



CC/89/9

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**INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NEW VARIETIES OF PLANTS**

Geneva

**CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE****Eighty-Ninth Session  
Geneva, March 27, 2015****INTERRELATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES  
FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (ITPGRFA)***Document prepared by the Office of the Union**Disclaimer: this document does not represent UPOV policies or guidance*

1. The purpose of this document is to report on developments concerning possible areas of interrelations among the international instruments of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and UPOV.

**BACKGROUND**

2. The full background to this matter is presented in documents CC/88/10 "Interrelation with the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)" and CC/88/10 Add. "Addendum - Interrelation with the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)".

3. At its eighty-eighth session, held in Geneva on October 15, 2014, the Consultative Committee considered documents CC/88/10 and CC/88/10 Add.. It noted the communication from the Office of the Secretary of the ITPGRFA, summarizing the latest situation in relation to the invitation from the ITPGRFA to UPOV and WIPO to jointly identify possible areas of interrelations among the respective international instruments of UPOV, WIPO and the ITPGRFA, as reported in document CC/88/10 Add. (see document CC/88/16 "Report on the Conclusions", paragraphs 67 and 68).

**DEVELOPMENTS**

4. On February 17, 2015, the Office of the Union received a letter of invitation from the Mr. Shakeel Bhatti, Secretary, ITPGRFA, to attend the second meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Technical Committee on Sustainable Use of PGRFA (ACSU), to be held in Rome on March 2 and 3, 2015, a copy of which is attached as the Annex to this document (in English only). The letter explains that the ACSU will be asked to provide advice to the Secretary of the ITPGRFA "on the identification of interrelations between the International Treaty and the relevant international instruments of UPOV and WIPO". The letter also explains that document IT/ACSU-2/15/Inf.5, which has been produced for the second meeting of ACSU, contains a compilation of all submissions that the ITPGRFA had received on that matter by early February 2015. That document can be accessed at <http://www.planttreaty.org/content/farmers-rights-submissions>. Document IT/ACSU2/15/4, to be produced by the Secretariat of the ITPGRFA for the relevant agenda item at the second meeting of ACSU was not available at the time of publishing this document.

5. The Office of the Union plans to attend the second meeting of ACSU and to make an oral report at the eighty-ninth session of the Consultative Committee.

*6. The Consultative Committee is invited to note the developments concerning possible areas of interrelations among the international instruments of the ITPGRFA, WIPO and UPOV, and that an oral report will be made to the Consultative Committee, at its eighty-ninth session, on the second meeting of the ACSU.*

[Annex follows]

[In English only / En anglais seulement /  
Nur auf Englisch / En Inglés solamente]



## The International Treaty

ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



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Our Ref.: ITPGRFA / ACSU 2

Your Ref.:

Rome, 17 February 2015

Dear Dr Gurry,

I am pleased to invite you or a person whom you designate, to attend the second meeting of the **Ad Hoc Technical Committee on Sustainable Use of PGRFA**, which will be held in FAO - Rome, Italy, on **2-3 March 2015**, in the Malaysia Room (B227).

At its 5<sup>th</sup> Session, held in Muscat from 24 to 28 September 2013, the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture adopted Resolution 7/2013 on the "Implementation of Article 6, Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources". The Resolution endorsed the Programme of Work (PoW) on Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (2014-2017) which included the decision to reconvene the *Ad Hoc* Technical Committee on Sustainable Use of PGRFA.

The first meeting of the Committee was held in Rome from 8 to 9 November 2012. During the meeting important items were discussed including:

- the draft Vision, Mission and Goals of the Work Programme for the implementation of the Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, in accordance with Article 6 of the Treaty;
- the development of a Toolbox on the Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
- views, experiences and best practices regarding the implementation of Farmers' Rights.

As you are certainly aware, the ACSU will be asked to provide advice to the Secretary on the implementation of Paragraph 3 of Resolution 8/2013 on the identification of interrelations between the International Treaty and the relevant international instruments of UPOV and WIPO. I have compiled all submissions, which I received until early February, in document IT/ACSU-2/15/Inf.5 and they can be accessed at <http://www.planttreaty.org/content/farmers-rights-submissions>. The relevant agenda item is presented in document IT/ACSU-2/15/4.

I would be grateful if you could confirm your or your representative's attendance to the meeting at your earliest convenience by email message addressed to [PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org](mailto:PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org). The provisional agenda is transmitted herewith, while the working documents are posted on the Treaty website at [www.planttreaty.org](http://www.planttreaty.org)

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Mr Francis Gurry  
Director General  
World Intellectual Property Organization  
Secretary-General of the International Union for the  
Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)  
Geneva, Switzerland

I remain at your disposal for any further information you may require and I look forward to continuing our excellent cooperation on all matters of mutual interest to WIPO, the UPOV Convention and the International Treaty.

Please accept the assurance of my highest regards.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shakeel Bhatti', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Shakeel Bhatti  
Secretary  
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources  
for Food and Agriculture