11. **Requests** the Secretary to provide a report to the SAC-GLIS and the Twelfth Session of the Governing Body on relevant updates on documentation and information exchange of PGRFA in the context of the Global Biodiversity Framework;
12. **Requests** the Secretary to advance on the exchange of relevant information and links with the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House (ABSCH) of the Convention on Biological Diversity in the context of the PoW-GLIS;
13. **Invites** Contracting Parties, other governments and stakeholders, bearing in mind Article 18 of the International Treaty, to provide the necessary resources to implement the PoW-GLIS, in particular for the further development of the GLIS Portal, the development of national inventories of CWR and support of training and capacity development activities in developing countries;
14. **Requests** the Secretary to follow up on the implementation of the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Committee and to provide a summary report to the Twelfth Session of the Governing Body.

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(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
22 November 2025**

Agenda item 12: Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We thank the Secretariat for the working documents and the Ad Hoc Technical Committee on Conservation and Sustainable Use for the work on the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 over the past biennium.
3. We reiterate our recognition of the importance of Articles 5 and 6 of the Treaty and their role in advancing the objectives of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
4. We greatly appreciate the section in the working document on the conservation and sustainable use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) under the Benefit-Sharing Fund. We kindly request the Secretariat to retain this section, with updated information, in future Governing Body sessions.
5. We would like to draw the attention of the Governing Body to Information Document 2 related to this agenda item, which highlights the role that cities can play in the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, and emphasizes the importance of enhancing the involvement of actors from the urban and peri-urban food systems sector in the work of the Treaty.
6. Regarding the ACSU, we regret that it did not accomplish its tasks. While we believe that the Treaty is well positioned to support the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, we remain uncertain whether the ACSU, in its current form, is the most effective mechanism to advance this work. In addition, we reiterate our concern that some regions remain less active, which may lead to less inclusive and consensual outcomes.

7. However, recognizing the efforts of the Committee and Secretariat, we can support reconvening the Committee in the next biennium to complete at least some of the work already initiated.
8. We find that the “Mechanism of implementation” remains unclear and it would require substantial work to be finalized. Therefore, we suggest that the group, if reconvened, focus on assisting the Secretariat in completing the voluntary Guidelines.
9. If the group is to be reconvened, we would also like to see changes in its composition, in a manner similar to that of the SAC-GLIS.
10. We welcome the Concept Note on the International Technical Advisory Committee on the Global Crop Conservation Strategies, and we invite the Secretary and the Trust to collaborate on its establishment, with the understanding that it will not incur any additional costs to the core administrative budget of the Treaty.
11. We would like to suggest an amendment to the “reporting” section of the Concept Note. As currently drafted, it states that “*the Committee will prepare a report [...] and present it to the ACSU/Governing Body.*” Considering the ad hoc nature of the ACSU, we propose that the reference to it be removed.
12. Finally, we would like to thank once again the Government of Italy for the financial and in-kind support that it has continued to provide towards the implementation of the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, and call on other Contracting Parties and donors to do the same.
13. We have one amendment to the draft Resolution and suggestions for the terms of reference of the ACSU, which I will read out now.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

Amendments to the draft resolution

DRAFT RESOLUTION **/2025

IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLES 5 AND 6, CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Acknowledging the paramount importance of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) and the vital role of their conservation and sustainable use in addressing global challenges, including food insecurity, biodiversity loss, climate change adaptation, and poverty alleviation;

Recognizing the critical role of farmers, including women and youth, in conserving plant genetic diversity and key actors in sustaining and adapting agricultural systems in the face of global challenges;

Welcoming the synergies between the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in particular its Targets 10 and 11 on sustainable agriculture and genetic diversity;

Taking note that the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty will contribute to the goals and relevant targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and vice versa;

Recognizing further the contribution of the Benefit-sharing Fund in supporting community- and farmer-led conservation and sustainable use practices that advance the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty;

Recalling its previous Resolutions on Conservation and Sustainable Use of PGRFA, in particular, Resolutions 7/2011, 7/2013, 4/2015, 6/2017, 5/2019, 6/2022, and 6/2023;

1. **Takes note** of the Report of the Ad Hoc Technical Committee on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture to the Eleventh Session of the Governing Body, and **thinks** the Committee for its work, including defining future strategies to support countries in the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty through the possible development or establishment of:

- a mechanism to identify the levels and forms of implementation and providing assistance to countries in need of support in implementing Articles 5 and 6, according to specific contexts and local needs; and
- voluntary guidelines to address the bottlenecks to the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty.

2. **Decides** to reconvene the Committee with the Terms of Reference contained in the Annex to this Resolution, subject to the availability of financial resources;

3. **Encourages** Contracting Parties to integrate the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 into their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and other national policy frameworks, in harmony with the targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

4. **Encourages** Contracting Parties, in accordance with national legislation and, as appropriate, to promote the full participation of women and youth in programmes and initiatives for the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, and to highlight their role in the 2026 International Year of Women Farmers;

5. **Welcomes** the Concept Note on the establishment and funding of an International Technical Advisory Committee on the Global Crop Conservation Strategies, **and invites** the Secretary and the Global Crop Diversity Trust, **subject to financing through voluntary contributions**, to work together to establish the Advisory Committee, as stipulated in the Concept Note; **and requests the Advisory Committee, once established, to report to the Governing Body at its sessions**;

6. **Welcomes** the efforts of the Secretary to update the Toolbox for Sustainable Use of PGRFA (Toolbox) as a useful online database of valuable information for the conservation, management and sustainable use of PGRFA, **requests** the Secretary to continue to promote, disseminate, regularly update and monitor the Toolbox, and **invites** Contracting Parties and stakeholders to continue to share information resources and to enhance its utility;

7. **Requests** the Secretary to continue to analyse and monitor the identified gaps and needs highlighted in the *Background Study on the Bottlenecks and Challenges to the Implementation of Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty*, as well as emerging challenges to the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 and the integration of PGRFA into broader agrifood system strategies, and **calls upon** Contracting Parties to share information on the difficulties and challenges encountered in the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty, as well as possible new initiatives, activities, and approaches that could be undertaken to address them;

8. **Requests** the Secretary, in collaboration with other relevant stakeholders, and subject to the availability of financial resources, to:

- organize regional consultations on the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty, with a particular focus on identified bottlenecks and possible approaches to address them, and to update Contracting Parties and stakeholders on progress and relevant developments;
- facilitate and assemble information about the activities carried out by Contracting Parties, stakeholders, and international organizations in support of Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty;
- continue to facilitate training and capacity building activities and initiatives aimed at advancing the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, including sustainable biodiverse production systems, participatory approaches, as well as the assessment of needs of local farmers and other relevant local stakeholders and the identification of possible means to address those needs;

- include, in collaboration with relevant actors, activities with the peri-urban and urban food systems sector, highlighting the role that cities can play in the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, and promote the participation of stakeholders from these sectors in the work of the ACSU;
- support national programmes and processes in policy development for the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA, and in building partnerships and mobilizing resources.

9. **Requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to continue to collaborate and cooperate with relevant units within FAO, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the CGIAR Centers, other relevant entities and institutions, including national and International Agricultural Research Centres, as well as the public and private sector, academia, farmers' organizations, indigenous and local communities and civil society organisations, in promoting the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA and in strengthening the interaction between different stakeholders of genetic resources, community and farmer-led activities, and protected area systems, while avoiding duplication of efforts;

10. **Further Requests** the Secretary to collaborate with partners, including city networks and research institutions, to strengthen knowledge and initiatives related to the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA in urban and peri-urban food systems;

11. **Calls upon** Contracting Parties to support the activities outlined in this Resolution, including through the provision of financial resources in line with the provisions of Articles 7 and 8 of the International Treaty;

12. **Thanks** the Government of Italy for the generous financial and in-kind support it has continued to provide towards the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty and the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA; and **calls** on Contracting Parties and other donors to provide additional financial resources for the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty.

13. **Requests** the Secretary to report on progress made in implementing this Resolution, including on the work of the ACSU, the development of voluntary guidelines, and partnerships supporting Articles 5 and 6, at the Twelfth Session of the Governing Body.

Terms of Reference of the Ad Hoc Technical Committee on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (the Committee)

1. The Ad hoc Technical Committee on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture will continue to advise the Secretariat on the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty, in particular by:

- **Supporting the Secretariat to finalise the draft Voluntary Guidelines on possible approaches to address the bottlenecks identified in the *Background Study on Bottlenecks and Challenges to the implementation of Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty***

2. The Committee will comprise **two scientific experts from each Region, nominated by the Vice-chairpersons of the Governing Body of each respective Region; and 10 additional scientific and technical experts appointed by the Secretary including experts suggested by the regions and relevant stakeholders, taking into account the required range of technical expertise and regional balance as appropriate.**

3. The Bureau of the Twelfth Session of the Governing Body will appoint two Co-Chairs from the Contracting Parties of the International Treaty - one from a developing country and one from a developed country, taking into account that it is beneficial if the tasks of co-chairing this Committee rotates between regions and Contracting Parties from time to time.

4. The Committee may hold up to two meetings in the next biennium, one of which is a physical meeting subject to the availability of financial resources. The Secretary will facilitate the process and assist the Committee in its work.

5. The Committee will report to the Governing Body on its work for further consideration at the Twelfth Session.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
25 November 2025**

Agenda item 13: Report on the Implementation of Farmers' Rights

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We thank the Secretariat for the working document and for the activities undertaken since the last Governing Body related to the implementation of Article 9, and the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group for their work during the biennium and efforts to accomplish its tasks.
3. We would also like to thank the generosity of the government of the Philippines for hosting the Second Global Symposium on Farmers' Rights last September. We are pleased that it was attended by a large number of participants representing a wide range of stakeholders.
4. We also thank the governments of Italy, the Netherlands, and Norway for their generous financial support to the implementation of Farmers' Rights.
5. We welcome the continued work on the implementation of Article 9. Given the progress achieved by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group, we support reconvening it for the upcoming biennium, subject to the availability of financial resources.
6. We further encourage an effective participation in the AHTEG, to ensure that its outputs reflect a broader range of experiences and views, thereby supporting high-quality outcomes.
7. With regard to the proposed Terms of Reference for the Expert Group outlined in the working document, we prioritise the proposed item ii), "*to work on a draft action plan to address the identified gaps and needs from the assessment*".

8. We believe a broader consultation among Contracting Parties would be necessary with regard to the draft “Strategy on how the use of the Options for encouraging, guiding, and promoting the realization of Farmers’ Rights can be promoted” to ensure that different views and experiences are reflected. Therefore, we are prepared to give our suggestions for changes at this Session.
9. We propose, firstly, to delete the specific year when Contracting Parties are invited to conduct specific tasks; and secondly, that “activities to be undertaken by Contracting Parties” are replaced with “activities that could be considered by Contracting Parties” throughout the document.
10. Overall, we support the draft resolution as proposed, with some amendments.
11. To improve its structure and readability, we suggest relocating paragraph 7 (regarding the Inventory) to follow paragraph 3 (on the Options document) and moving paragraph 5 (concerning the Expert Group) to the end of the resolution, as its current placement disrupts the flow of the document.
12. I will now read the additional proposed changes to the draft Resolution.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

Amendments to the draft resolution

DRAFT RESOLUTION **/2025

IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 9, FARMERS’ RIGHTS

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling the enormous contribution that the local and indigenous communities and farmers of all regions of the world have made, and will continue to make, to the conservation, development and use of plant genetic resources as the basis of food and agriculture production throughout the world;

Recalling its previous Resolutions 2/2007, 6/2009, 6/2011, 8/2013, 5/2015, 7/2017, 6/2019, 7/2022 and 7/2023;

1. **Welcomes** the Report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers’ Rights, and **thanks** the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group for fulfilling its tasks;

2. **Endorses Takes note of** the Assessment of the state of implementation of Article 9 of the International Treaty, **and the “Strategy on how the use of the Options for encouraging, guiding, and promoting the realization of Farmers’ Rights can be promoted”** and *thanks* the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group for reviewing the draft Assessment and the Secretariat for the significant work undertaken to prepare it, and *encourages* Contracting Parties and other stakeholder to take the findings into account in their further implementation of Article 9;
3. *Encourages* Contracting Parties and other stakeholders to consider using the Options for Encouraging, Guiding and Promoting the Realization of Farmers’ Rights as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty, **in accordance with their needs and priorities, as appropriate, and subject to national legislation,** noting that the options under Category 10 are Co-Chairs’ proposal, and *requests* the Secretary to increase awareness of the Options; ~~and encourages Contracting Parties and other stakeholders to consider using the Options in encouraging, guiding and promoting the realization of Farmers’ Rights, in accordance with their needs and priorities, as appropriate, and subject to national legislation;~~
4. *Takes note* of the outcomes of the Second Global Symposium on Farmers’ Rights and *thanks* the Government of the Philippines for generously and successfully hosting the symposium, and *encourages* Contracting Parties to consider hosting future Symposiums as a platform for sharing experiences and learning from each other in the realization of Farmers’ Rights.
5. *Decides* to reconvene the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group for the 2026–2027 with the [Terms of Reference] contained in the Appendix to this Resolution;
6. Again, *invites* Contracting Parties and relevant organizations to take initiatives to convene regional workshops and other consultations with a broad range of stakeholders, including with farmers’ organizations, particularly those in the centres of origin and crop diversity, for the exchange of knowledge, views and experiences on the realization of Farmers’ Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty;
7. *Invites* Contracting Parties and other stakeholders, especially farmers’ organizations, to continue submitting to the Secretary, for inclusion in the Inventory, views, experiences and best practices for national implementation of Article 9 of the International Treaty, or to update previous submissions, as appropriate, and subject to national legislation;
8. *Requests* the Secretary to facilitate such initiatives upon request and subject to the availability of financial and human resources, including through the facilitation of developing regional cooperation plans among the stakeholders involved, with emphasis on South-South Cooperation, with reference to Article 18.5 of the International Treaty, ~~upon request and subject to the availability of financial and human resources;~~

9. **Invites** Contracting Parties to explore the possibility of the establishment of an International Day of Observance for Farmers' Rights related to crop genetic resources, and **encourages** interested Contracting Parties to take the lead in realizing this objective;

10. **Recommends** the use of the terminology "Indigenous Peoples and local communities", in relevant documents and decisions under the International Treaty, where appropriate, to bring it in line with the current usage in other United Nations' and International bodies and processes, while recognizing that this decision shall not affect in any way the legal meaning of Article 9 of the International Treaty, nor imply a change in rights and obligations of any Contracting Party under the International Treaty;

11. **Notes** the United Nations' General Assembly declaration of the 2026 as the International Year of the Woman Farmer, and **requests** the Secretary to contribute to and promote its observance as it relates to Article 9 of the International Treaty, including through collaborative activities, the organisation of appropriate events, and the development of promotional materials;

12. **Requests** the Secretary to update the Educational Module on Farmers' Rights, as appropriate, and to continue disseminating and promoting its use, and **invites** Contracting Parties and other relevant stakeholders to use it;

13. **Requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to continue outreach and communication on Farmers' Rights, including capacity development workshops, to relevant stakeholders as an important measure to advance the realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty;

14. **Requests** the Secretary to strengthen, to the extent feasible, collaboration between the International Treaty and other units and partners that work for the promotion of Farmers' Rights within and outside FAO, and the broader United Nations including with international human rights bodies, in order to promote the realization of Farmers' Rights, **as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty**;

15. **Appreciates** the participation of farmers' organizations in activities to support the realization of Farmers' Rights, as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty, and **invites** them to continue to actively participate in Sessions of the Governing Body and in relevant intersessional meetings of relevant subsidiary bodies established by the Governing Body, as appropriate and according to the Rules of Procedure of the International Treaty, and giving due consideration to the FAO Strategy for Partnerships with Civil Society Organizations;

16. **Thanks** the Governments of Italy, the Netherlands, Norway and the Philippines for their generous financial support to the implementation of Farmers' Rights;

17. **Urges Invites** Contracting Parties and other donors to continue providing financial resources to support the work on Farmers' Rights under the International Treaty and **calls upon** Contracting Parties to support the activities outlined in this Resolution;
18. **Requests** the Secretary to report to the Governing Body, at its Twelfth Session, on the implementation of this Resolution.

Appendix

Terms of Reference of Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights

1. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Farmers' Rights will:
 - ~~i. Draft an outline of a set of voluntary guidelines to support the protection and promotion the implementation of Farmers' Rights;~~
 - ~~i.ii. Develop a draft action plan for the Governing Body to address identified gaps and needs from the assessment, to support Contracting Parties in the implementation of Farmers' Rights, as appropriate and subject to national legislation;~~
 - ~~ii. Provide guidance to the Secretariat on how to follow up the "Strategy on how the use of the Options can be promoted".~~
 - ~~iii. Establish draft measures of success for the implementation of Farmers' Rights, to enable Contracting Parties to assess their progress;~~
 - ~~iv. Explore the possible relevance of new and emerging technologies on the realization of Farmers' Rights.~~
 - ~~v. [...]~~
2. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group will comprise up to five members each from the Africa Region, Asia Region, the Europe Region and the Latin America and the Caribbean Region; three from the Near East Region; and two each from the North America Region and the South West Pacific Region; up to five representatives of farmer organizations, particularly smallholder farmers from the centers of origin and crop diversity, and up to three other stakeholders, one each from academia, civil society organizations, seed sector designated by the Bureau of the Twelfth Session of the Governing Body, taking into account regional and gender balance.
3. The Bureau of the Twelfth Session of the Governing Body will appoint two CoChairs from the Contracting Parties of the International Treaty - one from a developing country and one from a developed country.

4. The two Co-Chairpersons shall be in addition to the members of the Committee nominated by the Regions.
5. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group may hold up to two meetings in the biennium 2026-2027, subject to the availability of financial resources.
6. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group will report back to the Governing Body on its work for further consideration at the Twelfth Session of the Governing Body.
7. The Secretary will facilitate the process and assist the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group in its work.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2023)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
23 November 2025**

Agenda item 14: Compliance

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We thank the Secretariat for providing us with the elaborated working document.
3. We are grateful to the Compliance Committee for its work, and thank the 97 Contracting Parties that have submitted their reports in due time to allow their consideration by the Committee, as well as to the Contracting Parties that have already reported under the second reporting cycle.
4. However, we regret that we have not yet reached the target of 80% of submissions. We would have liked to see a greater number of reports to enable a more comprehensive and in-depth analysis.
5. Nevertheless, the synthesis and analysis of the 97 reports, which equals 63% of the Contracting Parties, is still useful.
6. In our region, we have encouraged Contracting Parties with pending reports to submit them by the extended deadline of October 2024 and beyond.
7. We welcome the extended role of compliance reports as an important source of information for studies requested by the Governing Body, e.g. under Articles 5 and 6 and Article 9.

8. We request the Committee to continue to consider the other reporting obligations of Contracting Parties under other international instruments, such as the Second Global Plan of Action for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and to seek as much alignment as possible, to reduce administrative burden on Contracting Parties.
9. We encourage the Committee to liaise with the co-chairs of other relevant subsidiary bodies and processes to provide information and exchange views on matters of mutual interest, and to take their needs into consideration, including for any future revision of the Standard Reporting Format.
10. We congratulate the Secretariat for all their work to facilitate reporting, and we encourage them to continue doing so during the next biennium.
11. Mr Chair, we invite Contracting Parties to use the Compliance Committee's full mandate, including monitoring implementation, and offering advice or assistance when needed.
12. We also call upon those Contracting Parties which have been unable to submit their national reports this time to do so as soon as possible.
13. We welcome and support the proposed Resolution, with one small addition in paragraph 12. Regarding our representation in the Compliance Committee, we will provide one new member for the 2025-2027 term.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

DRAFT RESOLUTION **/2025

COMPLIANCE

THE GOVERNING BODY:

Recalling its previous decisions on compliance, particularly regarding capacity development and the support available to Contracting Parties from the Compliance Committee;

Monitoring and reporting

1. *Thanks* the Compliance Committee for the synthesis and analysis provided in the document, IT/GB11/25/xx, Report of the Compliance Committee;
2. *Thanks* those Contracting Parties that have submitted their reports pursuant to Section V of the Compliance Procedures on time as well as those that submitted or updated their reports subsequently;
3. *Invites* all Contracting Parties, including Contracting Party Organizations and States that have recently become Contracting Parties, to continue submitting or updating their reports, pursuant to Section V of the Compliance Procedures, and *notes* that such reports are to be submitted every five years;
4. *Notes* that the national reports are an important self-assessment tool to measure progress in implementation of the International Treaty and *emphasizes* the value of the information provided so far to make informed decisions;
5. *Notes* the target of 80 percent of the submissions has not been reached yet, hampering the preparation of a comprehensive report;
6. *Invites* Contracting Parties to provide more detailed information in their reports on the following themes to facilitate the future analysis: threats to PGRFA, measures taken to implement Article 9 and measures taken to notify the material available under the Multilateral System and facilitated access to Annex I PGRFA with the SMTA;
7. *Invites* the Secretary to identify and facilitate the use of relevant information sources by Contracting Parties when preparing and submitting their national reports;
8. *Appreciates* the efforts and thanks the Secretary for the support and assistance provided to Contracting Parties during the reporting process, and *requests* the Secretary to continue doing so;

Support and Capacity Development

9. *Welcomes* the capacity development activities undertaken by the Secretary and *requests* the Secretary to continue supporting Contracting Parties to actively participate in the compliance mechanism;

10. **Requests** the Secretary to support Contracting Parties in the use of the Online Reporting System, and to continue the collaboration with the World Conservation Monitoring Centre of the United Nations Environment Programme (WCMC) to further adapt and upgrade it, and to inform Contracting Parties of relevant developments;

11. **Encourages** Contracting Parties to avail themselves of the opportunities that the functions of the Compliance Committee provide, including by submitting to the Committee, through the Secretary, statements and questions concerning their implementation of the International Treaty;

12. **Encourages** Contracting Parties and other donors to consider providing support and **adequate** financial resources for capacity development activities as important and effective means to enhance compliance with **as well as reporting capacities on** and the implementation of the International Treaty, **for countries who have not yet provided their compliance reports**;

Other Matters

13. **Invites** Contracting Parties to avail themselves of the information contained in the national reports submitted to the International Treaty to update their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), as may be most appropriate, in the context of the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

14. **Recognizes** that the Global Plan of Action is a supporting component of the International Treaty and **invites** Contracting Parties to use such information, as appropriate, for the purpose of reporting under the compliance mechanism of the International Treaty;

15. **Invites** Contracting Parties to provide or update the contact details of their national focal points and, possibly, nominate an alternate reporting officer;

16. **Elects** the members of the Compliance Committee in accordance with Section III.4 of the Compliance Procedures, as contained in the Annex 4 to this Resolution.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
24 November 2025**

Agenda item 15: Contribution of FAO to the Implementation of the International Treaty

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We thank the Secretariat for the working document related to this agenda item.
3. We take note of, and thank the FAO for, the Report provided and encourage the FAO to continue to actively support the Treaty as a key international instrument required for the fulfilment of Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 15, and the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
4. We appreciate the financial and administrative support that the FAO provides to the Secretariat of the Treaty and to the Treaty's implementation. Its annual financial contributions to the Treaty's Core Administrative Budget are key to safeguard the fulfilment of the Treaty's mandate. We encourage FAO to reflect the crucial importance of the Treaty in future budgetary allocation decisions.
5. We warmly welcome the FAO's continuous and successful support in increasing the number of member countries of the Treaty.
6. We acknowledge with appreciation the measures taken by the FAO to independently evaluate the fourth project cycle of the Benefit Sharing Fund and the resulting recommendations for the fifth project cycle, as well as the FAO's support in implementing numerous projects in many countries.

7. We acknowledge the support provided by the FAO's Digital FAO and Agro-Informatics Division for the further development of the GLIS Portal and the migration of the International Treaty's website to the new FAO content management system.
 8. We also welcome the dialogue of the FAO and civil society organizations to enhance the understanding of Farmers' Rights and the interface with the right to food.
 9. Finally, Mr Chair, we thank the FAO for its support in operating the Treaty's Emergency Reserve for Germplasm Collections at Risk and for the project in Ukraine funded by the European Union to enable the safeguarding and re-establishment of Ukraine's plant genetic resources system.
 10. We agree with the draft resolution with one amendment, which I will now read out.
- Thank you, Mr Chair.

Amendments to the draft resolution

DRAFT ELEMENTS FOR A RESOLUTION **/2025

CONTRIBUTION OF FAO TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY

THE GOVERNING BODY:

1. **Thanks** FAO for the financial and administrative support it provides to the Secretariat of the International Treaty and to the implementation of the International Treaty, and **invites** FAO to continue its support to the International Treaty to enhance its financial sustainability **and to reflect the crucial importance of the Treaty in future budgetary allocation decisions;**
2. **Welcomes** the collaboration between FAO's Office of Emergencies and Resilience and the Secretariat in establishing mechanisms to support germplasm collections at risk, and **invites** FAO to continue and strengthen such emergency assistance to ensure the safeguarding of plant genetic resources in crisis situations;
3. **Welcomes** FAO's collaboration with the Secretariat on communications and outreach, including joint initiatives linked to global observances and FAO's 80th Anniversary, and encourages FAO to continue strengthening visibility of the International Treaty through such opportunities.

4. **Invites** FAO to continue supporting, including through its regional and country offices, the efforts to increase the membership of the International Treaty, by undertaking concrete measures to promote ratification by FAO Member Countries that have not yet done so, with a view to making it a universal agreement;
5. **Further invites** FAO, in line with the *Action Plan for the Implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors 2024-27*, to facilitate policy dialogue at country or regional level on the ratification and implementation of, and reporting against, the International Treaty;
6. **Further invites** FAO to integrate the International Treaty into the implementation of relevant initiatives and strategies, with a view to improving the ability of the International Treaty to contribute to addressing complex social, economic and environmental challenges of agrifood systems in a globally equitable, inclusive and sustainable manner;
7. **Further invites** FAO to continue its active support to the International Treaty as a key international instrument required for the fulfilment of Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 15 and of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and to build awareness of the importance of the implementation of, and compliance with, the International Treaty at the highest national levels;
8. **Emphasizes** the importance of FAO's continuous assistance with the implementation of the International Treaty at the national level, including through the provision of technical, capacity building and operational support to the International Treaty and its mechanisms, such as the Benefit-sharing Fund;
9. **Encourages** FAO to engage the Treaty Secretariat to further integrate the objectives of the International Treaty in its activities and initiatives targeting youth and women farmers, taking into account the observance of 2026 as the International Year of Woman Farmers and the special role of youth as future stewards of agricultural biodiversity.
10. **Encourages** FAO to continue identifying and pursuing synergies between the Benefit-sharing Fund and other multilateral funding mechanisms, including the Global Environment Facility and the Small Grants Programme, and the Green Climate Fund, to enhance support for the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources.

11. **Requests** the Secretary to continue enhancing collaboration with other units and instruments within FAO, including on: outreach; resource mobilization, in particular to integrate the International Treaty into FAO's portfolio with multilateral funds, biodiversity mainstreaming initiatives; and private sector engagement;

12. **Invites** FAO to continue providing a comprehensive report at each Session on its contributions to the implementation of the International Treaty, and the Secretary to continue providing updates on the status of implementation of invitations made to FAO as well as on ongoing and new collaborations and partnerships within FAO.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
24 November 2025**

Agenda item 16.1: Cooperation with the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We welcome the continued close cooperation between the Treaty and the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.
3. We appreciate the joint efforts and collaborative activities of both Secretariats in producing the Third Report on the State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, in advancing the implementation and updating of the Second Global Plan of Action, and in promoting practical guidance, capacity-building, and knowledge exchange across countries and regions.
4. We consider these collaborative activities essential for ensuring the sustainable conservation and use of PGRFA, supporting farmers' rights, and strengthening global food security.
5. We also welcome the continued coordination between the Treaty and the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture on seed policies, access and benefit-sharing, DSI/GSD, indicators and reporting formats and advocacy for biodiversity in agriculture.
6. We request both Secretariats to maintain and further strengthen this close collaboration, ensuring that the latest knowledge, data, and experience is shared effectively, thereby enhancing coherence in the development and implementation of their respective programmes of work.
7. We have small amendments to the Draft Resolution, which I will present now and also provide in writing.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

Amendments to the draft resolution

DRAFT RESOLUTION **/2025

COOPERATION WITH THE COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling Resolution 11/2023 and other previous Resolutions on the cooperation with the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (the Commission);

- 1 **Welcomes** the ongoing cooperation between the Commission and the Governing Body and the joint **and or** collaborative activities undertaken by the two Secretariats in the period between the Tenth and Eleventh Sessions of the Governing Body;
- 2 **Agrees** to keep the matter of the functional division of tasks and activities between the Governing Body and the Commission under review and **requests** the Secretary to regularly report any relevant developments in the cooperation with the Commission;
- 3 **Recalling** Article 17.3 of the International Treaty, **welcomes** *The Third Report on the State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* (Third Report) as a milestone and baseline for guiding future work on plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA), **invites** Contracting Parties to disseminate the key findings of the Third Report among stakeholders, including at relevant meetings, to promote the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA and inform relevant processes;
- 4 **Further invites** Contracting Parties to continue contributing to the updating of Second Global Plan of Action for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Second Global Plan of Action) through the relevant processes of the Commission, and to participate in consultations on the reporting format for monitoring the implementation of the revised Second Global Plan of Action;
- 5 **Welcomes** the joint and collaborative activities of the two Secretariats during the past intersessional period, and **requests** the Secretary to continue strengthening collaboration and coordination with the Secretary of the Commission to promote coherence in the development and implementation of the respective programmes of work of the two bodies, and in particular with regard to:

- i. the dissemination of the key findings of the Third Report to promote the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA and inform global and regional processes;
- ii. the review of the Second Global Plan of Action, including the preparation of a revised Second Global Plan of Action and the development of a proposal for the revision and simplification of the reporting format for monitoring the implementation of the revised Second Global Plan of Action;
- iii. the organization of symposia on *in situ* conservation and on-farm management of PGRFA;
- iv. the effects of seed policies, laws and regulations, including the desk study on the effects of seed policies, laws and regulations on farmers' ability to access seeds and planting materials of diverse, locally-adapted farmers' varieties/landraces;
- v. the implementation and monitoring of the Second Global Plan of Action, including technical instruments that facilitate its implementation, such as the *Genebank Standards for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*, and work on sustainable use of PGRFA;
- vi. assembling relevant information for measuring and monitoring monetary and non-monetary benefit-sharing, within their respective mandates and existing frameworks;
- vii. access and benefit-sharing and digital sequence information/genetic sequence data (DSI/GSD) on PGRFA, including through an open-ended multistakeholder workshop on the implications of Decision 16/2 of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity for research and development in the food and agriculture sector, the need for capacity building and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of DSI/**GSD** on PGRFA;
- viii. joint efforts to advocate for the consideration of the objectives, relevant work and policies of the Commission and the Governing Body of the International Treaty in the implementation of global strategies and frameworks, including the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, as well as to update FAO Members on progress in the implementation of their respective mandates and work programmes, for example through briefings for Permanent Representations;
- ix. the Global Information System and the World Information and Early Warning System on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (WIEWS), and relevant targets and indicators; and

- x. the development and implementation of national strategies for PGRFA, in close synergies with the processes of the implementation of the Funding Strategy of the International Treaty.
- 6 **Invites** the two Secretariats to evaluate the impact of their cooperation and joint activities and to report to the Commission and the Governing Body at their next sessions.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
24 November 2025**

Agenda item 16.2. Cooperation with the Global Crop Diversity Trust

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We would like to thank the Secretariat for the preparation of the working documents related to this agenda item.
3. We welcome the support provided to *the Funding Facility for short-term support on International Collections* by Norway and Germany - which supported four international collections.
4. We thank all donors, in particular, Germany, Norway and the United Kingdom, for their financial support of various projects and initiatives of the Crop Trust that strengthen the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources worldwide. We particularly appreciate projects and initiatives that are conducted in collaboration between the Crop Trust and the Treaty.
5. We appreciate approval of the final *Strategy for the development of the Plant Genetic Resources System of Ukraine 2024–2028* in September 2024, enabling the potential participation of Ukraine in the international PGR community.
6. We would like to bring your attention to the importance of the system-wide services for the world's genebanks provided by the Crop Trust. We especially welcome the development of the three- year project on “Mainstreaming the Global Crop Conservation Strategies in Plant Treaty Processes”, led by the Crop Trust and the Treaty Secretariat, funded by Germany.

7. We are grateful for the Crop Trust's continued support of the Svalbard Global Seed Vault, which currently stores almost 1.5 million accessions from 131 gene banks worldwide. We note that in 2024, 21 gene banks deposited seeds for the first time, representing the highest number of new depositors since its opening.
8. We appreciate the efficient operation of the Information Systems for Genebanks, - Genesys and GRIN-Global Community Edition. We also thank the Crop Trust for its continued participation in the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Treaty's Global Information System.
9. We congratulate the Crop Trust for its work to expand its donor network, including with climate policymakers, to highlight the importance of adequate financing for crop diversity as a source of climate change adaptation.
10. We appreciate the celebration of the Second Global Crop Diversity Day. Given its objective of raising political and public awareness on the importance of strengthening the global genebank system, we suggest that in future occasions, online participation be made available to enable the attendance of a broader range of key stakeholders.
11. We support the draft resolution with one request for change, which I will read out now.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

Amendments to the 'guidance sought'

- We support the 'guidance sought'.

Amendments to the draft resolution

- We support the adoption of the draft resolution with one amendment.

DRAFT RESOLUTION **/2025

POLICY GUIDANCE TO THE GLOBAL CROP DIVERSITY TRUST

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling that the Global Crop Diversity Trust (the Crop Trust) is an essential element of the Funding Strategy of the International Treaty, in relation to the ex situ conservation and availability of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;

Recalling that pursuant to Article 1(5) of its Constitution, the Crop Trust shall operate in accordance with the overall policy guidance to be provided by the Governing Body of the International Treaty;

Taking note of the Report from the Crop Trust, which addresses matters requested by Resolution 12/2023;

Recalling the importance of cooperation with the Crop Trust on resource mobilization, including for national genebanks in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

Welcoming the increased collaboration between the Crop Trust and the Secretariat in promoting integration of PGRFA into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), Biodiversity Finance Plans, and related processes under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

Recognizing further the importance of strengthening coordination and information exchange among all actors maintaining ex situ and in situ collections, including Article 15 institutions, national genebanks, and local seed systems.

PART I: POLICY GUIDANCE

1. *Thanks* the Executive Board of the Crop Trust for having regularly submitted its reports on the relevant activities of the Crop Trust to the Governing Body and its Bureau, and *invites* the Crop Trust to include in its biennial report to the Governing Body a section on progress achieved in the implementation of this Resolution, including financial updates, outcomes of joint initiatives, and recommendations for future cooperation;

2. *Requests* the Chairperson of the Governing Body and the Secretary to inform the Executive Board of the Crop Trust of the decisions made by the Governing Body and *provides* policy guidance on the following key areas;

A. Resource Mobilization

3. *Thanks* governments and other donors that have provided funds for the Crop Trust Endowment Fund, in particular towards enabling it to secure long-term funding for collections held pursuant to Article 15 of the International Treaty, with contributions paid into the endowment, as reported by the Crop Trust, currently at USD two hundred and ninety seven million, and *encourages* continued efforts to reach the endowment target necessary to secure all priority international collections for the long term;

4. *Invites* the Crop Trust to provide information, at the Twelfth Session of the Governing Body, on progress made with resource mobilization during the next biennium for the Crop Trust Endowment Fund, as well as in relation to mobilization of project-based funds, including to support selected national genebanks in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
5. *Welcomes* and *commends* the substantial increase in cooperation on resource mobilization by the Executive Director of the Crop Trust and the Secretary of the International Treaty, and thanks donors that have given priority to support implementation of joint initiatives, such as the Biodiversity for Opportunities, Livelihoods and Development (BOLD) project;
6. *Welcomes* the operation of the Funding Facility for short-term support of International Collections, *thanks* the Governments of Norway and Germany for providing generous financial support to the Funding Facility, and *recommends* that both the Crop Trust and the Secretariat of the International Treaty continue collaborating to engage the wide range of donors and partners that host or support these international collections;
7. *Commends* the effective operation of the Emergency Reserve for Germplasm Collections at Risk, and encourages the Crop Trust and the Secretariat to further broaden its donor base, and enhance preparedness mechanisms for genebanks threatened by natural disasters, conflicts, or financial instability, including through support for the development of contingency plans and strategies;
8. *Recommends* that the Crop Trust continue sustaining and expanding its cooperation with the International Treaty on mobilizing resources, and further encourages donors to give priority to initiatives, projects and programmes that are jointly designed and implemented by the Crop Trust and the Secretariat;
9. *Invites* the Crop Trust to continue its collaboration with the International Treaty Secretariat to identify synergies between the Endowment Fund, the Benefit-sharing Fund, and other relevant funding facilities, in order to ensure a coordinated and complementary approaches to supporting both ex situ and on-farm conservation efforts;
10. *Thanks* the Crop Trust for its active support to the work of the Standing Committee on the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilization (Funding Committee) and *invites* the Crop Trust to continue strengthening its support to and engagement with the Funding Committee;
11. *Commends* the Crop Trust, Treaty Secretariat, and other partners for their coordinated support to the rescue and long-term redevelopment of Ukraine's national seed collection, including the development of a long-term plan for Ukraine's PGRFA system, and *encourages* them to continue to collaborate with relevant FAO units and the PGRFA community to leverage further support for the initiative, and *calls on* donors to provide financial support to facilitate this initiative;

B. Scientific and Technical Matters

12. *Welcomes* the support provided by the Crop Trust during the current biennium to enable the long-term conservation and availability of crop diversity within Article 15 collections, and *invites* the Crop Trust to continue and expand cooperation with the Secretary, in accordance with Article 15.1(g) of the International Treaty, on mobilizing technical support for the orderly maintenance of such collections;

13. *Welcomes* the range of initiatives promoted by the Crop Trust to support national genebanks including training in genebank management and the development of standard operating protocols; *encourages* further collaboration with the Secretariat to undertake joint capacity building of national partners on Treaty implementation; and *reaffirms* that capacity building for ex-situ conservation at the national level is a crucial element for the success of the International Treaty;

C. Global Information System

14. *Welcomes* the close collaboration of the Crop Trust with the International Treaty and FAO in the area of PGRFA information, and *invites* them to continue collaborating on training and capacity development activities in the area of information systems and documentation of PGRFA;

15. *Encourages* the Crop Trust, through its management of Genesys and related platforms, to continue enhancing interoperability with the Global Information System of the International Treaty;

16. Further *invites* the Crop Trust to continue participating in the Scientific Advisory Committee on the Global Information System and provide regular updates on the implementation of its activities relevant to the Global Information System;

D. Communication and Outreach

17. *Welcomes* the increase in joint communication initiatives and *recommends* the Crop Trust to continue and strengthen cooperation with the International Treaty to jointly develop outreach and communication products and initiatives and to further systematize and strengthen such cooperation in the next biennium;

18. *Welcomes* joint outreach events such as the Global Crop Diversity Day, and encourages the continuation of such collaborative efforts to raise political and public awareness on the importance of conserving crop diversity for food security and climate resilience;

E. Mainstreaming Global Crop Conservation Strategies

19. *Invites* the Crop Trust and the Secretariat to continue supporting the development and implementation of Global Crop Conservation Strategies in coordination with relevant partners ~~and the Ad Hoc Technical Committee on Conservation and Sustainable Use of PGRFA;~~

PART II: OTHER

20. *Requests* the Secretary to report at the Twelfth Session of the Governing Body on progress made in implementing this Resolution, including updates on resource mobilization, the Emergency Reserve, support to national genebanks, and joint outreach activities;

Requests the Bureau of the Twelfth Session to carry out the selection and appointment of members to the Executive Board of the Crop Trust to fill any vacancy that may arise before the Twelfth Session, in accordance with the Procedures for the Selection and Appointment of Members of the Executive Board of the Global Crop Diversity Trust.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
24 November 2025**

Agenda item 16.3: Report on Cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We thank the Secretariat for preparing the working document and thank the CBD Secretariat for its report.
3. Through Resolution 13/2023, the Governing Body provided inputs in relation to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework at the 16th Conference of the Parties to the CBD.
4. As several targets and indicators of the GBF are also important to the implementation of the International Treaty, we are very glad that the two Secretariats are closely collaborating on many issues and encourage them to continue to do so.
5. We welcome the CBD COP decision 16/2 that defines the modalities for operationalizing the multilateral mechanism for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources (DSI-MLM), including a global fund. We thank the Secretary for his active contributions to the process and collaboration with the Secretary of the CBD regarding the MLM. We request that the Secretary continue collaboration with the CBD facilitating mutually supportive implementation of the MLM and its Cali Fund, and the Multilateral System on Access and Benefit-sharing, and its Benefit-sharing Fund. We further note that Decision 16/2 and the provisions of the MLM do not affect the rights and obligations of Contracting Parties deriving from the International Treaty.

6. We appreciate the close cooperation between the two Secretariats within their respective mandates, taking into account both the differences and opportunities to enrich each other.
7. We note that the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services is working on its second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services. We request the Secretary to provide an update on the work of the International Treaty and encourage the inclusion of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in this assessment.
8. Finally, Mr Chair, I will read out our suggestion for a small amendment to the draft Resolution.

Thank you, Mr Chair

Amendments to the draft resolution

DRAFT RESOLUTION **/2025

COOPERATION WITH THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling Article 1.2 of the International Treaty, as well as Article 19.3 (g) and (l), which provide for the Governing Body to establish and maintain cooperation with, as well as take note of the relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the provisions of Article 20.5, which requires the Secretary to cooperate with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

Recalling Resolution 1/2023 by which the Governing Body welcomed the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF) and highlighted its full relevance to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA), and decided to include, in its Multi-Year Programme of Work, a milestone for this session on “KM-GBF implementation and follow-up actions”;

Recalling Resolution 13/2023 regarding cooperation with the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, its subsidiary bodies and Secretariat;

Further recalling CBD COP Decisions 15/6 and 15/13 which, *inter alia*, recognize that other biodiversity-related Conventions will contribute to the implementation of the KM-GBF, consistent with their respective mandates and priorities; encourage the strengthening of cooperation and synergies among relevant Conventions in the implementation of the KM-GBF; and invite the governing bodies of biodiversity-related Conventions to contribute to the monitoring of the KM-GBF;

1. **Takes note** of the recent developments and ongoing processes under the CBD and its Nagoya Protocol that are of relevance to the International Treaty;

2. **Emphasizes** the importance of maintaining cooperation, complementarity and coherence as well as avoiding duplication between the International Treaty and the CBD, and with other biodiversity-related conventions, in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF);

3. **Encourages** the National Focal Points for the Treaty to strengthen coordination with their counterparts for the CBD and its Nagoya Protocol, as well as with relevant national institutions responsible for KM-GBF implementation, in order to promote coherent national approaches and avoid duplication, for the mutually supportive implementation of the respective instruments;

4. **Commends** the Secretary and the Secretariat for the continued close collaboration with the Secretariat and subsidiary bodies of the CBD, and **requests** the Secretary to continue monitoring and actively participating in the relevant processes under the CBD and its Nagoya Protocol, with a view to promoting practical, harmonious and mutually supportive interfaces among them, at global, regional, and national levels;

5. **Thanks** the intersessional/subsidiary bodies of the Governing Body for the support provided to include the implementation and monitoring of the KM-GBF, in their respective areas of work;

6. **Acknowledges** that several targets and indicators of the KM-GBF monitoring framework are relevant for the International Treaty, including in particular indicators related to monetary and non-monetary benefits, and **requests** the Secretary to continue liaising with the CBD Executive Secretary to discuss how best to collect and share the information on monetary benefits related to the Benefit-sharing Fund of the International Treaty, as well to foster collaboration on monitoring non-monetary benefit-sharing;

7. **Stresses** the importance of integrating PGRFA in the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) as well as in Biodiversity Finance Plans, and **requests** the Secretary to continue strengthening collaboration within FAO and with UNDP Biofin to support further integration of PGRFA into such plans and facilitate their implementation;

8. **Welcomes** FAO's Agri-NBSAPs Support Initiative to support and implement actions in agrifood systems to help meet biodiversity commitments outlined in NBSAPs;
9. **Encourages** increased cooperation and synergies in the implementation of strategies for resource mobilization adopted by biodiversity-related conventions and **requests** the Secretary to facilitate cooperation and synergies with other Secretariats in this area and to keep the Standing Committee for the Funding Strategy and Resource Mobilization (Funding Committee) regularly informed of relevant developments in this area and report back to the Governing Body;
10. **Thanks** the Funding Committee for providing elements of advice concerning the funding of the objectives and priorities of the Treaty to develop strategic guidance for the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Trust Fund, and **thanks** the Secretary for having transmitted the elements of advice to the Executive Secretary of the CBD;
11. **Invites** Contracting Parties, in line with Article 18.4 (a) of the International Treaty, to give attention to plans and programmes that support the implementation of the International Treaty within the governing bodies of the GEF including by making use, if appropriate, of the elements of advice for GEF-9 prepared by the Funding Committee;
12. **Welcomes** the adoption, through CBD COP 16 Decision 16/2, of the modalities for operationalizing the Multilateral Mechanism for the Fair and Equitable Sharing of DSI on Genetic Resources (MLM), **thanks** the COP for inviting the Treaty to collaborate with the multilateral mechanism, and **encourages** mutual supportiveness in the implementation of the MLM and its Cali Fund, and the Multilateral System on Access and Benefit-sharing, and its Benefit-sharing Fund;
13. **Thanks** the Secretary for his active contributions to the development of modalities for the operationalization of the MLM and **requests** him to follow developments in the further implementation of the MLM, and its Cali Fund, and keep the Funding Committee informed regularly and report back to the Governing Body, at its Twelfth Session;
14. **Takes note** of the Programme of Work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030, adopted by the CBD COP 16.; **welcomes** the collaboration between the Secretariats of the International Treaty and the CBD on Farmers' Rights and on Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' rights under Article 9 of the International Treaty and Article 8(j) of the CBD, respectively; and **requests** the Secretary to continue strengthening this collaboration **as appropriate**, in particular in relation to KM-GBF targets 22 and 23, including through joint events and communications,

15. **Requests** the Secretary to continue working with the CBD Secretariat to harmonize information-sharing and reporting through initiatives such as InforMEA, and to explore practical means to align indicators on benefit-sharing and genetic resources under the KM-GBF and SDG 15.6.

16. **Requests** the Secretary to communicate with the Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) to provide an update on the work of the International Treaty and encourage further attention to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in the second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services, where relevant;

17. **Thanks** the Secretariat for the activities undertaken to enhance cooperation, coordination and complementarity among the biodiversity-related conventions and **requests** the Secretary to continue this engagement during the next biennium;

18. **Commends** the Secretariat for its efforts to cooperate with the Secretariat of the CBD and **requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to continue exploring with the Secretariat of the CBD, practical means and activities to further enhance this cooperation, including by conclusion and implementation of a revised Memorandum of Cooperation and continue to develop joint initiatives between the two Secretariats, and to report to the Governing Body;

19. **Welcomes** the engagement of the Secretariat of the International Treaty in capacity development activities on harmonious and mutually supportive implementation of the Treaty and the CBD, and its Nagoya Protocol, and **requests** the Secretary to continue engaging in such activities, subject to the availability of financial resources;

20. **Welcomes** the efforts of the Secretariats of the International Treaty and the CBD in collaborating with the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, the ABS Capacity Development Initiative and other partners to bring together stakeholders and experts involved in the implementation of the International Treaty, the CBD 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;

21. **Requests** the Secretary to continue reporting on cooperation with the CBD at each Session of the Governing Body.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
24 November 2025**

Agenda item 16.4: Cooperation with Other International Bodies and Organizations

Agenda item 16.4.2: Reports from Institutions that have concluded Agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty

Agenda item 16.4.3: Report of Norway on the Management and Operations of the Svalbard Global Seed Vault

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We thank the Secretariat for preparing the documents and all partner organizations and stakeholders for their valuable contributions during this intersessional period.
3. We welcome the strengthened cooperation between the Treaty Secretariat and its key partners, including the African Union Commission, the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, BGCI, UNEP, WIPO, and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions.
4. We welcome the establishment of the *Global Conservation Consortium for Food Plants* coordinated by BGCI and its role in linking agricultural and botanical conservation networks.
5. We thank all institutions that have submitted reports under Article 15 of the International Treaty. We particularly welcome the joint CGIAR report and the participation of new non-CGIAR institutions, as well as the introduction and use of a harmonized reporting template that increases transparency and comparability.

6. We welcome the efforts of the Secretary and the Crop Trust to safeguard at-risk collections through the *Joint Funding Facility*, established with the financial support of NORAD.
7. We thank the Government of Norway for the comprehensive work in relation to the Svalbard Global Seed Vault. We appreciate the continued safe and effective operation of the facility and the new deposits from 21 first-time genebanks supported by the BOLD and Seeds for Resilience projects. We acknowledge the deposit of rescued Sudanese seed collections that illustrates its vital role in safeguarding agrobiodiversity and agricultural resilience.
8. We also note the potential contribution of the Seed Vault to the conservation of forest genetic resources, and welcome discussions in relevant fora such as the CGRFA.
9. We thank UNEP for their role in facilitating the Bern process to enhance cooperation among biodiversity-related conventions for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. As the implementation of the Plant Treaty contributes directly to several GBF targets, we appreciate the Secretariat's continued engagement in the Bern Process and invite it to continue this valuable work and report progress to the Governing Body.
10. Similarly, we further encourage Contracting Parties to remain actively engaged in the Bern Process as we can only achieve the KM-GBF if we all work together.
11. We accept the draft Resolution, with a small addition in Part III, and a new paragraph related to the Bern process in Part I, which I will now read out.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

Amendments to the 'guidance sought'

Agenda item 16.4: Cooperation with Other International Bodies and Organizations

The Governing Body is invited to take note of the information in the document and to provide further guidance on strengthening synergies and effective cooperation with relevant organizations and treaty bodies, taking into account the draft resolution annexed.

Agenda item 16.4.2: Reports from Institutions under Article 15

The Governing Body is invited to consider the reports submitted and provide guidance on improving reporting consistency and ensuring long-term security and accessibility of the international collections, taking into account the draft resolution annexed.

Agenda item 16.4.3: Report of Norway on the Svalbard Global Seed Vault

The Governing Body is invited to take note of the information provided and express appreciation to Norway for its continued commitment to the operation of the Seed Vault.

- No amendments suggested to the guidance sought.

Amendments to the Draft Resolution

DRAFT RESOLUTION **/2025 – COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

PART I: INTERNATIONAL BODIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling its previous Resolutions on Cooperation with Other International Bodies and Organizations;

Reaffirming that the International Treaty is the lead intergovernmental agreement for international cooperation in the management and exchange of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA);

Noting with appreciation the continued cooperation, collaboration with, and support provided by, relevant international organizations and other stakeholder groups, in order to advance the objectives and implementation of the International Treaty;

1. *Reaffirms* the need to continue the efforts necessary to ensure that the International Treaty's objectives and role in the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA are recognized and supported by relevant international institutions, organizations and processes;

2. **Encourages** Contracting Parties to take initiatives to strengthen the harmonious and mutually supportive implementation of the International Treaty and other relevant international instruments and their various goals and commitments in a coherent and mutually supportive manner, as appropriate, and **requests** the Secretary to facilitate such initiatives and in collaboration with partner organizations, upon request and subject to the availability of financial resources;
3. **Welcomes** the ongoing collaboration with the International Olive Council and the joint efforts to encourage other international olive collections to conclude agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty, and **encourages** the Secretary to continue this collaboration to strengthen the olive network, including through the development of a conservation strategy;
4. **Welcomes** the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the International Treaty and the International Organisation of Wine and Vine (OIV), and **requests** the Secretary to continue and strengthen the cooperation between the two institutions;
5. **Further welcomes** the launch of the Global Conservation Consortium for Food Plants (GCCFP), **encourages** the Secretary to continue the collaboration with the relevant partners to support the work of the GCCFP through active engagement in accordance with the objectives of the International Treaty, and **requests** the Secretary to provide the Governing Body with regular updates on the implementation of the initiative;
6. **Welcomes** the continued implementation of the Joint Capacity Building Programme with the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, and **reaffirms** the need to expand the Programme and to ensure that the Secretary continues to play an active role in the coordination, monitoring and analysis of results and impacts, subject to the availability of financial resources, and **calls upon** Contracting Parties and donors to provide additional funding to support the continuation of the relevant activities;
7. **Invites** the Secretary to continue to strengthen cooperation and synergies with other Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG) members, in particular for the mutually supportive implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), and **encourages** the members of the BLG to continue their overall collaboration, in accordance with their respective mandates, legal authority and responsibilities;

7 BIS Welcomes the work facilitated by UNEP under the Bern process on cooperation among relevant multilateral environmental agreements for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM-GBF), including the outcomes of its third conference, and requests the Secretary and encourages Contracting Parties to continue actively engage in this effort, contributing to effective and efficient implementation of the KM-GBF;

8. *Requests* the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to continue participating in relevant activities of the InforMEA Initiative and collaborating with the World Conservation Monitoring Center (UNEP-WCMC) on the Online Reporting System;

9. *Requests* the Secretary, as appropriate and subject to the availability of financial resources, to continue to participate in relevant meetings of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore of WIPO;

10. *Welcomes* the continued support and coordination provided by the African Union Commission for Contracting Parties from the African Region in implementation of the International Treaty, and *requests* the Secretary to continue to strengthen this collaboration, as well as to seek opportunities to establish cooperation with other relevant regional organizations and institutions for the promotion and implementation of the International Treaty;

11. *Welcomes* collaboration with the World Farmers Markets Coalition in order to promote the expanded use of local and locally adapted crops, varieties and underutilized species, as called for in Article 6 of the Treaty;

12. *Encourages* other relevant stakeholder groups, in particular civil society organizations, farmers' organizations, the food processing industry and the seed sector, to continue to strengthen their engagement and cooperation to advance implementation of the International Treaty;

13. *Requests* the Secretary to continue to foster cooperation with other international organizations, regional initiatives and relevant stakeholders and to strengthen existing cooperative arrangements, with a view to developing synergies consistent with their respective mandates, governance structures and agreed programmes, and subject to the availability of financial resources;

14. *Requests* the Secretary to continue to report to the Governing Body on cooperation with relevant international bodies and organizations and related collaborative activities.

PART II – ARTICLE 15 INSTITUTIONS:

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling the provisions of Article 15.1 and Article 15.5 of the International Treaty, and its previous Resolutions related to institutions that signed agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty;

1. **Takes note** of the information provided in the reports by institutions that have concluded agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty, **commends** the institutions that submitted reports for the valuable contents, and **invites** them to continue providing similar information to each Session of the Governing Body;

2. **Further commends** the eleven CGIAR centres that signed agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty for submitting a joint report to the Governing Body, as well as the other, non-CGIAR, Article 15 signatory institutions for providing individual reports under a harmonized template, and **further invites** them to continue providing similar reports to future sessions of the Governing Body;

3. **Welcomes** the development and use of a harmonized reporting template by non-CGIAR Article 15 signatory institutions, which has improved the consistency and accuracy of data on conservation, distribution, acquisition and safety duplication of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, and **encourages** its continued use and further refinement for future reports;

4. **Further welcomes** the voluntary submission of reports by other international institutions not yet bound by Article 15 agreements, and **invites** such institutions to continue engaging with the Governing Body in the spirit of collaboration and transparency, with a view to considering formal agreements in the future;

5. **Further commends** the Secretary for facilitating, and the Global Crop Diversity Trust for providing, the analysis of the harmonized reports of non-CGIAR Article 15 signatory institutions and of other international genebanks, and **further invites** the Global Crop Diversity Trust, to provide a similar analysis to each Session of the Governing Body;

6. **Recognizes** the value of enhanced networking and collaboration among non-CGIAR Article 15 institutions, as promoted through the 2024 Dubai workshop, and **encourages** the establishment of regular platforms for coordination, knowledge exchange, and mutual support, with the assistance of the Secretariat, the Global Crop Diversity Trust and other relevant partners;

7. **Requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to continue holding regular or periodic consultations with institutions that signed agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty, on the implementation of the agreements and the policy guidance provided by the Governing Body, including on the transfer of plant genetic resources in their collections with the Standard Material Transfer Agreement, and report to the Governing Body at each Session;
8. **Takes note** of the on-going efforts to secure the international collections whose orderly maintenance is at risk or threatened, and **requests** the Secretary to continue exercising his responsibilities and providing support under Article 15 of the International Treaty, in close collaboration with host governments, as applicable, and in partnership with other interested governments and relevant institutions that are capable of providing financial, technical and other necessary support to these efforts;
9. **Acknowledges** the challenges faced by several Article 15 institutions, including in strengthening safety duplication, modernizing genebank information systems and upgrading infrastructure, and **calls upon** Contracting Parties, donors and partners to mobilize resources and provide technical assistance to address these needs;
10. **Thanks** the Government of Norway for the generous funding of the Joint Funding Facility, through the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), to support the essential operations of IT/GB-11/25/16.4.2 7 international genebanks, and **urges** Contracting Parties, donors and other stakeholders to provide the necessary financial and material support to continue these and similar efforts;
11. **Reiterates** its invitation the host governments of international collections in COGENT that have not yet done so, to sign agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty so to bring all the international collections in the network under the purview of the International Treaty, and **further invites** interested host countries of collections under COGENT to consider signing agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty so to establish new international collections;
12. **Welcomes** the signature of Article 15 agreements by the International Olive Council (IOC) and the governments of Spain and Morocco, and **further invites** other countries hosting world olive tree collections in the IOC network to sign analogous agreements;
13. **Requests** the Secretary to continue **in** the efforts to secure new agreements under Article 15 of the International Treaty with all relevant institutions and their host governments, as appropriate;

14. **Takes note** of progress made with cryopreservation by CGIAR Centres, and **invites** the Secretary, in collaboration with CGIAR Centres and other relevant stakeholders, to support governance and policy arrangements for cryopreservation in the framework of the International Treaty, and to report on further developments at the next Session of the Governing Body.

PART III – REPORT OF NORWAY ON THE SVALBARD GLOBAL SEED VAULT

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling Resolutions 12/2017, 12/2019, 14/2022 and 14/2023;

Recalling that the adoption of the International Treaty gave the impetus to the Government of Norway to proceed with the establishment of the Svalbard Global Seed Vault (Seed Vault) and forms the basis for the operational principles of the Seed Vault;

Reaffirming that the Seed Vault is a crucial element of the global system for *ex situ* conservation and use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture; and

Acknowledging the close links between the operations and functions of the Seed Vault and the objectives of the International Treaty and its contribution to the implementation of the Treaty's provisions;

Thanks the Government of Norway for the submission of the 2025 report on the management and operations of the Seed Vault, and **invites** it to continue updating the Bureau and Governing Body on the operations and management of the Seed Vault;

Notes the new deposits of seed samples made at the Seed Vault during between 2023 and 2025;

Notes the additional security measures of the Seed Vault, including the practice of strict entry restrictions, and the positive effects of such measures in ensuring the safety of the deposited seeds and the overall integrity of the Seed Vault;

Welcomes the development of procedures, **in consultation with the CGREFA**, to facilitate the deposit of orthodox seeds of forest genetic resources in the Seed Vault, which have been made available for further research and breeding, from gene banks in countries of origin;

Commends the efforts to support national gene banks to further deposit materials in the Seed Vault and **encourages** other donors to contribute to these activities;

Welcomes the reconvening of the Seed Vault's International Advisory Panel and **requests** the Chairperson of the Governing Body to continue chairing the Panel and carrying out such functions as the role may require;

Reiterates the invitation to Contracting Parties, international institutions and other relevant eligible bodies and organizations to consider making use of the Seed Vault as part of their strategy for securing their important seed collections and for long-term storage of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;

Requests the Secretary to continue exploring with the Government of Norway practical means to enhance the linkages between the International Treaty and the Seed Vault, including through contributing to the development of strategies for strengthening the long-term security of the Seed Vault, linking data through the Global Information System, and reporting to the Bureau of the Twelfth Session of the Governing Body;

Requests the Secretary to continue collaborating with the Government of Norway and its partners in related activities, including supporting relevant communication and outreach efforts, as well as promoting the utilization of the Svalbard Global Seed Vault.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
25 November 2025**

Agenda item 17.1: Review of the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the International Treaty

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We thank the Secretariat for preparing the draft Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) for 2026–2031. We recognize the effort to integrate the outcomes of work by subsidiary bodies, decisions from other international processes, and progress achieved since the Tenth Session.
3. We underline the importance of maintaining flexibility in the MYPOW to respond to evolving priorities, such as developments in related international processes. We encourage the Secretariat to continue improving coherence and efficiency across intersessional work and coordination among Treaty mechanisms.
4. We note that the MYPOW contains outputs and milestones recorded in brackets, which are subject to relevant decisions taken during this Governing Body session. Other items mentioned in the MYPOW currently not in brackets will also be discussed, for example the work under ACSU or the funding target. Therefore, this MYPOW should be adjusted in line with the outcome of the discussions on the different agenda items throughout this week.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

Amendments to the 'guidance sought'

No amendments.

Amendments to the draft resolution

DRAFT RESOLUTION **/2025 MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling its previous Resolutions on the Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) for the Governing Body of the International Treaty;

1. ***Adopts*** the MYPOW 2026-2031 as contained in this Resolution.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
25 November 2025**

Agenda item 17.2: Consideration of “Digital Sequence Information / Genetic Sequence Data” on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture for the Objectives of the International Treaty

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We would like to thank the Secretariat for providing the overview of the recent developments on DSI/GSD in other fora and request the Secretary to continue this work in the upcoming intersessional period.
3. We welcome CBD COP decision 16/2 on modalities for operationalizing the multilateral mechanism for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of DSI on genetic resources (DSI-MLM), including a global fund, and note that Decision 16/2 does not affect the rights and obligations of Contracting Parties deriving from the International Treaty.
4. We note that the DSI-MLM does not cover DSI that is subject to benefit-sharing under other international ABS instruments. The MLS enhancement process gives us the opportunity to address DSI in a way that suits our sector, as discussed in item 9.2.
5. We welcome the convening of an open-ended multistakeholder workshop organised by the Secretariat of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, in partnership with the Secretariats of the CBD and of the International Treaty, on the implications of Decision 16/2.
6. We request that the Secretary continues to cooperate with the Secretary of the CBD to ensure mutual supportive implementation and report back to the Governing Body.

7. We thank CGIAR for their activities and appreciate their comprehensive work on capacity sharing with National Agricultural Research Systems across the globe. This clearly demonstrates the importance of the generation and use of DSI/GSD for the conservation of crop diversity, as well as for crop improvement programs, and for combating plant diseases. To strengthen such capacity building work we call on all countries, and other stakeholders in a position to do so, to enhance contributions to such capacity sharing activities.
8. We want to emphasize that the use of all kinds of information on PGRFA, including DSI/GSD, is crucial for all three objectives of the Treaty.
9. Open access to information on PGRFA and DSI/GSD in public databases is essential to develop the plant varieties which are needed for our future food systems.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

Amendments to the draft resolution

THE GOVERNING BODY:

Recalling that, in Resolution 16/2023, it requested the Secretary to report at this Eleventh Session on developments in all relevant international fora regarding Digital Sequence Information/Genetic Sequence Data (DSI/GSD), for the consideration of the potential implications of the use of DSI/GSD on plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) for the objectives of the International Treaty;

Noting the various recent developments in relevant international fora regarding DSI/GSD since the Tenth Session;

1. **Acknowledges** that there is not yet an agreed definition of, or official terminology for, digital sequence information/genetic sequence data and, therefore, uses “DSI/GSD” until a terminology is agreed;
2. **Welcomes** Decision 16/2 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to establish, as part of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, a multilateral mechanism for benefit-sharing from the use of DSI on genetic resources, including the Cali Fund, and **notes** that Decision 16/2 does not affect the rights and obligations of Contracting Parties under the International Treaty;

3. **Encourages** Parties to the CBD, in implementing the multilateral mechanism for benefit-sharing from the use of DSI on genetic resources, to take into account the relevant provisions of the International Treaty, as well as the need for the mutual supportive implementation of the CBD and its Nagoya Protocol, and the International Treaty;
4. **Requests** the Secretary to continue monitoring developments in all relevant international fora with regard to DSI/GSD and to report to the Governing Body at its Twelfth Session, for the continuous consideration by the Governing Body of the implications of those developments for the objectives and the functioning of the International Treaty;
5. **Welcomes the convening of an open-ended multistakeholder workshop organised by the Secretariat of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, in partnership with the Secretariats of the CBD and of the International Treaty, on the implications of Decision 16/2; and further requests** the Secretary to continue coordinating with **both the Secretariats of the CBD and the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture** in any activities related to DSI/GSD, in order to ensure coherence and avoid duplication of work;
- 5 bis. Requests the Secretary to continue to cooperate with the Secretary of the CBD to ensure mutual supportive implementation and report back to the Governing Body;**
6. **Thanks** those Contracting Parties and stakeholders that provided information on activities to reduce the existing gap on capacity regarding DSI/GSD between developed and developing countries;
7. **Reiterates** the call for Contracting Parties and other stakeholders with the capacity to do so, to promote the provision of financial resources and technical assistance; **invites** them to promote technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, training and capacity development, and scientific cooperation to reduce the existing gap on capacity regarding DSI/GSD between developed and developing countries and facilitate collaborations, as appropriate;
8. **Further invites** Contracting Parties and other stakeholders to provide information on such activities; and **requests** the Secretary to compile the information provided for the consideration of the Governing Body at this Twelfth Session;
9. **Further requests** the Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources and in cooperation with FAO and relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to facilitate activities to reduce the existing gap on capacity between developed and developing countries regarding generation, access to and use of DSI/GSD for research and development in support of effective benefit-sharing.

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Position paper of the European Regional Group
26 November 2025**

Agenda item 18: Adoption of the Work Programme and Budget

Statement on behalf of the European Regional Group

Mr Chair,

1. I speak on behalf of the European Regional Group.
2. We thank the Secretariat for preparing the working documents to this agenda item.
3. Regarding the Financial Report for the Biennium 2024-2025, we note with regret that only 64 % of the Contracting Parties have contributed into the Core Administrative Budget. We note with concern that due to insufficient contributions to the core administrative budget, the implementation of the work programme is increasingly relying on extrabudgetary funds to achieve its expected results. This poses a significant risk to the long-term sustainability and operational stability of the Treaty.
4. We request that the Secretariat increases transparency by presenting a detailed account of the measures being taken to address the funding gaps in the core administrative budget, in order to increase the number of Contracting Parties contributing to the core budget. We encourage the development of a financial plan aimed at reducing dependence on extrabudgetary funds.
5. Therefore, we encourage those Contracting Parties that have not contributed to do so, and also encourage Contracting Parties to pay the amount suggested by the indicative scale of the Core Administrative Budget, in order to create conditions for enhanced implementation of the Treaty.
6. We thank FAO for its continued support to the implementation of the Treaty and encourage it to reflect the crucial importance of the Treaty in future budgetary allocations.

7. We appreciate the generous contributions from Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland, and the Global Crop Diversity Trust to the Special Fund for Agreed Purposes and the Special Fund to Support the Participation of Developing Country Contracting Parties in this Governing Body session.
8. We thank the Secretariat for looking into different possibilities to encourage Contracting Parties to contribute to the Core Administrative Budget. We request the Secretariat to provide information about experiences in applying the different measures in other international fora, and further request the Bureau with the help of the Secretariat to develop a proposal for consideration at the next session of the Governing Body. We encourage the Secretariat to significantly increase the visibility, recognition and appreciation for Contracting Parties that contribute to the Core Administrative Budget or provide additional funding in support of the budget.
9. We note that, following the guidance of the Bureau, the draft budget is prepared at zero nominal growth as compared to the adopted 2024-2025 Core Administrative Budget. We agree with zero nominal growth in view of the global financial and geopolitical environment.
10. We hope that the enhancement of the MLS will be approved. We support the proposal to fund the implementation of the enhanced MLS through a combination of carry-forward from previous biennia, plus voluntary contributions from Contracting Parties and other donors.
11. Mr Chair, we are ready to engage in the discussion on the Work Programme and Budget for the biennium 2026-2027.
12. We have three suggested amendments, which I will read out.

Thank you, Mr Chair.

Guidance sought

In relation to the working document 18 – Draft Work Programme and Budget for the 2026-2027 Biennium

- The Governing Body is invited to consider and adopt the Work Programme and approve the Core Administrative Budget for the 2026-2027 biennium, by adopting the Draft Resolution contained in Appendix 8 to this document, subject to those revisions that it may consider appropriate.

In relation to the working document 18 Add. 1 – Draft Work Programme and Budget for the 2026-2027 Biennium – Donor-supported activities under the Special Fund for Agreed Purposes:

- The Governing Body is invited to recommend the proposed activities and, should it so wish, suggest priority areas for the consideration of donors who intend to provide funds during the 2026–2027 biennium to support the attainment of expected outcomes.

In relation to the working document 18.2 – Implementation Report of the Work Programme for the 2024–2025 Biennium

- The Governing Body is invited to take note of this report and provide any guidance and recommendations relevant to improving future programming and implementation of the work programme, as necessary.

In relation to the working document 18.3 – Financial Report on Progress of the Work Programme and Budget for the 2024-2025 Biennium

- No Guidance sought.

In relation to the working document 18.4 – Mechanisms and Approaches to Improve Rate of Contributions to the Core Administrative Budget

- The Governing Body is invited to take note of the information contained in this document and give any further guidance it considers appropriate regarding measures to improve the rate of contributions by the Contracting Parties to the CAB.

Amendments to the draft resolution

DRAFT RESOLUTION **/2025

WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET 2026-2027

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling its previous Resolutions and decisions on the Work Programme and Budget;

Further recalling that:

- a) The FAO Governing Bodies have determined that the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (International Treaty) is a priority FAO activity;

- b) The FAO Conference has recommended that “statutory bodies and conventions will be strengthened, enjoying more financial and administrative authority within the framework of FAO and a greater degree of self-funding by their Members”;

[Noting:

- a) its previous decisions on the enhancement of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing, and noting the productive work by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to Enhance of the Functioning of the Multilateral System in developing a package for consideration by the Governing Body;
- b) the need to ensure that sufficient financial provisions are made for the take-off phase of the enhanced Multilateral System, pending the generation of new benefit-sharing flows and other sustainable financing mechanisms; and
- c) that such initial expenditures can be met through the prudent use of available carry-forward from previous biennia, supplemented by voluntary contributions from Contracting Parties and other donors, in accordance with the Financial Rules of the International Treaty;]

Acknowledging

- a) the increasing importance of the International Treaty’s contribution to the implementation of the global policy instruments and frameworks, including the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, particularly in relation to their targets on genetic diversity, sustainable agriculture, and equitable benefit-sharing;
- b) the importance of ensuring adequate participation of women and youth in agricultural biodiversity initiatives, consistent with the relevant provisions of the International Treaty, and recalling the proclamation of 2026 as the International Year of Women Farmers;

Recognizing that:

- c) The execution of the overall Work Programme is subject to adequate resources being available, in a timely manner, within the Core Administrative Budget, the Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Developing Countries, the Special Fund for Agreed Purposes, as well as other resources that are not under the direct control of the Governing Body but are addressed in the Funding Strategy, and this will be essential to the future functioning, integrity and effectiveness of the International Treaty;
- d) The Core Administrative Budget is structurally under-resourced, impacting the execution of the Work Programme;

1. **Thanks** the Secretary for providing information on the implementation of the Work Programme and Budget of the previous biennium, and for the efforts to improve transparency and accountability, including through reporting on the outcomes and impact of activities under the Work Programme, and **requests** the Secretary to continue these efforts;
 2. **Adopts** the Work Programme and the Core Administrative Budget of the International Treaty for the Biennium 2026–2027, as contained in Annex 1 to this Resolution, recognizing that all proposed activities are subject to the availability of funding;
 3. **Adopts** the indicative scale of contributions, in accordance with Financial Rule V.1 b), as contained in Annex 3 to this Resolution, and **notes** that the number of Contracting Parties has been increasing;
 4. **Urges** all Contracting Parties to provide the resources required in the Core Administrative Budget, recognizing that the budget as adopted reflects the consensus of Contracting Parties, including in regard to voluntary payments in accordance with Annex 3 to this Resolution;
 5. **Notes with concern** that the number of Contracting Parties that contribute to the Core Administrative Budget continues to remain low, and **urges** Contracting Parties that made no, or partial or irregular contributions, to make contributions to the Core Administrative Budget as expeditiously as possible to enhance the financial sustainability of the Treaty through contributions by all Contracting Parties;
 6. **Requests** the Secretary to continue regularly to inform the Contracting Parties of the status of contributions, including by publishing updated status of contributions on the Treaty website on a regular basis; and **further requests** the Secretary to notify Contracting Parties that have made no or partial contributions and assist them in identifying appropriate actions to rectify the situation.
 7. **Requests** the Bureau, with support from the Secretary, to continue to review and examine ways and means to improve the rate of Contracting Parties' contributions to the Core Administrative Budget, and make any necessary recommendations to the Governing Body;
- 7 bis Requests the Secretariat to provide information about experiences in applying the different measures in other international fora, and further requests the Bureau with the help of the Secretariat to develop a proposal for consideration at the next session of the Governing Body;**

8. [*Approves*, on an exceptional one-time basis, the supplementary appropriation in an amount of up to a total of **738,000 USD**, to be funded through a combination of carry-forward from previous biennia, up to **403,000 USD**, plus voluntary contributions from Contracting Parties and other donors, for the remainder, to initiate the implementation of the enhanced Multilateral System, including the establishment of operational modalities, information systems, outreach and capacity-development activities required for the take-off phase; and *notes* that this approval does not create a precedent for future Work Programmes and Budgets of the Governing Body;
9. *Invites* Contracting Parties and other donors to provide complementary voluntary contributions to support the implementation of the take-off phase of the enhanced Multilateral System, and requests the Secretary to continue to update the Bureau and the Funding Committee on progress, and report to the Twelfth Session of the Governing Body on the utilization of these funds, progress achieved, and lessons learned;]
10. *Recommends* the project proposals contained in the Addendum to Annex 1 to this Resolution to donor Governments and institutions, and *invites* them to provide the funding necessary for the implementation of these projects, which will be critical for the continued successful implementation of the International Treaty in the 2026–2027 biennium, in particular by contributing to the Special Fund for Agreed Purposes;
11. *Invites* States that are not Contracting Parties, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and other entities to also contribute to the Core Administrative Budget, consistent with relevant FAO rules;
12. *Takes note* of the contribution from FAO of USD 2 million, and *thanks* it for its continued support to implementation of the International Treaty **and encourages FAO to reflect the crucial importance of the Treaty in future budgetary allocations;**
13. *Noting* the determination by FAO Governing Bodies that the International Treaty is a priority FAO activity, *encourages* FAO to increase, through the appropriate processes and in consultation with its Members, the contribution to the International Treaty and mobilizing additional **voluntary** financial resources for its work, in recognition of its strategic importance to FAO's overall mandate on biodiversity, food security and sustainable agriculture.;
14. *Invites* Contracting Parties that are also members of relevant Governing Bodies of FAO to consider possibilities for enhancing sustainable regular programme funding for the International Treaty, as appropriate;
15. *Decides* to retain the level of the Working Capital Reserve at USD 580 000;

16. **Notes** that, in the call for contributions for the 2026–2027 biennium, Contracting Parties that have not contributed to the Working Capital Reserve will be requested to contribute the balance necessary to bring the reserve up to its established level by separate voluntary contributions, in addition to their voluntary contributions to the Core Administrative Budget;
17. **Approves** the Secretariat staffing structure for the Biennium 2026–2027 set out in Annex 2 to this Resolution, recognizing that the precise staffing arrangements are a matter of the normal executive authority of the Secretary;
18. **Thanks** the government of Italy for the staff and financial resources that it has continued to make available to support and extend the activities of the International Treaty and invites other Contracting Parties to consider providing similar secondments or in-kind contributions;
19. **Thanks** the governments of Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Sweden, and Switzerland, as well as the Global Crop Diversity Trust, for their generous contributions for additional project activities, outside the Core Administrative Budget, in support of implementation of the International Treaty during the 2024–2025 biennium;
20. **Encourages** Contracting Parties to contribute to the Special Fund for Agreed Purposes, to support projects that will be critical for the continued successful implementation of the International Treaty in the 2026–2027 biennium;
21. **Confirms** that Contracting Parties that are developing countries and countries with economies in transition should be informed by the Secretary, in a timely manner before a meeting, of the availability of resources to support their participation in that meeting from the Fund referred to in the International Treaty’s Financial Rule VI.2 c), and that, where such funding is limited, priority should be given to the least developed countries;
22. **Encourages** Contracting Parties and other donors to replenish the Fund to Support the Participation of Developing Countries in the amount of USD 700 000 for the 2026–2027 biennium, and **requests** the Secretary to include a call for funds to this effect in the annual letters calling for contributions to the Core Administrative Budget;
23. **Recognizes** the essential role of capacity development for Contracting Parties in achieving the objectives of the International Treaty and the Work Programme, and **encourages** the Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to operationalize the Capacity Development Strategy and Action Plan during the 2026–2027 biennium, in collaboration with relevant FAO units and partners;

24. **Agrees and collectively grants its advance consent** to the budget revisions to the Special Fund for Agreed Purposes and the Trust Fund to Support the Participation of Developing Countries that may arise from any additional contribution to these Trust Funds, in accordance with the financial rules or administrative requirements of FAO and with the Funding Strategy of the International Treaty;
25. **Agrees** that all interests accruing to the multi-donor Trust Funds of the International Treaty be used in accordance with the terms and purposes of the respective Funds;
26. **Invites** FAO to take into account the specific nature and structure of the International Treaty's Trust Funds and to make necessary arrangements to minimize administrative burdens that might impede the receipt of contributions into those funds;
27. **Requests** the Secretary to continue to seek opportunities to hold International Treaty meetings virtually and back-to-back with other relevant meetings, to save on travel and other costs, without negatively impacting the delivery of the agreed work programme;
28. **Further requests** the Secretary to continue efforts to improve efficiency in the management and delivery of the Work Programme, including through the use of digital tools and joint event organization with partner organisations and entities;
29. **Requests** the Secretary to submit a draft Work Programme and Budget for the Biennium 2028–2029, including a Secretariat staffing table and a Draft Resolution, for the consideration of the Governing Body at its Twelfth Session;
30. **Requests** the Secretary to provide a detailed financial report and a summary narrative report on the implementation of the Work Programme 2026–2027, at least six weeks in advance, to the Twelfth Session of the Governing Body.

Annexes to the Resolution:

- Annex 1: Work Programme and the Core Administrative Budget for the Biennium 2026–2027
Addendum to Annex 1: Donor-supported activities under the Special Fund for Agreed Purposes
Annex 2: Secretariat staffing structure for the Biennium 2026–2027
Annex 3: Indicative Scale of Contributions

**Eleventh Session of the Governing Body of the
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
(Lima, 24-29 November 2025)**

**Closing statement of the European Regional Group
29 November 2025**

Mr Chair, Distinguished Delegates, Esteemed Colleagues,

On behalf of the European Regional Group, allow me to express our sincere gratitude to the Co-hosts and the Secretariat for their dedicated work in this Eleventh Session of the Governing Body. We would like to especially thank Peru for taking such good care of us during this week as well as Switzerland for its generosity in supporting and making this meeting possible. We also would like to thank our Chair who has made an enormous efforts in such a relentless manner. We also thank the Co-Chairs.

The negotiations have been challenging, reflecting the inherent complexity of the issues and our different perspectives and needs.

The Treaty is a key instrument to prevent the loss of biodiversity essential to face many challenges such as climate changes and population increase.

The discussions have been rich on all issues, and many of those have been solved during our discussions this week by the commitment and hard work of all the delegates.

We all came to the table with many hopes and expectations, we have all made concessions. It is regrettable that it was not possible to reach consensus on all issues at this GB.

Thank you for your efforts. We wish you all safe travels home.

Thank you, Mr Chair.