



Our Ref.: C/CBD-605

## Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

### Second Meeting of the Group of National Focal Points for Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture

2 – 4 March 2021

The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has the honour to extend an invitation to attend the rescheduled Second Meeting of the Group of National Focal Points for Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture, which will be held virtually from 2 to 4 March 2021.

The Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (the Commission), at its Seventeenth Regular Session, held from 18 to 22 February 2019, agreed that the report on *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*,<sup>1</sup> along with developments in other fora that also point to declines in biodiversity of relevance to food and agriculture, calls for a timely and clear cross-sectoral follow-up.<sup>2</sup> The Commission requested the Secretariat to convene an open-ended meeting of the Group of National Focal Points for Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture, to review and, as appropriate, revise an updated version of the document "Biodiversity for food and agriculture – revised draft needs and possible actions" for consideration by the Commission at its forthcoming Eighteenth Session "with the motivation to have it adopted as a Global Plan of Action (...)." The First Meeting of the Group of National Focal Points for Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture, attended by three National Coordinators nominated by each region and during which a previous version of the document was reviewed and revised, was held in Rome in June 2018. The Second Meeting was originally scheduled for April 2020 but was postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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<sup>1</sup> FAO. 2019. *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*, J. Bélanger & D. Pilling (eds.). FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Assessments. Rome. 572 pp. (<http://www.fao.org/3/CA3129EN/CA3129EN.pdf>).

<sup>2</sup> CGRFA-17/19/Report.

The Second Meeting will be “open ended”. In addition to National Focal Points nominated by the regions, it will thus be open to delegations from all Commission Members and observers, including representatives from international organizations.

The Second Meeting will take place as a virtual meeting and will be conducted in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. Procedures applicable to the virtual meeting of the Group of National Focal Points for Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture will be made available in due time.

The Provisional Agenda is attached. Other documents may be downloaded, as they become available, from the Commission’s website: <http://www.fao.org/cgrfa/meetings/nfpbfa/en/>

Members of the Commission and Members and Associate Members that are not members of the Commission are kindly invited to inform the Director-General, as early as possible, of the names, official titles, addresses and *email accounts* of representatives designated to participate in the Second Meeting. Online registration for countries is available through the password-protected FAO Members Gateway: <http://www.fao.org/members-gateway/en/>. Instructions for online registration can be downloaded from the Gateway. Online registration requires the insertion of an email account in the form for accreditation. The link to access the virtual meeting will be made available upon receipt of the above information and the same email address will have to be inserted in the Zoom registration form to grant representatives access to the virtual meeting platform.

Representatives from international organizations are requested to forward their names, official titles, addresses and *email accounts* by email to [cgrfa@fao.org](mailto:cgrfa@fao.org). The link to access the virtual meeting will be made available upon receipt of the above information and the same email address will have to be inserted in the Zoom registration form to grant representatives from international organizations access to the virtual meeting platform.