

Statement by Norway regarding GB3-report paragraph 24 (5 June 2009):

Chair,

Paragraph 24 of the draft report accommodates the need of interlinking the work under the Treaty with the work of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and of avoiding duplication work.

However, if the assessment of progress on the implementation of Article 6 is to be carried out through the reporting mechanism of the Global Plan of Action, we are worried that this will not meet the need of the Governing Body to assess progress made on certain issues of particular importance with regard to Article 6.

The implications of the proposed text have not been dealt with in this session, and we don't think the Governing Body should make a decision on the use of the GPA reporting mechanism in this context at this stage of the session.

Rather, we wish to propose an alternative text, which we think accommodates the intentions behind the draft report text, while at the same time ensuring that we do not lose track of the intentions behind assessing progress made in the implementation of Article 6.

The text reads as follows:

“The Governing Body emphasized the need to assess progress, identify gaps and opportunities regarding the implementation of Article 6, and requested the Secretariat to develop a methodology for the assessment of progress, for consideration at its next session, thereby considering the possibilities of linking this methodology to the reporting mechanism of the Global Plan of Action for the conservation and sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.”