



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

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

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

Item 3 of the Provisional Agenda

**COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

Seventh Session

Rome, 15-23 May 1997

**EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE FOURTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE
ON AGRICULTURE (COAG)**

Rome 7-11 April 1997

**EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE
FOURTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

Rome 7-11 April 1997

~~~~~

**VII. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE *AD HOC* GROUP OF EXPERTS ON ANIMAL  
GENETIC RESOURCES<sup>1</sup>**

51. The Committee reviewed the Report of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Experts on Animal Genetic Resources and complimented it on its efforts. The Committee recognized that its deliberations were designed to provide advice to the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (the Commission), which had responsibility for decisions.

52. In view of the current state of animal genetic resources throughout the world and the importance to sustainable development of all sectors of agricultural biodiversity, the Committee agreed to advise the Commission that in principle there was a timely need to establish a subsidiary Inter-governmental Technical Working Group for Farm Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (the Working Group), as provided for in the Commission's statutes (Resolution CL 110/1). The Committee recognized Conference Resolution 3/95 to the effect that creation of the Working Group "will not adversely affect the important processes under way within the Commission ..... for negotiating the revision of the International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources ....."; it was also suggested that the Working Group could report to COAG until these negotiations were over. It was also agreed that the focus of the future programme of work of the Working Group should be on further elaborating the Global Strategy for the Management of Farm Animal Genetic Resources.

53. Different proposals for the composition of the Working Group were suggested but no final agreement was reached.

54. Some members stressed the need that the Working Group be established for the limited and defined period necessary to evaluate the Global Strategy. It was also felt that the Working Group would normally meet once between meetings of the Commission, until it had completed its mandate. Some members, however, saw the need for two sessions before the Eighth Session of the Commission in 1999, with the timing of the first session depending on the availability of funds. Some members of the Committee felt that the Commission should recognize current budgetary constraints and cost issues, while allowing efficient and cost-effective consideration of the broad range of technical matters involved in elaborating the Global Strategy. It was suggested that the Secretariat provide to the Commission a report indicating, in particular, the financial implications of establishing the Working Group.

55. Taking into account the resolutions and decisions by governments at the UN Conference on Environment and Development, many members of the Committee stated as unacceptable the recommendation of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Experts regarding FAO's exploring the possibility of becoming an implementing agency for the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). Other members supported the recommendation of the *Ad Hoc* Group of Experts in view of FAO's involvement in agricultural biological diversity. Many members recommended that FAO explore partnerships on specific projects with the three present GEF implementing agencies (UNDP, World Bank and UNEP).