



AEGIS

A Quality System (AQUAS)

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Content of presentation



- Decision of SC to develop AQUAS
- The underlying principles
- Operational framework
- Identified players in establishing AQUAS
- Where are we?
- The way forward

SC decision



AEGIS Advisory Committee supervises:

- Develop generic genebank management standards
- An effective monitoring system

Respective Working Groups coordinate:

- Development of crop specific technical standards

AQUAS - Principles



Quality system to be based on the principles:

1. Quality assurance

- **Plan:** Say what you do
- **Do:** Do what you say
- **Check:** Let an independent body check that you do what you say
- **Act:** Correct and improve what you say you do

2. Decisions by consensus

3. Agreed minimum standards – involve partners; get “buy-in”

4. Capacity building plays a key role

5. Avoid unnecessary bureaucracy (pragmatic; not doctrinaire)

6. Effective guidance and advisory approach as monitoring

Operational framework



Elements to be established:

1. Operational genebank manual – all genebanks;
based on templates
2. Generic operational standards
3. Agreed minimum technical standards (crop specific)
4. Quality management system, incl. procedures to develop it:
 - a. record keeping
 - b. reporting
 - c. monitoring (not policing, but guiding and advisory approach)

Identified players



1. ECPGR Secretariat
2. Working Groups or NCGs
3. AEGIS Advisory Committee
4. ECPGR Steering Committee
5. Associate member

AQUAS – where are we?



- Discussion paper endorsed by SC; on the AEGIS website (**has been distributed**)
- Ample discussions (at least for some crops)
- **Agreed timeframe and process** as well as responsibilities for its development
- Further “fine tuning” in EUROGENEBANK Project

- “**New item**” (part of EUROGENEBANK Project preparation): need for **some sort of certification** (of an accession or collection; a genebank; a genebank operation?)
- ISO, AEGIS or what kind of certification?
- A **pre-condition** to allow rationalization of collections to take place!?

The way forward - WGs



1. Initiation of preparing **genebank manuals** (following proposed templates)
2. Initiation of process to develop **crop specific technical minimum standards**
 - a. Collecting
 - b. Regeneration
 - c. Drying and other preparatory steps
 - d. Storage/field genebank maintenance
 - e. Seed quality and viability monitoring
3. Designing a **monitoring + reporting system**

Discussion on these next steps



Thank you
for your
attention!