

Report of a Task Force on Inter-regional Cooperation

Second meeting - 11-12 May 2001 - Prague, Czech Republic

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European Cooperative Programme for Crop Genetic Resources Networks (ECP/GR)

ECP/GR Inter-regional Cooperation Network
2nd Meeting of the Task Force members
11-12 May, 2001, Prague, Czech Republic

Report

PARTICIPANTS.....	2
WELCOMING ADDRESS AND INTRODUCTION	2
BACKGROUND TO THE ECP/GR INTER-REGIONAL COOPERATION NETWORK.....	2
<i>Summary of agreed Workplan and activities to be undertaken</i>	3
OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS: REPORTS FROM THE TASK FORCE MEMBERS.....	4
<i>Assessment of needs and priorities of regional PGR Networks</i>	4
<i>Scientific and technical cooperation projects in PGRFA in Europe</i>	6
<i>European NGOs active in technical cooperation projects in PGRFA in other regions</i>	7
<i>European funding opportunities for PGRFA activities in other regions</i>	7
<i>Directory of PGRFA specialists in Europe</i>	8
<i>Supporting the development of central crop databases in other regions</i>	9
<i>European Plant Genetic Resources Information Infra-Structure – EPGRIS</i>	9
DISCUSSION ON OUTPUTS PRODUCED AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	9
<i>Feedback from PGR Networks in other regions</i>	10
<i>Inventory of NGOs active in inter-regional cooperation</i>	11
<i>Inventory of cooperation projects between European partners and partners in other regions</i>	11
<i>Database of European funding opportunities for PGRFA activities in other regions</i>	11
DISCUSSION ON POSSIBLE PROJECTS THAT COULD BE SUPPORTED BY THE ECP/GR INTER- REGIONAL COOPERATION NETWORK	12
Project proposal for <i>in situ</i> and on-farm conservation and management	13
Project proposal for documentation and information system development.....	14
Project proposal on policy issues.....	16
TASK FORCE WORKPLAN FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 2001 TO 2003, UNTIL END OF ECP/GR PHASE VI19 <i>Terms of Reference and election of chair and Task Force members</i>	19
ANNEX I: AGENDA.....	20
ANNEX II: GUIDELINES TO COLLECT INFORMATION FROM SURVEY NETWORKS ON NATIONAL NEEDS/PRIORITIES RELATED TO PGR ACTIVITIES.....	22
ANNEX III: NATIONAL INFORMATION ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN PGRFA FUNDED BY EUROPEAN COUNTRIES	25
ANNEX III: NATIONAL INFORMATION ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN PGRFA FUNDED BY EUROPEAN COUNTRIES	25
ANNEX IV: EUROPEAN NGOs ACTIVE IN TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECTS IN PGRFA IN EUROPE.....	28

ECP/GR Inter-regional Cooperation Network
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Participants

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- 4. Mr Vladimir Meglic**
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- 7. Ms Beate Weiskopf**
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- 8. Mr Issiaka Zoungrana**
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Unable to attend:

- 1. Ms Celia de la Cuadra**
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- 2. Mr Fabrizio Grassi**
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- 3. Mr Nikolaos Stavropoulos**
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Welcoming address and introduction

Brigitte Laliberté welcomed all the participants on behalf of ECP/GR and expressed her sincere appreciation of the excellent organization and preparation of the meeting to the host institute, the Research Institute of Crop Production (RICP), in particular Dr Ladislav Dotlacil and his colleagues Iva Faberová and Zdenek Stehno. B. Laliberté conveyed apologies on behalf of the Task Force members unable to attend the meeting: Celia de la Cuadra, Fabrizio Grassi and Nikolaos Stavropoulos. L. Dotlacil welcomed the participants to Prague on behalf of RICP. He provided details about the logistic arrangements and wished the group a pleasant meeting and fruitful discussions. B. Laliberté presented the agenda, which was approved by the group (see **Annex I: Agenda**). All participants introduced themselves and their respective institutes.

Background to the ECP/GR Inter-Regional Cooperation Network

B. Laliberté presented the background of the ECP/GR Inter-Regional Cooperation Network and its progress since its first meeting in October 1999 in Florence, Italy. The Task Force was established as a recommendation of the ECP/GR Steering Committee, during its seventh

meeting in 1998, to initiate activities within the framework of a Technical Cooperation Network for Phase VI (now changed to Inter-regional Cooperation Network), and agreed on a budget to convene 2 meetings and produce a publication of the proceedings between 1999-2003. During the first meeting of the Network in 1999, the Task Force defined Terms of Reference and agreed on the main objectives of the Network, i.e. to enhance collaboration between European partners involved in PGRFA development cooperation and developing countries and, in particular, to bring together the different European partners, identify priorities for inter-regional cooperation, enhance joint fund-raising efforts and collaboration between European partners involved in development cooperation. The expected outputs are exchanges of information, joint training/capacity-building activities, joint research and development projects, regional PGRFA crop and thematic networks strengthened, increased relief assistance and strengthened seed supply systems.

During this second meeting, the Task Force took a critical look at the information resources collected and focused on the following points:

- Review the status of the outputs and the needs for further information collection activities to be carried out;
- Develop cooperation project proposals using funds available from savings made on the expected cost of the meetings and publication for this Task Force (approx. US\$35,000);
- Review the Terms of Reference of the Task Force in view of a possible readjustment of priorities.

Summary of agreed Workplan and activities to be undertaken

Activities were carried out by the Task Force, mainly related to the collection of information resources (inventories) of the following:

- Existing scientific and technical cooperation projects in PGRFA between European partners and other regions;
- European NGOs active in PGRFA technical cooperation projects in other regions;
- Assessment of regional PGR Networks' needs and priorities;
- European funding sources for activities/projects in other regions;
- Directory of specialists on PGRFA in Europe.

The ECP/GR National Coordinators were contacted for information on scientific and technical cooperation work in PGRFA, on NGOs active in technical cooperation in PGRFA and specialists on PGRFA in Europe. In order to divide the work amongst the Task Force members, the different European countries were subdivided into the following groupings:

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| - Austria, Germany and UK | Beate Weiskopf |
| - Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia | Ladislav Dotlacil |
| - Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia F.Y.R., Slovenia and F.R. Yugoslavia | Vladimir Meglic |
| - Baltic and Nordic countries | Eva Thörn |
| - Belgium, The Netherlands and non ECP/GR countries (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Latvia, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine) | Bert Visser |
| - Portugal and Spain | Celia de la Cuadra |
| - Cyprus, Ireland, Israel, Italy, France, Malta and Switzerland | Fabrizio Grassi |
| - Albania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Israel, Turkey and F.R. Yugoslavia | Nikos Stavropoulos |

Feedback on needs and priorities from PGR Networks in the other regions was obtained through a questionnaire (see **Annex II**) and via direct communication. Links were established with regional Networks, with the following Networks selected as a first step:

- WANANET- West Asia North Africa Network for PGR - to be contacted by Marcello Broggio;
- SPGRC - SADC Plant Genetic Resources Centre, - to be contacted by Eva Thörn;
- REMERFI - Red Mesoamericana de Recursos Fitogenéticos, - to be contacted by Celia de la Cuadra and Beate Weiskopf;
- CAN-PGR - Central Asian Network on Plant Genetic Resources, to be contacted by Bert Visser.

B. Laliberté was responsible for developing a database of European funding opportunities, supported by the IPGRI Regional Office for Europe. Common formats for the collection of information on NGOs and technical projects were developed.

Overview of progress: reports from the Task Force members

Task Force members presented a brief report of the activities undertaken. Discussions were held on the difficulties and constraints encountered. B. Laliberté reported on behalf of Fabrizio Grassi. No reports were received from Celia de la Cuadra and Nikolaos Stavropoulos. Issiaka Zoungrana, newly appointed Training Officer at IPGRI, introduced himself and gave a brief overview of his main responsibilities. He expressed his interest in collaborating closely with ECP/GR, in particular with the Inter-Regional Cooperation Task Force members. I. Zoungrana is based at the IPGRI Regional Office for the SSA region in Nairobi, Kenya.

A summary of progress for each of the main activities is reported here.

Assessment of needs and priorities of regional PGR Networks

M. Broggio reported on the survey of needs and priorities of WANANET. All 23 National Focal Points (NFP) in the region were contacted in December 2000. The Country Reports in preparation for the Leipzig Conference in 1996 were consulted to see if any specific feedback could be analyzed for the different needs in technical cooperation. However, the information was not up-to-date and not sufficient to obtain a clear picture of the current situation.

Five countries replied to the survey and 4 countries replied by completing a questionnaire: Egypt, Iraq, Oman and Tunisia. In light of the difficulties of getting feedback through questionnaires, M. Broggio suggested that direct contact be preferable and that the next meeting of the National Coordinators of the WANANET countries in October 2001 could be a good opportunity to obtain direct feedback from the main people involved in the PGR national programmes.

M. Broggio suggested contacting again the countries that did not respond to the questionnaire to complete the picture in the region. He expressed some concerns that what the Network might perceive as needs at the regional level might not always correspond to the needs at the national level. This point was further illustrated by the noticeable differences in feedback scores from Iraq and the other 3 countries with low priority indicated by Iraq particularly with regards to the needs for: inventories of PGRFA conserved on-farm; international collaboration for regeneration effort for *ex situ* material; PGR training material for inclusion in national curricula; and policy development and national strategies for the implementation of international agreements (CBD, IU, WTO etc). All 4 countries marked the following points as being very important: national and regional inventories of

PGRFA conserved *in situ*: linking databases of *ex situ* holdings between the different regions; *ex situ* conservation methodologies; and raising awareness of the value of PGRFA.

B. Visser reported on the feedback obtained from REMERFI during a meeting of the GPA implementation in Latin America (San José, 12 - 14 September 2000). He reported that documentation of PGR is a priority. Efforts are on-going with PC-GRIN and USDA. PC-GRIN is the PC version of the germplasm documentation system used by USDA that is also promoted in Latin America. Concerns in documentation are related to the exchange of information within the different institutes, but also within the region. B. Visser informed the group of a large project containing several workshops funded by FAO under the NL-FAO partnership programme. It was remarked that funding resources from ECP/GR and making the links with the relevant European central crop databases (ECCDB) could be an important contribution. It was also pointed out that language is an important issue and poses constraints in the exchange of information. The questionnaire completed by REMERFI was moderately useful in identifying priorities, as almost all items mentioned in the questionnaire were scored as being important to very important. However the feedback is useful in validating whether an activity is or is not a priority for the Network.

B. Weiskopf provided feedback from REMERFI based on a recent review (March 2000) of the programme, which is still supported by GTZ until the end of this year (2001). GTZ is especially supporting the regional coordination. It was confirmed that documentation is a priority. Here it is especially important to link the different databases existing and create a platform. But also building capacity in the area of *in situ* and on-farm conservation, as well as policy and legal issues, were identified as priorities. Inter-regional cooperation in these areas can have mutual benefits. It was suggested that in addition to contacting Networks, donors could also be approached directly to indicate their areas of priorities in PGR.

E. Thörn reported feedback received from SPGRC on their priorities in general but also indicating priorities where the involvement of ECP/GR could be most useful and most valuable contributions. The following areas of priority for inter-regional cooperation were identified by SPGRC:

- Training and capacity building: training material, short courses and advanced specialized courses, and training of trainers;
- Information and documentation: inventories of *in situ* PGRFA, directories of NGOs active in disaster situations, seed directory of farmers' saved indigenous varieties, strengthening linkages between formal and informal sectors, and between breeders and genebanks managers;
- Emergency situations: mechanism for rapid reintroduction of diverse planting material, studies of the impact of seed relief onto genetic erosion, development of emergency seed transfer protocols, contingency planning, regional back up collection, and the development of approaches to achieving sustainable seed security at small-scale farm level;
- Assistance to small-scale farmers.

Concerns were expressed by SPGRC regarding international agreements in relation to seed exchange, such as the agreement on Trade-Related aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPPS) of the World trade Organization (WTO).

E. Thörn suggested the possibility to link with the European documentation project EPGRIS (European Plant Genetic Resources Infra-Structure), where NGB is one of 7 partners. B. Laliberté proposed to brief the group on the EPGRIS project, as an important initiative that could also contribute to building capacity in other regions for the development of national

inventories of *ex situ* collections, with the aim of centralizing these inventories at the regional level (see summary information on EPGRIS on page 9).

B. Laliberté briefed the group on recent discussions about priorities in training and documentation between different staff at IPGRI, the Network Coordinator of GRENEWECA - Genetic Resources Network for West and Central Africa, Raymond Vodouhe, the interim coordinator of the Eastern Africa Plant Genetic Resources Network (EAPGREN), Dan Kiambi, and the Regional Director of the IPGRI-SSA office, Kwesi Atta-Krah. Direct interaction with Raymond Vodouhe, at the occasion of his visit to the Regional Office for Europe in September 2000, confirmed that training in documentation of PGR is of high priority for GRENEWECA. An initiative in this area is currently underway in collaboration with USDA and the IPGRI Regional Office for the Americas. Technical support will be provided for 10 computers and for training on using PC-GRIN. Thirteen participants from 10 West and Central African countries will participate in a workshop to be held on 4 - 11 August 2001 at Cotonou, Benin. Kwesi Atta-Krah, Regional Director of the IPGRI-SSA office agreed that the area of documentation and data management is a priority and a potential area for collaboration. He also suggested that the EPGRIS initiative could well complement the on-going PC-GRIN initiative in West Africa. He suggested that another area of collaboration could be in sharing experiences related to *in situ* conservation and data management.

Another priority identified by GRENEWECA is in the area of raising awareness on the importance of PGR for economic development of decision makers and persons responsible for national structures, as well as scientists. Workshops were organized in 1999 and 2000 with a positive impact on the support from the participating countries to the national PGR programmes.

Feedback was received from Mikkel Grum of the IPGRI-SSA office. He indicated that within the framework of an existing project (AFDB project), they are planning to undertake a region-wide study on genetic diversity (inventory) and genetic erosion. He indicated that ECP/GR could make an important contribution to technically supporting this, particularly with the documentation aspects. This could facilitate priority setting in the region and in national programmes and help build the necessary information base for strengthening the Network, which, according to M. Grum, is a weakness at the moment as there is a lack of true networking activities.

Dan Kiambi of the IPGRI-SSA office provided some feedback from EAPGREN that was established in 1997 under the auspices of ASARECA, the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in East and Central Africa. EAPGREN has not fully taken off because it only recently received funding from the Swedish International Development Authority, SIDA, for Network activities. The Network is now in the project implementation and planning phase. IPGRI is one of the technical and scientific support institutions, together with the Nordic Gene Bank. The Network has a Regional Steering Committee comprising representatives from the East Africa member countries and its activities will be implemented through a Secretariat. Besides EAPGREN, there are several other crop-based Networks (about 14) operating under ASARECA. Possible links with relevant ECP/GR Crop Working Groups could be facilitated.

Scientific and technical cooperation projects in PGRFA in Europe

Information on scientific and technical cooperation projects between European partners and partners in other regions was collected with the aim of gaining/in order to gain a better knowledge of the current projects underway, identify gaps and establish priorities for future

projects, obtain information from these projects on sources of funding and exchange feedback and experience on cooperation projects. The ECP/GR National Coordinators were approached by the Task Force members to obtain information. A common format (questionnaire) was developed to provide uniformity and ensure that information collected could be easily centralized. This activity resulted in the collection of information from a selection of projects. The summary table, in **Annex III**, lists the project titles, the partners involved and the budget allocated.

The information collected represents a first step in developing a more exhaustive directory of projects. However, the major constraints were that feedback from some countries was not obtained and therefore the inventory is not by any means exhaustive or complete. This task was ambitious and the preliminary data collection provided useful feedback. Its continuation was recommended. ZADI kindly offered to take responsibility for a European database of scientific and technical cooperation work in PGRFA and the European partners and centralize the information once collected and provide access to it. The Task Force gratefully welcomed this offer from ZADI. This database will contain the data collected from each country, with the assistance of the Task Force members and ECP/GR National Coordinators. The task Force members were therefore encouraged to forward any relevant information on technical cooperation projects to ZADI with copy for information to the ECP/GR Secretariat. It might be envisaged in the future to provide a platform on the ECP/GR web site to display different references of information. It would also be useful to establish a link to the EIARD's Information System, INFOSYS, hosted at ZADI.

Reports from the Task Force members also illustrated that some European countries, mainly Eastern European, are not currently involved in cooperation projects since their current priority is to strengthen their own PGR national programmes, to set up crop collections and infrastructures, and take part in network activities. Therefore they might have limited capacity to undertake inter-regional cooperation activities and in building capacity of other regional partners.

European NGOs active in technical cooperation projects in PGRFA in other regions

Acknowledging the importance of the work carried out by several NGOs in the area of inter-regional cooperation, the Task Force proposed to collect the contact details of and information on programmes of European NGOs active in this area. The main objective was to establish links with relevant projects and identify potential partners for future activities. A common format was developed to standardize the information collected for the following details: name of NGO, details of main contact person, type of membership, number of members, type of funding, national/regional partners, geographic and species coverage as well as principal areas of activities. **Annex IV** summarizes the information collected. The major constraints in collecting information are similar to the exercise for the scientific and technical projects. In some countries, there are only a few NGOs and in others there are more than 200 NGOs active in this field for which directories already exist. In most cases, however, the information is scattered. Based on the informal nature of the information collected, a platform on the ECP/GR web site might be more suitable, as opposed to centralizing this information into a database. The Task Force members should therefore forward any information related to NGOs active in technical cooperation to the ECP/GR Secretariat for compilation and publication on the ECP/GR web site.

European funding opportunities for PGRFA activities in other regions

Brigitte Laliberté reported on the collection of information on European funding opportunities and demonstrated the database. It currently holds information about 100

organizations identified as potential sources of funding. The database was developed in September 2000 to collect information on the following:

- Name of the programme (original and in English);
- Contact details of organization;
- Source of information with specific references (internet, printed etc.);
- Priority themes and regions (and countries) of the programme;
- Mission and objectives of the programme;
- Type of activity funded such as research projects, training activities, workshops etc.;
- Amount of funds made available;
- Deadlines for application;
- Special requirements for admission;
- General comments.

A first version of the database was compiled from information available through the Internet. Approximately 100 web sites of potential European funding opportunities were analyzed. The choice to survey the web first was based on the following reasons:

- Internet is still not necessarily accessible to all potential partners;
- The information is *a priori* not catalogued;
- To test how easily accessible this information would be on the web and evaluate the level of detail and information provided.

The results of this preliminary study/trial show that:

- Eligibility and deadlines are not always clear;
- Areas or priorities are very general such as biodiversity, environment protection and agricultural development;
- Information is not well structured and priorities are not clear. Only in 6% of cases were PGR specifically mentioned;
- Amount mentioned for project were: less than US\$5,000 (48%), between US\$5,000 to US\$10,000 (45%) or more than US\$10,000 (53%);
- Information is difficult to find to locate calls for proposals and grants = need for a catalogue of filtered opportunities;
- Identified a need for assistance in writing project proposals.

In order to obtain more specific information regarding the possibilities to fund activities related to PGR conservation and use, the information collected was validated by contacting the organizations included in the database. Replies were expected by the end of April 2001. By mid-May, 10 replies confirming the availability of funding and specifying the eligible subject areas were received. Three replies were also received informing us that PGR were not considered as priority for those specific programmes and applications would not lead to acceptance. This information is also very useful.

Directory of PGRFA specialists in Europe

The objective of collecting this information was to have a better knowledge of the European expertise and identify different partners with experience in inter-regional cooperation. For this exercise no common format was developed and information was received from Fabrizio Grassi in the form of a list of contact details of experts from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Spain, The Netherlands and the UK , , (list available on request). However, the list is not complete. ZADI kindly offered to assist in establishing this Directory of Specialists on PGRFA in Europe. A similar platform on the ECP/GR web site might be an alternative to developing a directory.

Supporting the development of central crop databases in other regions

NGB and the ECP/GR Coordinator are contributing to the development of a pineapple database for the Americas region. NGB is providing technical advice and preparation for on-line presentation.

European Plant Genetic Resources Information Infra-Structure – EPGRIS

Brigitte Laliberté introduced the EPGRIS project to the Task Force members. EPGRIS is a three-year concerted action funded by the EU¹ and coordinated by Plant Research International, Centre for Genetic Resources, The Netherlands (for more information see web site: <http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/epgris>). The infrastructure for information on PGR maintained *ex situ* in Europe will be established by (1) supporting the creation and providing technical support to National PGR Inventories, (2) creating a European PGR Search Catalogue with passport data on *ex situ* collections maintained in Europe. The European Inventory will automatically receive data from the National Inventories. It will effectively provide access to all *ex situ* PGR information in Europe and thus facilitate locating and accessing PGR. The central search catalogue will be created by the ECP/GR Secretariat at IPGRI, which will also take responsibility to maintain the system after completion of the project.

The 7 partners of EPGRIS are: BRG – France, CGN - The Netherlands, ECP/GR - IPGRI – Italy, INIA - Portugal, NGB - Sweden, RICP - Czech Republic and ZADI – Germany. In order to facilitate the development of national PGR inventories, the European region has been divided into 4 sub-regions (the list of countries and dates of meeting are available on the web site). The project will hold a series of sub-regional meetings to analyse the status of national PGR inventories, identify the needs for training, infrastructure and institutional support. The first round of four regional meetings will take place between July and September 2001. The second round of four regional meetings will take place in Autumn 2002. The final Coordination meeting and the Pan-European meeting of all Focal Persons and Project Participants will take place at the end of 2003.

To date (27/07/2001), 38 National Focal Persons, who will be responsible for national PGR inventories, have been nominated by the ECP/GR National Coordinators and Focal Persons (contact details can be obtained from the following web page: http://www.ipgri.cgiar.org/networks/ecpgr/contacts/ecpgr_epgris_np.asp).

B. Laliberté also informed the group that the participation in sub-regional meetings of focal persons from countries not funded by the EU project, but that are members of ECP/GR, will be supported financially by ECP/GR. The participation of European countries not funded by the EU and that are not formally members of ECP/GR will be supported financially by IPGRI. Additionally, sub-regional meetings are excellent opportunities to support the participation of PGR Network Coordinators from other regions to interact with the project partners and National Focal Persons but also to discuss the details of the mechanism for establishing and linking the national PGR inventories at the regional level.

Discussion on outputs produced and recommendations

The group agreed that the task of collecting feedback and detailed information from partners, colleagues and other Networks was more ambitious than originally anticipated. In

¹ The EPGRIS proposal was submitted to the Directorate for Research, Fifth Framework Programme, Thematic Program 'Quality of Life and Management of Living Resources', Action 14 'Support for research infrastructures', Field 14.2. 'Biological information resources' (call of 15 November 1999).

many cases, even after repeated attempts to contact the Coordinators, no feedback was received. It was therefore suggested in the future to try to obtain feedback from various sources, rather than simply relying on the National Coordinators' intermediation. Moreover, they are probably facing a general "questionnaire fatigue", therefore feedback might be best obtained through direct contacts. Generally, information from the countries of the Task Force members was obtained, while gaps remained for several other European countries.

Feedback from PGR Networks in other regions

Responses were obtained from REMERFI, SPGRC, WANANET, GRENEWECA and EAPGREN. Most Networks ranked as high priority most of the areas of activities suggested in the questionnaire for inter-regional collaboration. REMERFI indicated priority for increased attention to on-farm conservation of PGR; most Latin American Networks identified support for building an information network. SPGRC identified a large number of activities qualifying for collaboration. GRENEWECA and EAPGREN both also have documentation and *in situ* conservation as priorities.

I. Zoungrana stressed the fact that assistance is often needed in writing convincing project proposals for approaching donors. In the area of policy, one of the main problems is the lack of continuity with staff in institutions. Often staff are promoted to higher positions and/or to other institutions to work in international cooperation, often leaving the country. We have to ensure that capacity building takes place at the institute level and not only on an individual basis, therefore empowering institutions to ensure sustainability.

The feedback received so far was sufficient to initiate some activities and there was no need to continue or pursue the responses through the questionnaire (documentation, characterization and evaluation, training, *in situ* and on-farm conservation and policy and legal issues). It was agreed that feedback from Networks is very important for this Task Force to prioritize actions. Continuous and regular communications with Network Coordinators should be encouraged and not solely left to a one-off occasion through a questionnaire. Whenever possible, and if the opportunity arises, contacts should be made through meetings on how best the ECP/GR Inter-Regional Cooperation Network can collaborate. This information should be shared among the Task Force members via Email: on a regular basis.

Several activities could be undertaken to increase the links with these Networks and raise awareness of each other's activities and capacity to undertake joint projects. It was pointed out that ECP/GR does not have close relationships with other regional Networks and is not well aware of their activities in general. The ECP/GR Working Groups do not generally undertake inter-regional activities, so links could be strengthened, for example, between the ECP/GR Crop Working Groups. Coordinators of other regional crop Networks could be invited to attend some relevant ECP/GR meetings. In this spirit, it was proposed to invite some PGR Network Coordinators in other regions to attend the next ECP/GR Steering Committee meeting to strengthen links. Relevant ECP/GR members could also be invited to attend some of the other regional PGR Networks' activities and meetings.

It was also suggested that at the upcoming ECP/GR Steering Committee meeting, some interactions between PGR Network Coordinators and the ECP/GR Steering Committee members take place. A suggestion was made to organize a specific discussion day after the meeting to go in-depth into specific issues relevant to other regions and to identify how ECP/GR can best collaborate, for example, in establishing some crop specific databases.

Inventory of NGOs active in inter-regional cooperation

It was agreed that the inventory on NGOs initiated would be useful if completed. There are different kinds of NGOs, national and international. A similar inventory of contacts for on-farm conservation in Europe was initiated in the summer of 2000. Contact details are currently being verified through a survey. It was proposed to include information on activities in international cooperation amongst the areas of interest and serve the purpose of both Task Forces. The information could be made available via the ECP/GR web site with references to NGOs active in this area, useful web sites, reference to already centralized databases and some other lists (**Action:** B. Laliberté).

Inventory of cooperation projects between European partners and partners in other regions

M. Broggio informed the group of an initiative currently underway at the IAO on an inventory of activities of technical cooperation by Italian partners (March 2000 – December 2001). He has kindly offered to provide this information as a contribution to the survey (**Action:** M. Broggio). This experience could also be useful in making recommendations to carry out similar inventories in other countries.

A platform for information on cooperation projects could also be developed on the ECP/GR web site, providing access to already existing national inventories (such as in the case of the Italian inventory described above). In order to facilitate this work, each Task Force member could verify if such an inventory already exists in their own country (**Action:** All Task Force members). Additionally, ECP/GR National Coordinators would be informed of the Italian initiative and invited to refer to the ECP/GR Secretariat should similar initiatives be underway in their own countries (**Action:** B. Laliberté).

Database of European funding opportunities for PGRFA activities in other regions

The concept of the funding opportunity database was well received by the Task Force members. This can be a unique product contributing to increasing access to funding by partners in the other regions. The main objective was to collect information on “non-traditional” sources of funding (such as foundations, NGOs, trusts etc) as well as to have the information on the more “traditional” donors. A suggestion was made to ensure that the database include the traditional funding agencies and to validate the information on ODAs for each European country by circulating the information to the Task Force members to complete from their own countries as a first step. It was proposed to put the current version on the ECP/GR Intranet and circulate among National Coordinators and Task Force members for completion (**Action:** B. Laliberté). ECP/GR National Coordinators could be contacted to complete the information from most countries.

The objective of the database is to increase the access of developing country scientists to European funding opportunities. Therefore the information should be as widely distributed as possible. As the funding opportunities are targeted to developing countries, developed countries can use this information to encourage their own partners to develop joint projects. Providing access to the information via the IPGRI web site was proposed as the most suitable solution. The web page of such a database could also offer links to related sites of funding opportunities such as InfoSys for Europe and ensure that mutual links are made (**Action:** B. Laliberté).

Distribution of information on funding opportunities on CD-Rom is an option only for those partners without Internet connections and on request since the information has a short shelf life and will need to be updated regularly. Donors could possibly sponsor the collection of information, as it provides publicity to their programmes.

It was suggested to further increase the visibility of the information by providing the PGR community with an electronic news bulletin to be sent out every 3-6 months, announcing forthcoming opportunities, highlighting criteria for selection and encouraging ECP/GR Working Groups to propose projects with partners from other regions. This bulletin could be sent to PGR Network Coordinators, all IPGRI regional offices and professional staff and to all of the 350 members of ECP/GR, in the hope that this information would be further circulated (**Action:** B. Laliberté).

IPGRI will support 3 months of work on collecting information during the Summer 2001 in order to complete the content of the database and to make it accessible via the IPGRI web site (Europe home page) by December 2001 (**Action:** B. Laliberté). The plan to further develop the funding opportunity database is to:

- Expand it to include information from a variety of sources such as directories, and to provide links to existing databases, Embassies, ODAs;
- Ensure that information on all European overseas development agencies are included in the database;
- Broaden the scope to include scholarships, fellowships, bursaries for training activities in collaboration with the IPGRI training officer I. Zoungrana;
- Validate information through surveys where necessary;
- Provide public access to the information collected;
- Provide ECP/GR National Coordinators and regional PGR Network Coordinators with regular reports alerting them on upcoming opportunities.

Discussion on possible projects that could be supported by the ECP/GR Inter-Regional Cooperation Network

Sufficient knowledge on priorities and needs was collected to initiate collaborative activities. The group agreed that it was important to work in consultation with PGR Networks and not independently and/or directly with specific national programmes. On the basis of the survey, personal contacts and discussions within the Task Force, 4 topics were suggested for further elaboration into project proposals:

1. *In situ* and on-farm conservation;
2. Documentation systems (including indigenous knowledge);
3. Policy issues;
4. Process such as collaboration including south-to-south, partnerships, networking, writing proposals.

Activities were envisaged for capacity building, such as workshops in Europe or in the region, training in Europe and in the regions by trainees from developing countries and/or technical support from European partners in developing countries. The Task Force was divided into 2 working groups to develop project proposal for the 4 selected thematic areas:

1. *In situ* and on-farm conservation

Experience in Europe is limited mainly to theoretical knowledge, such as on concepts (the relation between *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation), on population genetics and information technology, whereas socio-cultural knowledge has developed much more in developing countries. As a consequence, a European contribution should focus on technical aspects and could benefit from practical experiences in the tropics. Donor organizations could also produce a specific input. On-farm conservation approaches complementary to *ex situ* efforts should be further developed.

2. Documentation and information systems, including inventories of *in situ* managed PGRFA

Documentation of indigenous knowledge is an important issue, preventing appropriation by intellectual property right systems. Again, European input will be mainly technical since scarce experience exists on documenting qualitative information in open fields. Within ECP/GR a vast experience of centralizing *ex situ* PGR information as a shared tool has been developed (e.g. ECCDB, EPGRIS). Regional approaches to sharing information could be strengthened. The LAC region has requested technical support for the establishment of links between individual databases all to be based on PC-GRIN. In Africa, documentation is also a priority and some initiatives are currently underway such as a regional workshop in West and Central African Network, GRENEWCA. It was suggested by the regional office for SSA and by the Network Coordinator that a contribution from ECP/GR could build on the initiative and complement the efforts by concentrating on sharing and centralizing information first at a national level and secondly at a regional level.

3. Policy issues, in particular implementation at the technical level

The consequences of new international agreements (CBD, Cartagena protocol, FAO IU) have to be elaborated at the technical level in order to allow for continued inter-regional collaboration, in accordance with the provisions for these new instruments. Support should be provided for the implementation of policies and legislation as appropriate and analyze their impact at the national level and harmonization at the regional level. Both sides may profit from accelerated experience and confidence building. Practical issues such as establishing collections, conditions and agreements for plant collecting expeditions and material exchange within the new legal context should be examined.

4. Capacity building in regional collaboration/networking

This topic needs a concrete agenda and may deal with topics like common concepts and strategies on PGR maintenance, sharing of responsibilities for PGR management (exchange of materials, core collections), mechanisms for sharing of information (e.g. joint databases). Limitations in other regions (political, physical, resource-based) should be taken into account, meaning that the European model cannot be simply translated.

As a result of the working groups' discussions, 3 project proposals were further elaborated. Training and capacity building is a cross-cutting issue and is better dealt with in the context of a thematic project. The following 3 project proposals were agreed on:

1. Project Proposal for *in situ* and on-farm conservation and management;
2. Project Proposal for documentation and information system development;
3. Project Proposal on policy issues.

More detailed feedback /from? the Networks selected (WANANET, REMERFI, SADC, GRENEWCA, EAPGREN) will be obtained for the project proposals to ensure that the proposals are in line with their priorities.

Project proposal for *in situ* and on-farm conservation and management

Objectives

In consultation with the ECP/GR Inter-Regional Cooperation Task Force and the ECP/GR On-farm Conservation and Management Task Force, this project will develop the

programme for a workshop (3-5 days) on on-farm conservation and management to be held in 2002, involving ECP/GR and the countries of the REMERFI network (currently 7), the Red Mesoamericana de Recursos Fitogenéticos (Latin America PGR Network).

Persons responsible: Beate Weiskopf, German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), Eschborn, Germany and Vladimir Meglic, Agricultural Institute of Slovenia, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Time-frame: equivalent of 1 month.

Budget: US\$ 5,000 (for the employment of one month/person at GTZ plus some travel expenses).

Background

Experience in Europe is limited mainly to theoretical knowledge, such as on concepts (the relation between *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation), on population genetics and information technology, whereas socio-cultural knowledge has developed much more in developing countries. As a consequence, a European contribution should focus on technical aspects and could benefit from practical experiences in the tropics.

Outputs of this project:

- Needs and priorities of REMERFI and possibly other PGR Networks identified and analyzed;
- Clear objectives of the workshop developed and agreed;
- Content of the workshop defined, based on feedback from Networks (including ECP/GR);
- Full programme of the workshop developed with plans of necessary background documents and logistic arrangements;
- Participants and resource persons identified, selected and committed;
- Members of the ECP/GR On-farm Conservation and Management Task Force consulted during the process and selected members invited to participate;
- Links with different initiatives currently underway, such as the Global *In situ* Project (coordinator: Dr Devra Jarvis, IPGRI) ensured and capitalized on;
- Source of funding secured.

Activities:

- Contact the relevant stakeholders and analyze needs and priorities for the workshop;
- Consult the different task force members and experts in this area;
- Develop a workshop programme with attached budget;
- Identify components that can be funded by different European partners;
- Identify sources of funding for the total budget requested;
- Obtain a commitment from interested parties to provide financial and/or personal resources.

Project proposal for documentation and information system development

Objectives:

In consultation with the EPGRIS partners and the ECP/GR Information and Documentation Network (Internet Advisory Group), to prepare the organization of a workshop on regional

approaches to documentation of PGR *ex situ* collections and related *in situ* conservation activities.

Persons responsible: Brigitte Laliberté, Regional Office for Europe, IPGRI and Eva Thörn, Director, Nordic Gene Bank, Alnarp, Sweden

Time-frame: Definite plans for a workshop ready by December 2001 and a workshop to be undertaken in 2002. Discussions to be held during the EPGRIS sub-regional meetings, 5-6 August 2001 in Portugal and 24-25 August 2001 in Sweden.

Budget: Activities of the current project would be carried out as inputs-in-kind by the persons responsible for the project. A budget of US\$10,000 (complemented by additional funding estimated at US\$10,000) will be used to cover the cost of the workshop.

Background

ECP/GR has expertise and experience in developing common tools, in sharing and centralizing information and also in dealing with the different issues related to sharing responsibilities for PGR conservation and use among different institutions and between countries. Within ECP/GR a vast experience of centralizing *ex situ* PGR information system as shared tools has been developed (e.g. ECCDB, EPGRIS). In this respect, it is felt that ECP/GR has a lot to offer in terms of capacity building in the area of documentation and information networking and developing regional strategies. Furthermore, documentation of indigenous knowledge is an important issue, preventing appropriation by intellectual property right systems. In this particular area, European input will be mainly technical since limited experience exists in documenting qualitative information of this nature. However, it could be beneficial to ECP/GR to become involved in the development of appropriate tools.

In Africa, documentation is a priority area for PGR management and some initiatives are currently underway, such as a regional workshop in West and Central African Network, GRENEWCA. Feedback from the IPGRI Regional Office for Sub-Saharan Africa and the GRENEWCA Network Coordinator confirmed that ECP/GR could make an important contribution towards building on the current initiative and complement efforts in building capacity in sharing and centralizing information systems at a regional level. The Latin American region has also expressed the need for technical support for linking individual databases mainly to be based on PC-GRIN.

Outputs of the project:

- Current situation and initiatives planned and underway in Africa analyzed;
- Needs and priorities in documentation (*ex situ* and *in situ*) of African PGR Networks assessed;
- Regional partners identified (PGR Network and national partners) based on the needs analysis;
- Clear objectives of the workshop developed and agreed;
- Content of the workshop defined, based mainly on feedback from the PGR Networks (including ECP/GR);
- Links with the European project EPGRIS created and model presented;
- Links established with different initiatives currently underway, such as in the framework of the activities of SINGER (Coordinator: Samy Gaiji) and the IPGRI documentation group (Thomas Metz).
- Programme of the workshop developed with detailed budget, plans for necessary background documents and logistic arrangements;

- Development of regional strategies/action plans for information exchange mechanisms supported;
- Participants and resource persons identified, selected and committed;
- Members of the ECP/GR Documentation and Information Network consulted during the process and selected members invited to participate;
- Training material produced if appropriate;
- Additional/complementary source of funding and input-in-kind secured (estimated US\$10,000).

Activities:

- Contact the relevant stakeholders and analyze needs and priorities for the workshop;
- Consult the ECP/GR Information and Documentation Network and the EPGRIS partners, as well as other Task Force members and experts in this area;
- Invite Network Coordinators and chairs of East Africa Network and REMERFI (3-5 people) to the EPGRIS sub-regional meetings in July 2001 (East Africa Network to NGB and REMERFI to Portugal);
- Assess needs in training, infrastructure, policy and institutional support;
- Assess needs for *in situ* documentation and links to *ex situ* collections;
- Develop a 5 days workshop programme with attached budget;
- Identify components that can be funded by different European partners;
- Identify sources of funding for the total budget requested (estimated additional US\$10,000)
- Obtain commitment from interested parties to provide financial and/or personal resources.

Project proposal on policy issues

Objectives

In consultation with the ECP/GR Inter-Regional Cooperation Task Force and African counterparts, to organize a regional workshop to develop operational approaches in implementing policy and legal agreements for biodiversity conservation and utilization at the regional, national and institutional level.

Persons responsible: Marcello Broggio, Istituto Agronomico per l' Oltremare, IAO, Florence, Italy and Bert Visser, Centre for Genetic Resources, Wageningen, The Netherlands.

Time frame: equivalent of 1 month/person to be done by December 2001.

Budget: US\$5,000

Note: the IAO offered that the newly appointed legal specialist develop, jointly with the project coordinators, the concept note for the workshop, with her time as input-in-kind from IAO and with the possibility, subject to approval by the TF and the ECP/GR Steering Committee, to access the seed money allocated for this proposal (US\$5,000) for travel (visits to establish contacts) in order to facilitate the development of the workshop, such as a visit to CGN which was offered by B. Visser. Her participation in the open-ended working group meeting on Access and Benefit Sharing in Bonn, October 2001, organized by the CBD Secretariat, will be supported by IAO.

Background

The consequences of international agreements such as the CBD, Cartagena protocol and the FAO International Undertaking, have to be assessed at the technical level in order to allow for continued inter-regional collaboration, in accordance with the provisions for these new instruments. Support should be provided for the implementation of policies and legislation and harmonization at the regional level and their impact should be analyzed at the national level. Both sides (in this case European and African partners) may profit from reciprocal experience, both inter-regional and intra-regional. Practical issues concerning access to and exchange of germplasm and implementation of benefit sharing mechanisms within the new international legal context should be examined.

Reasons to approach policy issues at the inter-regional level:

- Building expertise at the regional, national and institutional level regarding the implementation of international agreements on management of PGRFA;
- Building trust between regions for collaboration leading to mutual benefits;
- Discussing overall cross-cutting issues and specific topics in a broader context and with experts for both regions, complementing experience and interests.
- Approaching issues on an ecosystem and farming systems level, that might be different than only on a territorial (national) level;
- Setting up the conditions for further, self-sustained efforts at the inter-regional, regional and institutional levels on common grounds;
- Analyzing the possibilities and evaluating the comparative advantages of sharing certain responsibilities and tasks at the supra-national level such as databases on traditional knowledge, strategies of *in situ* and on-farm conservation, common *ex situ* holdings;
- Increasing the bargaining power of potential users in negotiating access and benefit sharing arrangements over common resources;
- Optimizing the financial resources allocated by international donors, including GEF, and national donor agencies, for capacity building and training (including biosafety), hence merging national capacity building programmes into larger, regional or sub-regional ones;
- Improving the transparency of access and benefit sharing negotiations, therefore also allowing small and medium enterprises to have access to resources in ~~fare~~ fair competition with multi-national corporations and specialized bio-prospecting companies;
- Improving the confidence amongst inter-regional partners through examples of collaborative projects on genetic resources;
- Enhancing quality standards and quantity of germplasm exchanges through common regulative frameworks (MTAs etc)
- Limiting competition and “influence shares” amongst European public cooperation agencies.

Reasons for selecting Africa as a region for collaboration

In general, Sub-Saharan Africa countries (SSA) are amongst those where the establishment of institutional and legal frameworks is most needed. Efforts made up to now at the regional level, while deserving consideration, seem to be hardly conducive to implementation, possibly due to their very broad scope and geographical coverage and perhaps to large gaps at the national and institutional level. Therefore, the Task Force members feel that any correct and disinterested joint effort in enhancing the quality and soundness of the national biodiversity programmes with respect to policy and legal instruments, in the countries of both regions, would be beneficial.

Outputs of the project:

- Needs and priorities of African PGR Networks and ECP/GR identified and analyzed;
- Clear objectives of the workshop developed and agreed;
- Content of the workshop defined, based on feedback from the Networks;
- Full programme of the workshop developed with plans of necessary background documents and logistic arrangements;
- Participants and resource persons identified, selected and committed;
- Members of the ECP/GR Inter-Regional Cooperation Network consulted during the process and selected members invited to participate;
- Links with different initiatives currently underway such as the work on policy support to national programmes at IPGRI (IPGRI Legal Specialist: Michael Halewood);
- Source of funding secured.

Activities:

- Communication with the relevant PGR Networks and regional partners;
- Identification of national stakeholders;
- Joint analysis of the needs and priorities for the workshop;
- Consult the different Task Force members and experts in this area;
- Select and invite resource persons;
- Develop a workshop programme with attached budget and plans for background documents;
- Identify components that can be funded by different European partners;
- Identify sources of funding for the total budget requested;
- Explore GEF funding for this area. A GEF officer could be invited to attend the workshop;
- Obtain the commitment of interested parties to provide financial and/or personal resources;
- Coordinate the organization of the workshop;
- Establish follow up activities (Report to COP-6 - April 2002).

Topics of focus for the proposed workshop:

Considering an indication of African and European interests, the scope of the workshop might be focused on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) issues, including the translation into practical procedures of international agreements on the following topics:

- Prior Informed Consent (PIC) and Mutual Agreed Terms (MAT): concepts, provisions, enforceability and management;
- FAO Code of Conduct for Collecting;
- Material Transfer Agreements (MTA): models, standardization, traceability etc;
- Benefit Sharing Arrangements (BSA): monetary, in-kind, joint ventures etc;
- Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs): concepts, types thereof, eligible subject matters, consequences for different user groups, etc;
- Farmers' Rights and Communal Rights (as far as ABS is concerned);
- National Competent Authorities (identification of);

Note: This approach should take into account progress in the revision of the FAO international Undertaking, in particular in establishing a Multilateral System for Access and Benefit Sharing (MLS) for certain crops, and the consequences for access and benefit sharing for crops not covered by the MLS.

Task Force Workplan for the period June 2001 to 2003, until end of ECP/GR Phase VI

It was agreed that US\$25,000 out of the US\$35,000 available would be allocated between the 3 concept notes proposed. The remaining US\$10,000 would be used for the participation in meetings and the remainder as contingency money for the three proposals.

The Task Force proposes to the Steering Committee that for the next ECP/GR Phase, a working budget be allocated to the Task Force, to be used as “seed money” for projects with the aim of attracting additional funding such as in the case of the three project proposals. A similar amount (US\$35,000) would be sufficient. It was therefore proposed to allocate a minimal amount to continue funding 2 small meetings during the next phase (US\$10,000).

Terms of Reference and election of chair and Task Force members

It was agreed that the Terms of Reference of the Task Force and the Logframe of the Network presented in 1999 did not need any amendments in view of the new workplan.

The Task Force members invited B. Visser to continue as Chairperson until the next meeting. B. Visser kindly accepted. The members present at this meeting accepted to remain on the Task Force and to carry out the agreed Workplan. It was further proposed by B. Visser to invite Patrick Mulvany, Food Security Policy Adviser at the Intermediate Technology Development Group - ITDG, in the United Kingdom to become a member of the Task Force in order to strengthen the links with NGO's as important partners in cooperation and development activities (**Action:** B. Visser to contact P. Mulvany).

The chair thanked all participants for their active involvement in this meeting. He thanks the local organizer RICP for their excellent organization and very enjoyable hospitality. The meeting was adjourned.

Annex I: Agenda

ECP/GR Inter-regional Cooperation Network: 2nd Meeting of the Task Force members
11-12 May, 2001, Prague, Czech Republic

Friday 11 May

Time	Topics	Chair
9:00 – 10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opening of the meeting, welcome address - <i>host</i> - Approval of agenda and programme - <i>Chair</i> - Background to the ECP/GR Inter-Regional Cooperation Network - Round of introductions of the participants - <i>all participants</i> - Overview of the progress: report from each task force members on progress of his/her specific activity 	B. Laliberté
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break	
11:00 – 12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion of outputs produced and future direction of the Network 	B. Laliberté
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch at the Institute	
14:00 – 15:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion on the needs for further information resources / inventories undertaken - European Funding Opportunities database and future direction 	B. Visser
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break	
16:00 – 17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion on training / capacity building activities – (<i>participation of Issiaka Zoungrana, newly appointed Training Officer at IPGRI</i>) 	B. Visser
20:00 onwards	Social dinner at the Restaurant. <i>Details to be provided by Ladislav Dotlacil</i>	

Saturday 12 May

Time	Topics	Chair
9:00 – 10:30	<p>Discussion on possible projects that could be supported by the ECP/GR Inter-Regional Cooperation Network such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Documentation and collection management – such as joint databases, core collections etc. - Documentation training workshop in a region identified as of priority - Germplasm collected in different regions, stored in European genebanks and their direct contribution to national programme development and research and farming systems in developing countries. - Specific research projects - Emergency actions / Seed security projects - Other special projects 	B. Visser
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break	
11:00 – 12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion on future projects continued 	B. Visser
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch at the institute	
14:00 – 16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion on the continuation of the different inventories: PGR Networks needs, NGOs and Projects on technical cooperation. - Agree on Task Force workplan for the period June 2001 to 2003 	B. Laliberté

	<p>(end of current ECP/GR Phase VI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revised Terms of Reference of the Task Force - Election of Chair and Task Force members - Other business - Closing of meeting 	
20:00 onwards	Musical concert for those interested. <i>Details to be provided by Ladislav Dotlacil</i>	

Annex II: Guidelines to collect information from survey Networks on national needs/priorities related to PGR activities

Introduction

The objective of this survey is to assess the needs and priorities for PGR activities in the regions with the aim to create links and identify concrete and practical projects that could be supported by European partners.

The survey takes advantage of contacts already existing between the Task Force members and PGR Networks outside of Europe. It is proposed to collect the following information formally through this survey or informally through interview or phone conversation following more or less the same agreed format. The intention of these guidelines is to standardize the approach taken by different members of the Task Force and agree on setting priorities among the different areas of activities.

This survey relates to Activities 4 and 6 of the Vorkplan of the ECP/GR Inter-regional Cooperation Network Task Force. Links would be established with the following regional networks using this common format as a basis for data collection, as agreed during the first meeting:

- WANANET contacted by IAO
- SADC contacted by NGB
- REMERFI contacted by CRF, GTZ
- CANPGR contacted by CGN

Survey of PGR Network

Date of response to this questionnaire:	
Name Contact Person:	
Responsibility of Contact Person:	
Full Name of Network:	
Network's acronym:	
Geographic coverage of the Network:	
Species coverage of the Network:	
Principal activities of the Network:	
Types of members of the Network:	
Number of members of the Network:	

Please indicated what you consider being the most important needs for PGR-related activities in your region and where inter-regional cooperation can have the most impact. Give a rating from 0-3 for the following areas, where:

0 = not important 1 = little important 2 = important 3 = very important

	Needs in information, networking and collaboration activities:	Rate (0-3)
1.	Documentation systems for PGRFA collections.	
2.	National and regional inventories of PGRFA conserved <i>ex situ</i>	
3.	National and regional inventories of PGRFA conserved <i>in situ</i>	
4.	National and regional inventories of PGRFA conserved on-farm	
5.	Linking databases of information on <i>ex situ</i> holdings between the different regions.	
6.	Documentation of indigenous knowledge on traditional varieties and wild PGRFA	
7.	Directory of specialists on genetic resources and biodiversity in the regions.	
8.	Directory of NGO active in PGR including disaster situations.	
9.	Directories of seeds available of farmers-saved indigenous varieties and from informal sector	
10.	Workshops, meetings and conferences for the exchange of information and experience between partners from developed and developing countries.	
11.	Communication technologies adapted to developing countries	
12.	Establishment of regional PGRFA networks (crop and thematic Networks).	
13.	Strengthen existing networks and integrate countries not currently participating	
14.	Strengthen linkages between formal and informal institutions.	
15.	Strengthen international collaboration for safety duplications of <i>ex situ</i> collections	
16.	International collaboration for regeneration effort of <i>ex situ</i> material	
17.	Strengthen collaboration on <i>in situ</i> and on-farm conservation through regional networks.	
18.	Strengthen collaboration between breeders and genebank managers	
19.	Facilitate the use by farmers of landraces and other material conserved in genebanks	
	Needs in training and capacity building activities, including information and documentation:	Rate (0-3)
1.	PGR training material for inclusion in national curricula on agriculture, horticulture, forestry and botany in different languages.	
2.	Advanced and specialised PGR courses at regional level	
3.	Short technical courses on PGR at regional and national level	
4.	Training of trainers in PGR conservation and use	
5.	Identify opportunities for joint training activities between the regions	

	Areas of joint research and capacity building:	Rate (0-3)
1.	Policy development and national strategies for the implementation of international agreements such as CBD, IU, WTO Agreements etc.	
2.	<i>Ex situ</i> conservation methodologies	
3.	Characterisation and Evaluation	
4.	Develop complementary conservation strategies including <i>ex situ</i> and <i>in situ</i> approaches	
5.	Plant breeding (including pre-breeding activities with emphasis on base-broadening programmes)	
6.	Farmer management of PGRFA (including improvement of farmer selection of varieties)	
7.	Sustainable management of under-utilised species	
8.	Development of markets (explore market opportunities) for products originating from traditional and under-utilised varieties and crops	
	Areas for public awareness activities:	Rate (0-3)
1.	Value of PGRFA	
2.	Activities related to the GPA and the CBD.	
3.	Environmental education in secondary schools	
4.	<i>In situ</i> and on-farm conservation of wild crop relatives.	
5.	Use of landraces in breeding programmes	
6.	PGRFA policy and legal information.	
7.	Genetic resources conservation issues among the humanitarian seed relief and emergency assistance agencies.	
8.	Financial support for PGRFA conservation activities.	
	Emergency situations and seed security of small-scale farmers	Rate (0-3)
1.	Mechanisms for the rapid reintroduction of diverse planting material to farming system that have suffered drought, war or other catastrophes including seed multiplication and distribution	
2.	Support the study of specific plant population genetic consequences of seed relief, in areas where baseline data exist, to establish whether seed relief contributes to genetic erosion.	
3.	Encourage the development of emergency seed transfer protocols in advance of disasters to support farmer efforts to recover locally-adapted landraces.	
4.	Contingency planning, regional back-up collection, for seed relief in disaster affected regions	
5.	Develop approaches to achieve sustainable seed security at farm household level: improve the capacity of rural farming communities to acquire, multiply and deliver seed of locally adapted varieties including planting materials.	

Annex III: National Information on scientific and technical cooperation in PGRFA funded by European countries

	Project Title	Partners	Country/ Region	Period of Support	Planned Budget
1.	International Genebank, Turrialba. Infrastructure development, collections of PGR, documentation, evaluation, characterization.	Germany	Central- America	1976-1993 In 1986 a fully functioning service unit was handed over to the partners	DM 10,800,000
2.	National Genebank, Kenya. Management of infrastructure and conservation systems, capacity building, training, collection, evaluation and documentation, use of GR	Germany	Kenya	1983-1994 From 1992 to 1994 consolidation and follow-up support	DM 10,700,000
3.	International Genebank Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Infrastructure development, collection, evaluation and documentation, use of GR, capacity building	Germany	Ethiopia, East Africa	1976 – 2001 Ethiopian Genebank developed into Biodiversity Centre, now GTZ Project on forest genetic resources	DM 13,100,000
4.	Evaluation, mutual exchange and effective utilization of plant genetic resources	Czech Republic	China	1998-2000	US\$9,000
5.	Community Biodiversity Development and Conservation (CBDC)	The Netherlands	Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chili, Mali, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, the Netherlands, Sierra Leone, Thailand, Vietnam, Zimbabwe	4 years	US\$4,200,000
6.	National Biodiversity Centre Bhutan	CGN, the Netherlands	Bhutan	4 years	US\$50,000
7.	Conservation, characterization, collection and utilization of genetic resources of olive	Instituto sulla Propagazione delle Specie Legnose, Italy	Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia	5 years	US\$105,000
8.	Training and transfer initiatives on conservation and valorization of plant genetic resources in the Mediterranean	SMED, Italy	Italy and Syria	2000-2001	Euro5,000

	Project Title	Partners	Country/ Region	Period of Support	Planned Budget
9.	Fellowship on molecular tools for enhancing the management of crop diversity	IPGRI; University of Naples, Italy	Institut National Agronomique de Tunisie	3 years, started 2001	Euro80,000
10	Centre for the production of fruit plants in the Province of Sichuan, China	IAO, Florence, Italy; Istituto Sperimentale per la Frutticoltura, Rome, Italy	China	3 years, started 2001	Euro1,300,000
11	Applied research project on durum wheat and lentils in region of Tiaret, Algeria	IAO	Algeria	10 years, expire July 2001	Euro2,750,000
12	Introduction of jujube resistance to phytoplasma in other fruit species	Istituto sperimentale per la frutticoltura, Rome, Italy; University of Bologna, Italy	Pomology Research Institute, China	3 years	
13	Conservation of ecotype of Chinese peaches, pears, apricots and strawberries resistant to phytoplasma that affects Italian fruit production	Istituto sperimentale per la frutticoltura ; University of Bologna, Italy	Pomology Research Institute, China	3 years	
14	Conservation, characterisation, collection and utilization of genetic resources of olive	Crete; Cyprus; Greece; France; Italy; CIFA, Spain; Universidad di Cordoba, Spain	Algeria; Cyprus, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia	5 years	US\$ 105,000
15	Effects of genotype and environment on sweet potato yield and quality in developing countries	Germany	CIP	1999-2002	DM 650,000
16	Farmer participation in barley breeding	University Hohenheim, Germany	ICARDA	1996-1999	DM 980,000
17	Domestication of indigenous wild fruit trees of the Miombo Woodlands of Southern Africa	Germany	ICRAF	1997-2000	DM 1,600,000
18	Enhancing quality, diversity and productivity of farmers' pearl millet genetic resources in Rajasthan	University Hohenheim, Germany	ICRISAT	1997-2000	DM 670,000

	Project Title	Partners	Country/ Region	Period of Support	Planned Budget
19	Conservation, management and sustainable use of forest genetic resources with reference to Brazil and Argentina	Germany, BfH, Hamburg	IPGRI	1999-2002	DM 1,600,000
20	Contribution of home gardens to <i>in situ</i> conservation of Plant Genetic Resources in farming systems	IPK, Gatersleben, Germany	IPGRI	1998 - 2001	DM 950,000
21	Strengthening the scientific basis of <i>in situ</i> conservation of agricultural biodiversity: Morocco Country Component	Germany	IPGRI	1998 - 2001	DM 940,000
22	Patterns of genetic diversity and genetic erosion of traditional crops in Peru: rapid assessment and risk prediction using GIS tools		IPGRI	1999 - 2002	DM 1,100,000

Annex IV: European NGOs active in technical cooperation projects in PGRFA in Europe

- 1. NGO's name – original:** PRO- BIO Šumperk, Česká svaz organického zemědělství
NGO's name – English: PRO- BIO Šumperk, Czech Association of Organic Farming
Contact information: PRO-BIO, P.O. BOX 116, CZ-787 01 Šumperk, Czech Republic
Type of membership: Individuals and companies
Number of members: 580 (family farm, companies, individuals)
Funding: Subscriptions, grants
Partners: Processing industry, Agric. Res. Institutes, Ministry of Agriculture, NGOs involved in wild nature protection
Geographic Coverage: 7 regional centers throughout the country
Species Coverage: All agricultural crops grown, attention to traditional
- 2. NGO's name – original:** Utveklingsfondet
NGO's name – English: Development Fund
Contact information: Nedregt. 8, 0551 Oslo
- 3. NGO's name – original:** Nadácia Genofond
NGO's name – English: "Foundation Genofond"
Contact information: Jan Brindza, Dept. of Genetics and Plant Breeding, The Slovak Agricultural University
Type of membership: Individuals
Number of members: 25
Funding: Gifts and sponsoring of private people and enterprises, research projects
Partners: The Slovak Agricultural University, Research Institute of Crop Production in Piešťany, Slovak Gene bank in Piešťany
Geographic Coverage: All territory of Slovakia
Species Coverage: Fruit trees (Malus, Prunus, Pyrus, Castanea, etc.), flowers (Pelargonium, Chrysantemum, etc.), field crops (Phaseolus, Pisum, Linum...)
- 4. NGO's name – original:** ProSpecie Rara
Contact information: Martin Bossard
Geographic Coverage: Eastern Europe

Finland (response from Leena Hömmö): Unfortunately I must inform you that the only small NGOs we have in our country do not have any cooperation with the developing countries. The only activity I could imagine in this context is the cooperation NGB has with the Baltic countries and with Russia. There are for sure projects and programmes carried out in the developing countries which partially or indirectly have something to do with PGR financed by the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but that is official function, where the NGOs have none or only minor part to play.

Denmark (response from Paul Regenberg): It would be very useful to make a compilation of current European activities within this area with the intention of increasing the cooperation and making preparations for coordinating efforts. The Danish Plant Directorate therefore supports the initiative from the Task Force. However, presently I am not able to contribute with relevant information concerning the situation in Denmark, simply because no survey on these state of affairs exists and because I do not have enough resources to make such a compilation myself with this rather short notice. The Danish strategy for plant genetic resources is presently under preparation. The Danish Plant Directorate is involved in this work and will take the initiative in trying to obtain an overview of activities related to the third world. When the strategy is available I hope to be able to come back with requested information.

Norway: A large number of questionnaires were sent out but only one answer has been received (Even Bratberg).

Ireland (response from Donal Coleman, 19/10/2000): Apart from the involvement of agriculture based NGOs in either European or EU based PGRFA projects, all inter-regional collaboration is via large national NGOs in the domain of education, health or religion. The funding and national responsibility for these NGOs rests with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. I checked out the activities listed for this sector (Overseas development) for 1999 and the nearest to activity to PGRFA was in the sphere of health/environment concerning the construction of irrigation and water purification systems. For many years the Ministry of Agriculture funded livestock improvement programmes in South and West Africa but these have been absorbed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Development Agency.

Switzerland (response from Gert Kleijer, 10/11/2000): We do have a number of NGOs in Switzerland dealing with PGR but their activities are mostly limited to Switzerland. One NGO, Pro Specie Rara is active outside the borders of Switzerland but its activity is limited to the Eastern European countries and they are not dealing and collaborating with third world countries.

Cyprus (response from Athena Della, 04/12/2000): As far as I know there are no activities of NGOs in our country collaborating with partners in the third world, in projects including PGRFA conservation and use.

NGOs in the UK working in the field of technical collaboration including PGRFA activities

NGO	Research	OnFarm	Relief	Advocacy	GMOs/TRIPs
BOAG Agencies + (Large Dev NGOs)					
Oxfam					X
Save the Children			X		
Action Aid		X	X	X	X
Christian Aid			X		X
CAFOD			X		Soon
Tear Fund			X		?
World Vision			X		?
Research NGOs					
ODI	X	X	X		X
IIED	X	X			X
Development NGOs					
ITDG	X	X		X	X
Gaia Foundation				X	X
Find your Feet	X	X			
CIIR (and other volunteer sending societies)		X			X
Farmers World Network		X			
Farmer's Link		X			X
PAN UK	X	X		X	
Environment NGOs					
WWF		X			X
RSPB		X			X
UK Organic Agriculture NGOs with Overseas Activities					
HDRA		X		X	X
Soil Association		X			X
Elm Farm Research	?	?			?
Campaigning NGOs / Alliances					
SUSTAIN				X	X
FREEZE					X
GreenPeace		X			X

Friends of the Earth		X			X
UK Food Group	X	X		X	X
Genetic Engineering Network				X	X
Information and Advocacy NGOs					
CornerHouse				X	X
PANOS Institute				X	X

NGOs in Germany working in the field of technical collaboration including PGRFA activities

Some remarks by Gabriele Blümlein, ZADI, Bonn:

There are around 2.000 institutions and organisations in Germany working in the field of development cooperation. They are characterized by a great diversity of both activities and institutional and organisational structure. There are the classical development organisations *inter alia* "Deutscher Entwicklungsdienst" (DED), Misereor, "Bread for the World" and GTZ running numerous projects in the field of rural development, including agriculture. There are very small organisations like Third World Groups that often run a Third World Shop and that may support small projects in developing countries.

Of course, it would be worthwhile to get an overview on all the NGO projects, which are relevant to PGRFA. To collect this information, however, at least if it is supposed to be comprehensive, is quite a time and capacity consuming task.

Conservation and use of PGRFA covers a very broad range of activities from conservation activities, breeding activities, research activities, seed production, as well as projects focussing on sustainable agriculture and rural development in general. Our experience is, that it is not always known by the implementing agencies which projects are relevant to PGRFA. It is relatively easy to find out all projects in the field of agriculture, but to identify amongst them the projects with activities to PGRFA seems to be a difficult task. Up to now, and this is really a pity, PGRFA is not a common keyword in project characterisation.

Another question is, how to keep the information up-to-date in a most effective way. In the medium term it seems to us more effective to establish a system to collect the project information using the project databases that are already, or will be, established by development organisations themselves. This will facilitate such national inventories, information is supposed to be up-to-date- and double work can be avoided.

Below you find a list of German NGOs active in the field of development cooperation and PGRFA. This list is by no means comprehensive, these are organisations, of whom we know that they have, or at least had, activities in PGRFA. We did a very rough classification of the NGOs according to their main focus into: organisations having projects in developing countries, emergency aid organisations, and those active in policy, training, research, public relations, consultancy.

NGOs in Germany working in the field of technical collaboration including PGRFA activities

ADRA - Adventistische Entwicklungs- und Katastrophenhilfe e.V.
Robert-Bosch-Straße 4
64331 Weiterstadt
Tel: 06151 / 81 15-0
Fax: 06151 / 81 15-12
Email: info@adra-ev.de
Internet: <http://www.ADRA-Deutschland.de>
emergency aid

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Tropische und Subtropische Agrarforschung e.V. (ATSAF)
c/o Universität Hohenheim (430)
70593 Stuttgart
Tel +49(0)711-4706900
Fax: +49(0)711-459-2652
Email: ATSAF@ATSAF.de
<http://www.uni-hohenheim.de/atsaf/policy/training/research/publicrelations/consultancy>

AT-Verband
Alexanderstraße 17
53111 Bonn
TelTel: 0228 / 63 14 21
Fax: 0228 / 63 14 27
Email: atverband@aol.com
Internet: <http://members.aol.com/atverband>
emergency aid
policy/training/research/public
relations/consultancy

Brot für die Welt
Staffenbergstraße 76
70184 Stuttgart
Tel: 0711 / 2 15 9-0
Fax: 0711 / 2 15 9-288
Email: bfdwprogramm@brot-fuer-die-welt.de
Internet: <http://www.brot-fuer-die-welt.de>
projects
emergency aid

BUKO - Bundeskongreß
entwicklungspolitischer Aktionsgruppen -
Agrarkoordination
Nernstweg 32-34
22765 Hamburg
Tel: (0 40) 39 31 56; Fax: (0 40) 3 90 75 20
Email: bukohh@t-online.de
Internet:
<http://www.epo.de/buko/index.htm>
policy/public relations/consultancy

CARE Deutschland e.V.
Dreizehnmorgenweg 6
53175 Bonn
Tel: 0228 / 9 75 63-0
Fax:Fax: 0228 / 9 75 63-51
Email: info@care.de
Internet: <http://www.care.de>
emergency aid

Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft e.V. (CDG)
Weyerstraße 79-83
50676 Köln
Tel: (02 21) 20 98-0; Fax: (02 21) 20 98-1 11
Email: info@cdg.de
Internet: <http://www.cdg.de>
projects
training

Deutscher Entwicklungsdienst GmbH (DED)
Tulpenfeld 7
53113 Bonn
Tel: (02 28) 24 34-0; Fax: (02 28) 24 34-1 11
Email: poststelle@ded.de
Internet: <http://www.ded.de>
projects

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische
Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH
Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1-5
65760 Eschborn
Tel: (0 61 96) 79-0; Fax: (0 61 96) 79-11 15
Email: postmaster@gtz.de
Internet: <http://www.gtz.de>
projects
emergency aid

Deutsche Welthungerhilfe e.V.
Adenauerallee 134
53113 Bonn
Tel: 0228 / 22 88-0
Fax: 0228 / 22 07 10
Email: volker.hausmann@dwhh.de
Internet: <http://www.welthungerhilfe.de>
projects
emergency aid

Deutscher Caritasverband Caritas
international
Karlstraße 40
79104 Freiburg
Tel: 0761 / 20 00
Fax: 0761 / 20 05 83
Email: contact@caritas-international.de
Internet: <http://www.caritas-international.de>
projects
emergency aid

Deutsche Stiftung für internationale
Entwicklung
- Zentralstelle für Ernährung und
Landwirtschaft -
Wielinger Straße 52
82340 Feldafing
Tel:Tel: (08157) 938-0
Fax:Fax: (08157) 938-777
Email: zel@dse.de
Internet: <http://www.dse.de>

Standort Zschortau:
Deutsche Stiftung für internationale
Entwicklung
- Zentralstelle für Ernährung und
Landwirtschaft -
Eilenburger Straße 14
04509 Zschortau
Tel:Tel: (034202) 845-0
training/public relations

Dienste in Übersee (DÜ)
jetzt: Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (EED)
Mittelstraße 37
53175 Bonn
Tel (02 28) 81 01-2 09; Fax (02 28) 81 01-1 60
Email: dienste@geod.geonet.de
Internet: <http://www.due.org>
projects

EIRENE - Internationaler Christlicher
Friedensdienst e.V.
Engerser Straße 74 b
56564 Neuwied
Tel: 02631 / 83 79-0
Fax: 02631 / 3 11 60
Email: eirene-int@oln.comlink.apc.org
Internet: <http://www.eirene.org>
projects

Evangelische Zentralstelle für
Entwicklungshilfe e.V.
Mittelstraße 37
53175 Bonn
Tel: 0228 / 81 01-0
Fax: 0228 / 81 01-160
Email: EZE@EZE.org
policy/training/research/public
relations/consultancy

FIAN e.V. (Foodfirst Information &
Aktionsnetzwerk)
Sektion der Bundesrepublik Deutschland -
Overwegstraße 31
44625 Herne
Tel:(0 23 23) 49 00 99
Fax: (0 23 23) 49 00 18
Email: fian@fian.de
Internet: <http://www.fian.de>
policy/public relations

Forum Umwelt & Entwicklung
Am Michaelshof 8-10
53177 Bonn
Tel: (02 28) 35 97 04; Fax: (02 28) 35 90 96
Email: forumue@compuserve.de
Internet:
<http://www.oneworldweb.de/forum>
policy/public relations/consultancy

Germanwatch e.V. Nord-Süd-Initiative
Kaiserstraße 201
53113 Bonn
Tel: 0228 / 60 49 20
Fax: 0228 / 60 49 219
Email: germanwatch@germanwatch.org
Internet: <http://www.germanwatch.org>
policy/public relations/

International Federation of Organic
Agriculture Movements
Head Office
c/o Ökozentrum Imsbach
D-66636 Tholey-Theley
Phone: +49-6853-5190 / 5196 Fax: +49-6853-
30110
Email: IFOAM-secretary@oln.comlink.ap
Home Page: <http://www.ifoam.org>
projects
policy/training/research/public
relations/consultancy

IUCN (International Council of Environmental
Law) - Environmental Law Centre
(IUCN-ELC)
Godesberger Allee 108-112
53175 Bonn
Tel: (02 28) 26 92-2 31
Fax: (02 28) 26 92-2 70
Email: ALukacs@elc.iucn.org
Internet: <http://www.iucn.org/themes/law>
policy/public relations/consultancy

Misereor Bischöfliches Hilfswerk e.V.
Mozartstraße 9
52064 Aachen
Tel: 0241 / 44 2-0
Fax: 0241 / 44 21 88
Email: epol@misereor.de
Internet: <http://www.misereor.de>
projects
emergency aid

Stiftung Entwicklung und Frieden
Gotenstraße 152
53175 Bonn
Tel: 0228 / 9 59 25-0
Fax: 0228 / 9 59 25 99
Email: roth@sef-bonn.de
Internet: <http://www.sef-bonn.org>
policy/training/public relations

Südwind e.V.
Institut für Ökonomie und Ökumene
Lindenstraße 58-60
53721 Siegburg
Tel: (0 22 41) 5 36 17; Fax: (0 22 41) 5 13 08
Email: suedwind.institut@t-online.de
Internet: <http://www.suedwind-institut.de>
policy/public relations/

Verband Entwicklungspolitik deutscher
Nichtregierungsorganisationen e.V. (VENRO)
Kaiserstraße 201
53113 Bonn
Tel: 0228 / 9 46 77 - 0
Fax: 0228 / 9 46 77 - 99
Email: sekretariat@venro.org
Internet: <http://www.venro.org>
policy/training/research/public
relations/consultancy

Weltfriedensdienst e.V. (WFD)
Hedemannstraße 14
10969 Berlin
Tel (0 30) 2 53 99 00; Fax (0 30) 2 51 18 87
Email: WFD@ipn.de
Internet: <http://www.wfd.de>
projects
policy/public relations

World Vision e.V. Deutschland
Am Houiller Platz 4
61381 Friedrichsdorf
Tel: 06172 763-0
Fax: 06172 763-270
Internet:
<http://www.worldvision.de/html/archiv/home.html>
Emergency aid