



25 July 2012

Dear National Focal Point,

As you might recall at its Fourth Session, the Governing Body in its Resolution 6/2011 *Implementation of Article 9, Farmers' Rights* recognized that exchange of experiences and mutual assistance between Contracting Parties can significantly contribute to making progress in the implementation of the provisions on Farmers' Rights in the International Treaty.

The Governing Body invited Contracting Parties and other relevant organizations to submit:

- Views, experiences and best practices on the implementation of Farmers' Rights as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty, involving, as appropriate, farmers' organizations and other stakeholders; and
- Proposals for ways and means through which these views, experiences and best practices can be exchange between and among Contracting Parties and relevant stakeholder groups.

It also emphasized the link between Farmers' Rights under Article 9 and the provisions on conservation and sustainable use under Articles 5 and 6 of the International Treaty.

In this context, the Governing Body requested the Secretary to compile the submissions mentioned above for consideration of the *Ad Hoc* Technical Committee on Sustainable Use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, and to disseminate relevant information through the website of the International Treaty, where appropriate.

Following this request, the Treaty Secretariat posted a notification on the website of the Treaty on 21 September 2011 inviting Contracting, international relevant organizations and National Focal Points to submit views, experiences and best practices on the implementation of Farmers' Rights.

To facilitate the consolidation of information by the Secretariat for the consideration of the *Ad Hoc* Technical Committee on Sustainable Use, and to disseminate relevant information through the website of the International Treaty, where appropriate, a deadline for submissions was given by 16 March 2012. By 25 July 2012 the Secretariat of the International Treaty has not received any submission.

Please let me remind you of the invitation made by the Governing Body at its last session to Contracting Parties and other relevant organizations to submit views, experiences and best practices on the implementation of Farmers' Rights as set up in Article 9 of the International Treaty. I would be grateful if you, as National Focal Point, could help to disseminate this invitation to national institutions or relevant organizations in your country.

Submissions could be sent electronically to [PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org](mailto:PGRFA-Treaty@fao.org) and in hard copy by **8 October 2012** to:

Dr Shakeel Bhatti

Secretary

International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture,

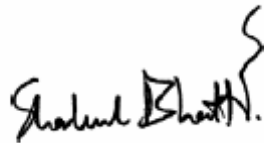
Organization of the United Nations for Food and Agriculture,

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, FAO, 00153 Rome, Italy

Tel: +39 06 570 53554, Fax: +39 06 570 56347

Any query or request for further information may also be addressed to the same contact.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shakeel Bhatti', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Secretary  
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources  
for Food and Agriculture