

GB3, Tunis, Agenda Item 13 (5 June 2009):

Text of the proposed resolution from the Asian Regional Group (not distributed)

DRAFT RESOLUTION/DECISION ON ARTICLE 6 SUSTAINABLE USE

RESOLUTION/DECISION XX/2009

THE GOVERNING BODY,

Recalling that the objectives of the International Treaty are the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of their use, in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity, for sustainable agriculture and food security,;

Recalling that under Article 6.1 of the Treaty, the Contracting Parties shall develop and maintain appropriate policy and legal measures that promote the sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, where sustainable use may include measures provided under Article 6.2 of the Treaty;

Noting the Document IT/GB-3/09/16 prepared by the Secretary covering the status of implementation of Article 6, which includes information on policy and legal measures used to achieve the objectives of the Article, as requested by the Governing Body, at its Second Session;

Noting that there appears to be a lack of an integrated and coordinated approach in most countries towards the promotion of sustainable use of PGRFA, and that countries may be assisted by the development of an integrated approach for better use of PGRFA and implementation of Article 6 of the Treaty;

Recalling that under Article 13.3 of the Treaty, the Contracting Parties agree that benefits arising from the use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture that are shared under the Multilateral System should flow primarily, directly and indirectly, to farmers in all countries, especially in developing countries, and countries with economies in transition, who conserve and sustainably utilize plant genetic resources for food and agriculture;

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

Acknowledging the need to address attention and support for sustainable use of PGRFA at the informal sector, which are managed by farmers, local communities and indigenous peoples;

Noting the contributions on views and experiences received by the Secretariat and made by the Contracting Parties in the Third Session of the Governing Body;

Requests the Secretariat to undertake the development of a toolbox to assist Contracting Parties in the design of measures to promote the sustainable use of PGRFA, to be presented to the Governing Body for its consideration, at its Fourth Session;

Requests the Secretariat to develop a methodology for the assessment of progress with regard to the implementation of Article 6, in cooperation with the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, for consideration at its next session;

Invites further Contracting Parties and other relevant organizations to provide information, studies, and research to assess progress and value of on-farm sustainable use in informal systems, including information on policy and legal measures to achieve the objectives of Article 6;

Requests the Secretariat to collect the views and experiences submitted by Contracting Parties and other relevant organizations as basis for an agenda item for consideration by the Governing Body at its Fourth Session, and to disseminate relevant information through the website of the International Treaty, where appropriate; and

Invites Contracting Parties to consider reviewing, and, if necessary, adjusting seed regulations to promote sustainable use of PGRFA, with a particular view to informal seed systems, and to promote balanced policy and legal frameworks and cooperation between actors and activities from both formal and informal systems of sustainable use of PGRFA.