# Delhi Declaration on Agrobiodiversity Management



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## Genesis

- First International Agrobiodiversity Congress, IAC2016 (Nov 6-9, 2016 New Delhi)
- >900 participants from 60 countries
- 16 technical sessions, four satellite sessions, Genebank round-table, a public forum, a farmers' forum, poster sessions

#### **Comprehensive Deliberations**

Agrobiodiversity for SDGs

Food, Nutrition, Health and Environmental Security Crop Wild Relatives: Back to the Wild to Save the Future

Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change IPRs, ABS and Farmers' Rights

Partnership, Networks and Capacity Building

Conservation through Use

Conservation Strategies and Methodologies



Agrobio. Index Int. Agrobio. Fund

> Awareness Capacity building

TK + custodians Technologies

Top Priority Shared Vision Sustainable use Achieve SDGs/ Aichi targets

Participation of private/ society

Cons. Strategies

Ecosystem

Services

Exchange

Instruments

SPS

### Opportunity



Efficiency, equity, economy, environmental security

Legal, Institutional, Funding

Frontier Technologies Traditional Knowledge

#### STRATEGIES





SPS, Quarantine, Biosecurity

#### STRATEGIES

#### Awareness

#### Capacity building







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#### Thanks

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• We call upon nations to accord top priority to the shared vision of agrobiodiversity conservation and sustainable use towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Aichi Targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity addressing poverty alleviation, food, nutritional and health security, gender equity and global partnership.

 We recognize the importance of traditional agrobiodiversity knowledge available with farm men and women, pastoralists, tribal and rural communities and its central role in the conservation and use for a food secure and climate resilient world. We, therefore, call upon countries to develop the necessary legal, institutional and funding mechanisms to catalyze their active participation.

• We urge researchers and the policymakers to initiate, strengthen and promote complementary strategies to conserve agrobiodiversity through use, including greater emphasis on using crop wild relatives. We call for them to ensure a continuum between ex situ, in situ, on-farm, community based and other conservation methods with much greater and equal emphasis on each.

 We propose that researchers employ modern technologies including, but not limited to, genomics, biotechnology, space, computational, and nano-technologies for genetic resources characterization, evaluation and trait discovery. The aim must be to achieve efficiency, equity, economy and environmental security through diversified agricultural production systems and landscapes.

• We reemphasize the necessity of global exchange of plant, animal, aquatic, microbial and insect genetic resources to diversify agriculture as well as our food basket and to meet the ever-growing food and nutritional needs of all countries. To ensure this, nations need to be catalysed to adopt both multi-lateral (as envisaged in the **International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources** for Food and Agriculture) and bilateral (as per the Nagoya Protocol) instruments to facilitate the exchange of genetic resources, while ensuring equitable access and benefit sharing opportunities.

 Countries are also expected to harmonize their existing biosecurity systems, including phytosanitary and quarantine, and enhance their capacities to facilitate safe transboundary movement of germplasm.

 We also expect that the governments and civil societies lay much greater emphasis on public awareness and capacity enhancement programs on agrobiodiversity conservation in order to accelerate its effective and efficient use.

 We recommend the development and implementation of an Agrobiodiversity Index to help monitor on-going genetic resource conservation and management efforts, with particular emphasis on agrobiodiversity hot spots.

 It is also urged that public and private sectors and civil societies henceforth actively invest in and incentivize the utilization of agrobiodiversity to mitigate malnutrition, increase the resilience and productivity of farms and farming households and enhance ecosystem services. Such efforts should lead to equitable benefits and opportunities, with particular emphasis on women and youth.

 We urge countries to reprioritize their research and extension with increased investments to support the conservation and use of agrobiodiversity. Furthermore, we strongly recommend to create an International Agrobiodiversity Fund as a mechanism to assist countries and communities in scientific in situ and ex situ conservation and enhanced use of agrobiodiversity.