WORKING GROUP ON CRYOPRESERVATION - ONE YEAR AFTER -

L. Maggioni

Oeiras, Portugal, May 2023
Cryopreservation WG established in February 2022

- Proposal Submitted in October 2021 by Nicolas Roux & Bart Panis (Bioversity International), Manuela Nagel (IPK) and Stephane Dussert (INRAE)
- Cryo as safe, long-term complementary conservation method, low maintenance cost, for recalcitrant seeds and clonal crops – Expertise in Europe, but limited coordination
- Objectives to:
  - Gather information on status of cryopreservation in Europe
  - Promote cryopreservation research
  - Ensure access to cryopreservation technologies for safety back-up
  - Increase collaboration to establish European Cryo-hub
  - Create European cryopreservation back-up facilities
  - Develop new technologies and data management system
Points of discussion Alnarp 2022

• Some concern about choice of WG Chair
• Some concern about role of Cryo-hub in Belgium

**SC recommendations:**

- To nominate two co-Chairs operating under NC supervision
- Letter of appointment indicating expectations of SC
  - Develop a concept for rational efficient cryopreservation in Europe
  - Transfer of material to Cryo-hub not a priority
- Review work of WG
What happened-1

Two Co-Chairs nominated with Letter of appointment:

- **Milos Faltus**
  Crop Research Institute, Prague, Czech Republic

- **Bart Panis**
  KU Leuven, Belgium and Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT
What happened-2

• 34 WG members nominated from 18 countries
• Participation of M. Faltus in the *Allium* WG meeting, October 2022
• Joint preparation of proposal Garli-CCS
  • Cryo WG to provide training and develop cryo strategy for 1,800 genotyped accessions
• Request to organize 1\textsuperscript{st} Cryo WG meeting
• Meeting organized 3-5 May 2023, Prague, Czech Republic
First meeting of Cryopreservation WG

- 18 WG members participated
- Introduction to ECPGR
- Introduction to cryopreservation and its state of the art
- Country reports

Discussion and conclusions:
- Need for increased networking
- Dissemination – webinars
- Trainings – various means
- Project preparation – droplet vitrification on dormant buds
- Garlic will offer the prototype for a strategy
THANK YOU