Global Crop Diversity Trust
Executive Board Meeting (EB/2016/1)
22-23 February 2016, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Summary

Attending Members of the Executive Board

Walter Fust (Chair)
Tim Fischer (Vice Chair)
Peter Crane
Gebisa Ejeta
Prem Lal Gautam
Alexander Müller
Knut Storberget
Marie Haga (Executive Director of the Crop Trust)

Apologies

Mary Ann Sayoc
Lew Coleman
Mauricio Lopes

Attending Crop Trust staff

Luigi Guarino	Director of Science
Janet Muir	Finance Manager
Nella Bause	PA to the Executive Director

Attending Observers

Jaap Satter	Chair of the Donors' Council
Muhamad Sabran	Chair of the Governing Body of the International Plant Treaty
Shakeel Bhatti	Secretary of the International Plant Treaty
Wayne Powell	CGIAR Chief Science Officer

EB/2016/1-1   Welcome, Introduction and Adoption of the Agenda

- The Chair welcomed participants and together with Ms. Haga introduced the CGIAR Chief Science Officer who attended the meeting as one time Observer.

EB/2016/1-2   Minutes and Actions Arising from EB/2015/2

- Mr. Mueller suggested including the major comments in regards to the Strategic Work Plan in an Annex to the minutes of EB/2016/1 as a reminder for the October 2016 meeting when the updated Strategic Workplan will be discussed again.

EB/2016/1-3   Building the multilateral system for ex situ conservation

1. Science and Research

- Mr. Guarino presented a paper on the role of science and research in the work of the Crop Trust. This pointed out that currently Crop Trust staff do not carry out research themselves, but rather commission and manage research in priority areas identified by global stakeholder consultations as key to the development of a rational, effective and efficient global system. Various Board Members pointed out that this should be seen in the context of what others are doing, in particular the Treaty and the CGIAR..

2. Long-term partnership agreements

- Mr. Guarino presented a paper on the Long-Term Partnership Agreement, in particular asking the Board to endorse the principles that should govern our negotiations with the CGIAR System Council.

3. Building a Global Alliance for Implementation of target 2.5 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- Introducing this item Ms. Haga discussed a possible process for the development of a global alliance of international organizations, governments and the private sector in support of implementation of UN Sustainable Development Goal number 2 – Target 2.5. She highlighted that the aim of an alliance would be to raise awareness of the importance of implementation of SDG target 2.5, contribute to rational and cost effective implementation of SDG target 2.5 and to secure funds for implementation of SDG target 2.5
- Mr. Mueller highlighted that a discussion on the implementation of the SDGs will take place in July in New York and it would be in our best interests to make countries aware that the

timeline for the implementation of the complete system to conserve genetic resources for food and agriculture is 2020.

4. Rationalizing and strengthening efforts to raise funds in support of the conservation and use iof PGRFA internationally

- Ms. Haga explored a number of options to rationalize and strengthen fundraising in the PGRFA (Pant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture) area

- The Global Crop Diversity Trust, the Benefit-Sharing Fund of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources and Bioversity International are all involved in raising funds for the conservation and use of PGRFA. Issues with the current independent fundraising arrangements were discussed along with possible improvement options to strengthen co-ordination going forward.

EB/2016/1-4   Resource mobilization

- Mr. Satter provided the Executive Board with a summary of the discussions held at the Donor's Council meeting on 2 February 2016. The focus of the meeting was to provide a comprehensive overview of the scientific work of the Crop Trust and to ask Donor's too consider participating in the Pledging Conference.
- Ms. Haga informed the Executive Board about progress in mobilizing donor support for the Crop Trust in advance of the Pledging Conference, which represents Phase 1 of the Fundraising Strategy
- Phase 2 of the Fundraising Strategy, focusing on contributions from private donor sources, aims to increase the endowment fund from the Phase 1 target of US$500m to US$850m paid in by 2024.

EB2016/1-5   Finance and Investment Committee Report

- Ms. Muir updated the Board on the Crop Trust's financial developments, including an update on investment management performance and the status of the investment tendering exercise, and the minutes of the Finance and Investment Committee (FIC) meeting of 1 February 2016.
- Ms. Muir provided the Executive Board with an update on the investment tendering exercise and outlined the timeline and process to date. She highlighting that nine proposals were received for the investment advisory service tender and, following an evaluation process, six candidates were interviewed in Bonn and London.

EB/2016/1-6 Board Business

- The Board took note of the new set of Governance documents that require signature by new Executive Board Members when joining which now included a revised 'Standards and Indemnity Agreement'.
- The Executive Board reviewed the dates and locations for their meetings in 2016 and 2017.

EB/2016/1-7 Any Other Business

Treaty Resolution documents

- Treaty Resolutions were circulated by the participating Treaty representatives in the meeting. The Executive Board considered two items (1) "Resolution 8/2015 Policy Guidance to the Global Crop Diversity Trust" and (2) "Resolution 2/2015 Implementation of the Funding Strategy of the International Treaty". With respect to the first item, the Executive Board has no issue with the items being proposed under the headings resource mobilization, scientific and technical matters, global information systems and communication and outreach.
- The Board also visited the Ethiopian Biodiversity institute (EBI) and participated at a Celebration of Crop Diversity – organized by ILRI and EBI.