February 2011



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 Продовольствен ная и сельскохозяйств енная организация Объединенных Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación

### Item 2 of the Provisional Agenda

## COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

### **Fifth Session**

### Rome, 27-29 April 2011

#### PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA AND TIMETABLE

#### 1. Election of the Chair, the Vice-Chair(s) and the *Rapporteur*

In accordance with its statutes, "the Working Group shall elect its Chairperson and one or more Vice-Chairpersons from among the representatives of Members of the Working Group at the beginning of each session. These officers shall remain in office until the next session of the Working Group and shall be eligible for re-election". The Working Group may also wish to appoint a *Rapporteur*.

### 2. Adoption of the annotated agenda and timetable

A provisional timetable is given in the Appendix to the present document, for consideration by the Working Group.

### 3. Review of the draft updated Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

At its Twelfth Regular Session, the Commission agreed to update the rolling *Global Plan of Action* for consideration at its Thirteenth Regular Session in accordance with the Strategic Plan 2010-2017 for the implementation of the Multi-Year Programme of Work. It requested FAO to prepare the updated *Global Plan of Action* based primarily on the *Second Report on the State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* (SoWPGR-2), and in particular, on the identified gaps and needs, taking into account further contributions from Governments, as well as inputs received from regional meetings and consultations.

Noting the importance of updating the *Global Plan of Action* for the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (International Treaty), the Commission also recommended that the updated *Global Plan of Action* be focused and requested its Secretary to coordinate with the Secretary of the International Treaty in the updating process to ensure that specific issues of relevance to the International Treaty are taken into account.

The document *Draft Updated Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* (CGRFA/WG-PGR-5/11/2), provides a summary of the process of preparation of the draft updated *Global Plan of Action* and presents the draft updated *Global Plan of Action* in the *Appendix*. The document *Summary Report of the regional consultations for updating the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* (CGRFA/WG-PGR-5/11/Inf.1), presents a summary of the main outcome of the seven regional consultations held during the process. Relevant outcomes of the joint meeting of the Bureaus of the Commission and of the International Treaty (10 March 2011) and of the Fourth Session of the Governing Body (14-18 March 2011) are reported in the document, *Comments on the draft updated Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* (CGRFA/WG-PGR-5/11/Inf.2).

The Working Group is invited to review the draft updated *Global Plan of Action*, taking into account the reports of the various consultations, with a view to its finalization at the Commission's Thirteenth Regular Session; recommend to the Commission to request FAO to further develop indicators, including higher-order indicators, in relation to the updated *Global Plan of Action*; to call upon Governments and donors to make available financial resources for the implementation of the updated *Global Plan of Action*, including for the further development of the indicators.

#### 4. Review of the draft updated Genebank Standards

The Commission, at its Twelfth Regular Session, agreed on the need for revising the *Genebank Standards* in order to ensure that plant genetic resources are conserved under conditions that meet recognized and appropriate standards, based on current and available technological and scientific knowledge. It requested FAO, in cooperation with the International Treaty, the CGIAR and other relevant international institutions, to undertake this review for consideration by the Working Group, at its next session. The document *Preparation of the draft revised Genebank Standards* (CGRFA/WG-PGR-5/11/3), provides a summary of the process for the revision of the *Genebank Standards* and describes the background and rationale for the revision. The draft revised Standards are presented in the document *Draft Revised Genebank Standards for the Conservation of Orthodox Seeds* (CGRFA/WG-PGR-5/11/Inf.3).

The Working Group is invited to review, and as appropriate, revise the revised *Genebank Standards*, and recommend that the Commission endorse the standards, in order that they acquire universal value and are more easily adopted by countries. The Working Group may wish to recommend to the Commission to request FAO to develop genebank standards for germplasm not covered by the draft revised *Genebank Standards*, in cooperation with the International Treaty, the CGIAR and other relevant international institutions; and urge Members to provide the necessary budgetary resources for full participation of developing countries in the process.

### 5. Biotechnologies and the conservation and utilization of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

The Commission, at its Twelfth Regular Session, requested the Working Group to review a scoping paper describing the range of biotechnologies applied to the conservation and

utilization of genetic resources for food and agriculture, the current status of application of these technologies and matters relevant for their future development, including relevant policy developments in other international forums. The scoping paper is given in the document, *Status and trends of biotechnologies applied to the conservation and utilization of genetic resources for food and agriculture and matters relevant for their future development* (CGRFA/WG-PGR-5/11/4), for review by the Working Group.

### 6. Review of the Commission's Multi-Year Programme of Work – Plant genetic resources

The Commission's Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) will be reviewed at its Thirteenth and Fifteenth Regular Sessions. At its Twelfth Regular Session, the Commission also requested the *Strategic Plan 2010-2017 for the implementation of the Multi-Year Programme of Work* to be reviewed when reviews of the Multi-Year Programme of Work are foreseen. The document, *Review of the Commission's Multi-Year Programme of Work – Plant Genetic Resources* (CGRFA/WG-PGR-5/11/5), briefly summarizes the progress made in the implementation of the MYPOW, provides an assessment of future work and reviews the MYPOW and its Strategic Plan 2010-2017 for the plant genetic resources sector. The Working Group is invited to review the progress in the implementation of the MYPOW as it relates to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, assess the need for adjustments and review the outputs/milestones proposed for the Commission's Fifteenth and Eighteenth Regular Sessions.

# 7. Policy coherence and complementarity of the work of the Commission and the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

The document CGRFA/WG-PGR-5/11/6 has been jointly prepared by the two Secretariats; it presents the institutional framework within which the Commission and the Governing Body operate and reviews the cooperation between the two bodies since 2006. It provides an overview of the most relevant activities and presents considerations that the Commission and the Governing Body may wish to take into account in considering the functional division of tasks and activities between the Commission and the Governing Body within the terms of the International Treaty.

The Working Group is invited to express its view with regard to the considerations and options contained in this document; and recommend, for consideration by the Commission, next joint steps the Commission and the Governing Body may wish to consider to jointly review the division of tasks and activities of the two bodies with a view to further facilitate and improve policy coherence and complementarity of their work, taking into account comments received from the Governing Body.

### 8. Follow-up to other recommendations of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

At its Twelfth Session, the Commission encouraged follow-up activities in relation to a number of areas in relation to the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2010-2017 for the implementation of the MYPOW. These are with regards to the Facilitating Mechanism and National Information Sharing Mechanism, plant breeding, seed systems and crops for food security. The document *Follow-up to other recommendations of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* (CGRFA/WG-PGR-4/09/7), provides a summary of the ongoing work in these areas. It also reports on the finalization of the SoWPGR-2 and the synthetic account as requested by the Commission. Specific subjects dealt in the paper are further elaborated in the documents *Strengthening plant breeding capacities* (CGRFA/WG-PGR-5/11/Inf.4) *Strengthening Seed systems: Gap analysis of seed sector* (CGRFA/WG-PGR-5/11/Inf.5) and *Options to promote food security: on-farm and in situ management of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture* 

(CGRFA/WG-PGR-5/11/Inf.6). Guidance is sought from the Working Group on the further development in these areas in particular in light of updating the *Global Plan of Action* 

#### 9. Reports from international organizations and instruments

The Commission emphasizes the importance of cooperation with the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and other relevant organizations to facilitate its work on plant genetic resources. Document CGRFA/WG-PGR-5/11/8 provides information on the reports from the Global Crop Diversity Trust, that is presented in the document Report from the Global Crop Diversity Trust to the Intergovernmental Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA/WG-PGR-5/11/Inf.7) and from the CGIAR's – System Wide Genetic Resource Program, that is provided in the document Report from International Centers of Agricultural Research of the CGIAR to the Intergovernmental Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA/WG-PGR-4/09/Inf.8). The Secretary of the International Treaty has been invited to inform the Working Group on the main outcomes of the Fourth Session of the Governing Body, with regard to implementation of the International Treaty. The Working Group is invited to recommend to the Commission that it continue to receive reports from organizations and instruments related to plant genetic resources within the context of the MYPOW and its implementation.

# APPENDIX PROVISIONAL TIME-TABLE

| Date and<br>Time           | Agenda<br>Item | Title   | <b>Working Documents</b>      |
|----------------------------|----------------|---|-------------------------------|
| Wednesday, 27 morning      | April 2011     |   |                               |
| 10:15 – 11:00              | 1              | Election of the Chair, the Vice-Chair(s) and the Rapporteur   |                               |
|                            | 2              | Adoption of the agenda and timetable  | CGRFA/WG-PGR-<br>5/11/1       |
|                            |                |   | CGRFA/WG-PGR-<br>5/11/1 Add.1 |
| 11:00 – 12:00              | 3              | Review of the draft updated Global Plan of<br>Action for the Conservation and<br>Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic<br>Resources for Food and Agriculture                       | CGRFA/WG-PGR-<br>5/11/2       |
| 12:00 – 13:00              | 4              | Review of the draft updated <i>Genebank</i> Standards   | CGRFA/WG-PGR-<br>5/11/3       |
| Wednesday, 27<br>afternoon | April 2011     |   |                               |
| 15:00 – 18:00              | 5              | Biotechnologies and the conservation and utilization of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture  | CGRFA/WG-PGR-<br>5/11/4       |
|                            | 6              | Review of the Commission's Multi-Year<br>Programme of Work – Plant genetic<br>resources   | CGRFA/WG-PGR-<br>5/11/5       |
|                            | 7              | Policy coherence and complementarity of<br>the work of the Commission and the<br>Governing Body of the International Treaty<br>on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and<br>Agriculture | CGRFA/WG-PGR-<br>5/11/6       |
|                            | 8              | Follow-up to other recommendations of the<br>Commission on Genetic Resources for<br>Food and Agriculture  | CGRFA/WG-PGR-<br>5/11/7       |
|                            | 9              | Reports from international organizations and instruments  | CGRFA/WG-PGR-<br>5/11/8       |
|                            | 10             | Other Business  |                               |

| Date and<br>Time                   | Agenda<br>Item | Title                                       | <b>Working Documents</b> |  |  |
|------------------------------------|----------------|---|--------------------------|--|--|
| Thursday, 28 April 2011<br>morning |                |   |                          |  |  |
| 10:00 – 13:00                      |                | Matters outstanding                         |                          |  |  |
| Thursday, 28 April 2011 afternoon  |                |   |                          |  |  |
| 15:00 – 18:00                      |                | Matters outstanding                         |                          |  |  |
| Date and<br>Time                   | Agenda<br>Item | Title                                       | <b>Working Documents</b> |  |  |
| Friday, 29 April 2011<br>afternoon |                |   |                          |  |  |
| 14:30 – 17:30                      | 11             | Adoption of the Report of the Working Group |                          |  |  |