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pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Organización
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Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación



Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda

COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

INTERGOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

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PREPARATION OF THE FIRST REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES

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PREPARATION OF THE FIRST REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE WORLD'S ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its first meeting 8-10 September 1998, the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITWG-AnGR) recommended that *FAO coordinate the development of a country-driven Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources, that could provide an assessment of countries' animal genetic resources programmes and the state of farm animal genetic resources*. In making this recommendation, the ITWG-AnGR stressed a number of requirements, including:

- (i) *The importance of enhancing the understanding and awareness of the status of animal genetic resources, the state of country capacity to manage their resources and the state of the art, in terms of the methodologies and technologies available for the better use, development and conservation of these resources.*
- (ii) *Further development of the functionality of the Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS) to assist countries in the reporting process.*
- (iii) *The need for the process of preparation of the Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources to be developed in a manner that would build national capacity, particularly through early training, and would lay the basis for regular and cost-effective updating of the relevant data and information.*
- (iv) *Noting that Countries' capacities to report on the state of their animal genetic resources vary considerably, the Working Group had also stressed "the need to design an approach, including consultation with countries on practical guidelines, to the preparation of the Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources that makes allowance for these different capacities and to ensure that sufficient time is available in the light of individual countries capacities".*

2. The Working Group considered that the implications of its recommendations for the 2000-2001 biennium programme priorities include:

- (i) *the preparation of guidelines, in consultation with countries, to be used for the collection and assembly of existing data and information, for the Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources;*
- (ii) *the enhancement of the functionality of DAD-IS, in order to provide countries with a practical data and information management system;*
- (iii) *assisting the development of National and Regional Focal Points, including training for National Coordinators, as appropriate;*
- (iv) *the collection and collation of existing data and information on farm animal genetic resources, using DAD-IS and/or existing data and information management systems; and*
- (v) *the initiation of the preparation, in consultation with countries, of the first Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources itself.*

3. The recommendations of the ITWG-AnGR regarding the preparation of the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources* were endorsed by the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) at its Eighth Regular Session, 19-23 April 1999, and by the FAO Council at its 116th session, 14-19 June 1999. These priorities are reflected in the

FAO Regular Programme of Work and Budget for the 2000-01 biennium, and in the Organization's draft Medium Term Plan 2002-07.

4. The present document reports on the action taken and on proposed action to enable FAO to coordinate development of the country-driven Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources, as recommended by the Working Group. Annex 1 summarizes the proposed core activities and budget for developing the process and undertaking preparation of the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*. The draft Guidelines to assist countries prepare their Country Reports are presented in document CGRFA/WG-AnGR-2/00/3 ADD1.

II. PROPOSED SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE REPORT

5. The *Report of the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources* is an integral part of the Global Strategy. The Report will not only provide a comprehensive inventory of the animal genetic resources, it will describe the present and future status and roles of these resources and allow for animal genetic resources to be assessed in terms of their contribution to sustainable development and food security. Specifically, the contribution of the State of the World's process (the Process) as well as the first Report itself (the Report) will be to further develop and implement the Global Strategy by:

- (i) Providing the Commission on Genetics Resources for Food and Agriculture and its Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources, and national Governments with data and information on animal genetic resources for establishing priorities for improved policy development and capacity building in this sector, and the need for and requirements of international and national regulations and codes of conduct;
- (ii) Providing the Commission for Genetic Resources with a foundation and capacity to monitor the state of animal genetic resources, and provide guidance to relevant stakeholders such as donors, international organizations and Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- (iii) Providing national Governments and stakeholders, including country networks, with enhanced understanding of the state of animal genetic resources and an understanding of existing capacity to manage these resources. This will contribute directly to improved understanding, use, development and conservation of these resources, and introduce a firm foundation for capacity building to ensure long-term sustainable use and development of these resources, on a sound basis for enhancing the important contribution of the animal sector of agriculture in achieving global food security and rural development;
- (iv) Providing donors and stakeholders with a framework from which to establish priorities, create synergies and mobilize necessary financial resources to implement actions aimed at the enhanced use, development and conservation of animal genetic resources;
- (v) Providing FAO with a foundation for the Early Warning System for animal genetic resources, and a basis for preparing national and international emergency plans and response to genetic resources that are at risk of being lost; and
- (vi) Enhancing technical capacity within the various focal points, particularly in the area of animal genetic resources inventory, characterization, data and information management, and communication for use in developing cost-effective action in sustainable intensification and, as required, conservation.

6. The Process for developing the first Report must be country-driven, ensuring that national and regional capacities, issues, priorities, and needs are reliably identified. The process and guidelines to assist countries prepare their Country Reports have been drafted. The draft guidelines, contained in document ADD 1, are intended to facilitate country assessments of policy and technical management issues, capacity building needs, achievements and an analysis of the trends and demands within the farm animal sector. Countries are encouraged to provide an in depth analysis of their livestock sector in order to determine both successes and failures in the use and development of animal genetic resources and the reasons for success and failure.

7. The guidelines are also intended to ensure that Country Reports contain common elements in order to allow compilation of the Country Reports to provide a foundation for the first Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources. The draft guidelines have been structured to provide an assessment in four basic areas, which are:

- (a) the State of Farm Animal Diversity characterization, use and development, and conservation;
- (b) the State of Capacity to manage animal genetic resources and an assessment of capacity building requirements;
- (c) the State of the Art; and
- (d) Strategic Priorities for action at national, regional, and global levels.

III. THE PREPARATORY PROCESS

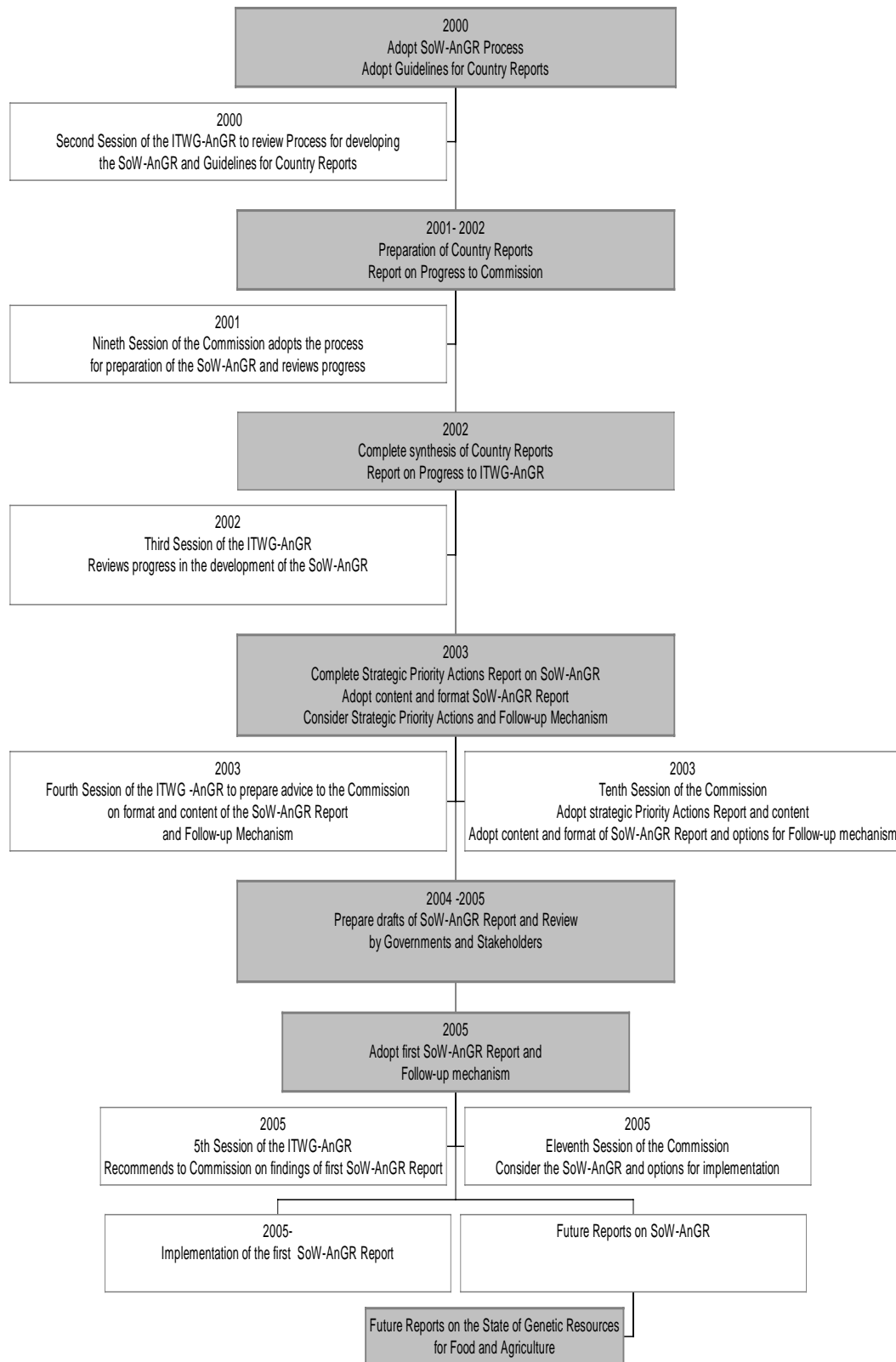
8. The following paragraphs outline the proposed process for preparing the first Report. The main features of the proposed Process are presented in Table 1.

Preparation of Country Reports

9. As recommended by the ITWG-AnGR, FAO has initiated preparation of practical guidelines to assist countries prepare their Country Reports. Consultations have been undertaken with National Coordinators and other experts and broad technical support has been available from other relevant FAO Departments and Divisions, including Information, Economics and Statistics, Legal, Sustainable Development and Technical Cooperation. In addition, some work has been initiated to enhance the functionality of DAD-IS to support the Process and to ensure that the information forming the basis of the first report can be built on over time. FAO is actively seeking extra-budgetary resources that are necessary to support the core preparatory work for Country Reporting and the first Report. If adequate financial resources are secured, the following series of steps will then be implemented:

- (i) Countries accepting participation in the process will be invited to attend regional workshops where the guidelines for Country Reports will be discussed, and training will be provided for key staff coordinating the State of the World in-country process, in the use of the guidelines and the State of the World data and reporting modules of DAD-IS. Guidance on the range of technical data and information which, when collated will provide a sound platform for use in developing the Country Report, will also be provided in these training sessions.
- (ii) The key country coordinating staff, including the National Coordinator, will then be responsible for Country Report preparatory activities. They may determine appropriate mechanisms for involving national and international stakeholders and the need for an advisory committee and drafting group.

**Table 1: The State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources
(SoW-AnGR) Core Activities**



- (iii) The key country coordinating staff, including the National Coordinator, with Regional technical Focal Point assistance as required, and some support from the Global Focal Point, will be responsible for collecting, assembling, analyzing and synthesizing their data and information ready for use as a platform for the drafting of the Country Report. This data, information, and analysis will enable description of the state of the countries animal genetic resources diversity, the state of their capacity to manage these resources and the state of the art in terms of available policies, methodologies, technologies, and expertise.
- (iv) The key country coordinating staff, including the National Coordinator, will also be responsible for identifying and presenting the essential findings and their country's strategic priorities for action. These will constitute the basis of the draft Country Report, ready for acceptance by the Government and submission to FAO. It is hoped that the main body of the Country Report be about 25-30 pages in length with a maximum of 60 pages.
- (v) Key international organizations involved in animal genetic resources will also be requested to contribute data, information and strategic directions in the preparation of the first Report. FAO will interact with appropriate organizations to obtain their input.

10. As recommended at the first meeting of the ITWG-AnGR, and in light of experience gained with the preparation of Country Reports on Plant Genetic Resources, sufficient time must be allowed for the preparation of Country Reports for animal genetic resources. Thus, it is proposed that the Country Reports and reports by international organizations, be initiated this year and completed by the end of December 2001.

Preparation of the first Report

11. Beginning in 2002, the Global Focal Point in consultation with Regional Coordinators will begin the process of compilation, analysis and synthesis of Country Reports and reports from organizations. If financial resources are available, regional meetings involving the key country coordinating staff will be convened to review drafts of the Report. If meetings are not possible, then the review will be by e-conferencing and e-mail. Advisory or review panels may be established to review specific sections of the draft Report. Appropriate international governmental and non-government organizations will also be included in the review process. It is proposed that the ITWG-AnGR meet in 2002 to evaluate progress in the development of the first Report.

12. It is proposed that in 2003, both the ITWG-AnGR and the CGRFA meet. This is necessary to respectively, develop and negotiate the format and content of the first Report, which is scheduled for consideration by to the Commission in 2005. Also in 2003, a Report on the Strategic Priority Actions that emerge from the Country Reports and reports from stakeholders will also be presented first for consideration of the ITWG-AnGR then to the Commission. The Strategic Priority Actions Report will identify both capacity building requirements and specific needs for urgent action, and provide a basis for the ITWG-AnGR and the Commission to consider an appropriate implementation mechanism to ensure action on the strategic findings. Presentation of this Strategic Priority Actions Report in 2003 provides governments with a basis to further develop and elaborate the first Report prior to its completion in 2005, and provides the foundation for governments and organizations to respond to high priority areas of common interest and concern. The Strategic Priority Actions Report will also assist in the further development and implementation of the Global Strategy.

13 The proposed schedule is intended to allow for the necessary interaction between countries and the Global Focal Point and Regional Coordinators in preparing both the Country Reports and the Strategic Priority Actions Report. It will also ensure adequate time to collect and synthesize data and information from all participating countries and ensure that the material is properly reflected in first Report. The process and schedule also have been developed to ensure that the most critical actions necessary for better use, development and conservation animal genetic

resources, are placed before the ITWG-AnGR and the Commission as early as possible, and in advance of the completion of the first Report. Moreover, this will provide an opportunity for the Commission to agree on an appropriate follow-up mechanism for the Process. Experience with the State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources indicates that consideration of the follow-up mechanism is crucial during the preparatory phase of the first Report, and that if agreement on this mechanism can be reached in 2003, the Commission would be well positioned to initiate actions and measures to enhance the use, development and conservation of farm animal genetic resources. Whilst FAO is strongly supporting the development of the Process and first Report as requested the proposed schedule remains dependant upon the provision of the necessary complementary extra-budgetary support.

Communication and Stakeholder Involvement

14. The Process for preparing the Report must promote and facilitate from the first phases, the widest involvement of stakeholders and set the stage for effective action. This will be accomplished by ensuring effective communication among relevant stakeholders and donor agencies as a critical part of development of the Process. The Global Focal Point will ensure opportunities for the involvement of intergovernmental organizations, research institutions, and non-government organizations in all phases of the development of the Process. FAO's Information Department will also assist in the development and execution of an overall communication strategy and a public awareness programme implemented focusing on the roles and values of animal genetic resources and support for enhanced use, development, and conservation of these essential resources. DAD-IS and the electronic media will also be used in this action.

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES

15. Adequate financial and human resources are necessary to ensure the preparation of Country Reports and the first SOW-AnGR Report. It is proposed that this be achieved through the provision of financial resources from both the Regular Programme of Work and Budget and from Extra-budgetary sources, as indicated in Annex 1. The main areas for funding include: establishment of a dedicated core team within the Global Focal Point that will provide overall coordination of Country Reports and assistance to countries, coordinate regional training, provide assistance to countries and global coordination of the Process, analyse the Country Reports, synthesize the results, and ensure preparation of the drafts of the Strategic Priority Actions Report and of the first Report. Financial resources are also required to develop and test Stage 3 of DAD-IS to assist countries in the Process; prepare for and support the Intergovernmental Mechanism, national and international consultants, meetings with donors and stakeholders and for printing and translation of reports.

V. POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE NINTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

16. The Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture may wish to recommend to the Commission:

- (i) that FAO initiate preparation of the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources* according to the process and schedule provided in this documentation, using the guidelines developed by the Working Group to assist countries to prepare their Country Reports;
- (ii) that the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture meet in 2002 to review progress in the development of the first

Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources and to provide advice to the Commission on its further development and elaboration;

- (iii) that the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture meet in 2003 to assist the Commission establish the final content and form of the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*; consider the Strategic Priority Actions Report; and provide recommendations to the Commission to ensure follow-up and implementation of the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources* when it is completed and considered by the Commission in 2005.
- (iv) that donors and stakeholders seek to mobilize the necessary funds to complement and synchronize with the Regular Programme support by FAO to successfully prepare this SOW-AnGR Process, undertake preparation of Country Reports, analyse and synthesize inputs contained in the Country Reports and reports from international organizations, prepare for effective follow-up, prepare the Strategic Priority Actions Report and the first *Report on the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources*; and for effective follow-up action.

ANNEX 1

The Proposed Core Activities and Budget for Developing the Process and Undertaking Preparation of the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources (Amounts in US\$000s)			
2000	RP¹	EB²	Total
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the Draft Planning Process and the Guidelines for Country Reports. • Initiate linkages with FAO's cross-sectorial work • Prepare Multilateral Trust Fund and involve donors • Prepare for second session of the ITWG-AnGR • Develop and implement SOW-AnGR Communication Strategy • Conduct Global SoW-AnGR Orientation Workshop for National Co-ordinators • Prepare and deliver briefing sessions for international Stakeholders • Begin development of DAD-IS to assist countries SOW-AnGR process 	725	521	1 246
2001			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further develop, field test and implement DAD-IS SOW-AnGR functionality • Develop training materials • Conduct Global/ Regional Training of Regional/National Coordinators and other in-country personnel • Continue to development network for animal genetic resources, including implementing the communication strategy • Assist regions and countries to collect relevant data and information for Country Reports • Interact with international organizations to develop and collect relevant data and information for the first Report SOW-AnGR • Prepare for Ninth session of the CGRFA • Assist countries to develop their Country Reports 	597	1 393	1 990

¹ Estimated RP contribution to SoW-AnGR activities covering mainly salaries for Professional and General Staff

² Figures correspond to the proposed multilateral Trust Fund

2002			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare for the 3rd Session of the ITWG-AnGR, to evaluate progress • Assist countries to complete their Country Reports • Prepare detailed options the SOW Follow-up Mechanism • Begin analysis of Country Reports and Reports from Organizations • Continue implementation of communication efforts and networking with donors and stakeholders 	782	1 307	2 089
2003			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete analysis and initiate synthesis of all Country Reports and Reports from Organizations • Prepare SOW-AnGR Progress Report with options for the follow-up mechanism • Draft Strategic Priority Actions Report • Involvement of international Stakeholders • Prepare for Extraordinary Session of the ITWG-AnGR • Prepare for 10th Session of the CGRFA 	672	785	1 457
2004			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete synthesis and draft SOW-AnGR Report, involving countries and other stakeholders in review process • Prepare for 4th Session of ITWG-AnGR • Progress development of the follow-up mechanism • Continue communication and networking 	768	706	1 474
2005			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete draft SOW-AnGR Report for consideration by CGRFA • Prepare report on the development of priority actions, for consideration by CGRFA • Prepare international Stakeholders session • Develop options for the implementation of the first SOW-AnGR Report within the context of the Global Strategy, for consideration by the CGRFA • Prepare for 11th Session of the CGRFA 	668	464	1 132
•			
• Total	4 212	5 176	9 388