

Annex 2

Agenda Item for the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Agenda Item for the CGRFA

The following item is a summary of the output of discussion and comments from the participants for presentation to the CGRFA in order to:

In order to:

(A) Contribute to the fulfilment of previous decisions of the Commission, Decision III/1. of the Convention on Biological Diversity and contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals;

(B) Work towards meeting the needs for food security, food sovereignty and the alleviation of poverty of millions of people within rural communities;

(C) Preserve traditional systems that not only contribute to meeting these needs but also maintain a significant wealth of biological and agricultural diversity thereby providing a repository of genetic resources and ingenious practices and knowledge to assist human kind to meet its future requirements.

(D) And to recognise the link between agricultural and cultural heritage

The Commission On Genetic Resources For Food And Agriculture is asked to endorse the design of a policy measures and financial framework to implement the preservation, maintenance, protection and development of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS)

The framework will deal with the following issues:

- An expanded GIAHS definition emphasising the *dynamic, evolving and adaptive social-ecological systems* that constitute *GIAHS*.

- The establishment of GIAHS designation procedures that are sensitive to the requirements of communities operating GIAHS systems (GIAHS Communities) and accept that the final designation decision rests with the candidate GIAHS Community.

- The provision of means to secure the evolution and security of GIAHS and the related GIAHS Communities through the granting of appropriate rights in the landscapes in which GIAHS operates and the peripheral areas on which they depend.

- The involvement of GIAHS Communities as stakeholders in the management of lands and water that affect the GIAHS operations.

- The right of GIAHS Communities systems to determine the mode of operation of their systems and the manner in which those systems; their traditions, culture and heritage are managed and developed.

- The right of GIAHS Communities to regulate access to their traditional knowledge, homes, natural resources, lands, water and other domains.

- Mechanisms to secure the preservation and evolution of customary law regimes in GIAHS Communities.

- A mechanism for creating internationally agreed standards for labelling of GIAHS products.

- Appropriate linkages within UN FAO operations and with other institutions and conventions, in particular, WIPO, WTO TRIPS, CBD, CCD, CITES, RAMSAR, WHC, UNCCD, the UNESCO MAB programme.

- Provision for capacity building in GIAHS Communities

- The establishment of a Funding mechanism.

- Awareness raising component

- Capacity building of national governments

- Information and dissemination component (inventory, assessment/ monitoring)

- Impact assessment of policy measures, project/programmes in GIAHS communities

- National policy development (for items 12 and 13)

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