

Report of the Steering Committee

Ninth meeting, 22-25 October 2003,
Menemen, Izmir, Turkey

European
Cooperative
Programme
for Crop
Genetic
Resources
Networks



ECP//GR

European Cooperative Programme for Crop Genetic Resources Networks (ECP/GR)



REPORT OF THE NINTH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

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Introduction

The Ninth meeting of the Steering Committee of the European Cooperative Programme for Crop Genetic Resources Networks (ECP/GR) was held in Menemen near Izmir, Turkey, 22-25 October 2003.

On behalf of the Steering Committee, Laszlo Holly opened the meeting, welcoming 32 member country representatives and observers from the European Commission, the European Consortium for Organic Plant Breeding, FAO, IPGRI, NGB and a representative of the Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs). Observers from 5 non-member countries also attended including, for the first time, a representative from Bosnia and Herzegovina. Apologies for not being able to attend were sent by Albania, Belarus, Belgium, Cyprus, Georgia, Malta, and from EuroMAB and the International Seed Federation (ISF).

Ertug Firat, Director of the Aegean Agricultural Research Institute, welcomed the Steering Committee and expressed his wish to see a fruitful meeting. He underlined the great attention given by Turkey to Plant Genetic Resources (PGR), which was considered an important service for all humanity.

Vhebi Eser, Head of the Field Crop Research of the General Directorate of Agricultural Research, Turkey confirmed the commitment of his country to international cooperation on PGR, stressing the importance not only of protection, but also of use and benefit sharing.

Jozef Turok, Director of IPGRI Regional Office for Europe, welcomed everybody to the meeting and conveyed the greetings of the new Director General, Emile Frison. He briefly mentioned the main accomplishments of ECP/GR during Phase VI and stressed the importance of the meeting in further developing collaborative activities on crop genetic resources in Europe.

The different sessions were chaired in rotation by L. Holly, Hungary; Eliseu Bettencourt, Portugal, Martyn Ibbotson, United Kingdom, Jens Weibull, Sweden, Ladislav Dotlacil, Czech Republic and Leena Hömmö, Finland.

Technical and preliminary financial report of Phase VI

The financial and technical reports were presented by Lorenzo Maggioni, ECP/GR Coordinator and they were approved¹.

The Secretariat was thanked for timely providing of a well structured package of background documents.

It was noted that the technical report should in the future also include specific mention of constraints or areas where the Programme was less functional. This would allow the Steering Committee to have a more complete overview.

The large increase in the number and progress of the ECP/GR databases was noted and it was suggested that it would be interesting to be able to measure the impact of the use of these databases.

The numerous ECP/GR publications produced during this Phase was also registered by the Steering Committee, with a question regarding the assessment of the impact of these products. In reply, the Secretariat was able to provide the data of a recent questionnaire sent to the European PGR community at large, which recorded a positive appraisal by 95% of respondents.

The Steering Committee suggested the importance of further strengthening links with environmental bodies and agencies, such as GEF, UNESCO and with Botanic Gardens.

Regarding the financial situation, countries owing past contributions, in particular Iceland and Italy, informed the Committee about the possibility to settle their outstanding contributions in the near future. The Committee therefore agreed that the slight current deficit did not represent a risk to the continuation of the Programme and that funds expected from outstanding contributions could be used for the foreseen actions or be reallocated for different purposes (see Tables 5 and 6 p.11).

¹ All background documents prepared for the ninth Steering Committee meeting are available from <http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/SteeringCommittee/SC9.htm>

Review of the Networks' progress

The Steering Committee reviewed and discussed the Networks' progress made by the respective Working Groups (WG) during Phase VI (1999-2003) and the proposed Plans of Action for Phase VII (2004-2008). A decision on the Working Groups' Plans of Action was deferred until after the discussion of the budget for Phase VII, dependent on the specific priorities as they may be prepared by the Network Coordinating Groups (NCGs)².

Recommendations were made, calling on the NCGs to specify in their reports the constraints encountered where objectives had not been achieved.

The Steering Committee also recommended that the Thematic Networks (Documentation and Information; *In situ* and On-farm Conservation; Inter-regional Cooperation) should have closer links and collaboration with the Crop Working Groups.

Use of PGR and public awareness

The Steering Committee followed with interest the presentation made by Aixa Del Greco on the subject of public awareness and noted the proposals for action. Some additional ideas for activities in this area were mentioned by the Steering Committee.

Material Transfer Agreements (MTAs)

A presentation of the work of the Task Force for an Interim Model MTA was delivered to the SC and a text was proposed for adoption, as provided to the SC under Item 2.

The SC took note of the presented text in the understanding that it may take a substantial period before a Standard MTA can be adopted by the Governing Body of the International Treaty. Furthermore it made the following decisions:

the text will be entitled "Suggested elements for an Interim Model MTA of ECP/GR"³;

the text should not be taken as a finalized document but as a source document from which elements can be used by ECP/GR member countries and/or institutions under their jurisdiction to develop their own MTA; where preferred or alternative text is incorporated, the users of this alternative text can choose their own preferred option; member countries may also decide not to adopt elements of this text in the MTAs in use by providers of PGRFA under their jurisdiction;

the text will remain valid until the adoption of a Standard MTA by the Governing Body of the International Treaty;

the text of article 12.3g of the International Treaty will be introduced in the adopted text:

'PGRFA accessed under the Multilateral System and conserved shall continue to be made available to the Multilateral System by the recipients of those PGRFA, under the terms of this Treaty.'

Report of a Task Force on a strategy for Phase VII

The Steering Committee considered the twenty-two Recommendations made by the Task Force⁴. The background to the work of the Task Force and its method of working were documented and elaborated in a letter from the Secretariat and the four papers made available before the meeting.

The Steering Committee, under the Chairmanship of Martyn Ibbotson (UK), first considered the six recommendations (17-22) dealing with the Main Priorities for Phase VII; it then dealt with the four recommendations (13-16) concerning General Aspects of Setting

² See Annex I, 2.2.1 Implementation decision 7, p.20.

³ The full text is available from: http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/SteeringCommittee/Outcome_SC9/outcomes_SC9.htm

⁴ All the recommendations in the original form proposed by the Task Force are available from <http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/SteeringCommittee/SC9.htm>. Specific guidelines for the implementation of the adopted recommendations are included in Annex I, p.14.

Priorities; and finally twelve recommendations (1–12) dealing with aspects of Mode of Operation and Communication of ECP/GR.

During a detailed and lengthy discussion, the Steering Committee accepted and adopted the Recommendations, with a single exception, with the following adjustments and amendments:

RECOMMENDATIONS 1, 2 and 3

These were considered together. Recommendations 2 and 3 were accepted and therefore adopted. Recommendation 1 was not adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 4

This offered the Steering Committee a number of not necessarily mutually exclusive options concerning the operation and membership of Working Groups. It was agreed to defer consideration of these options until discussion under Item 4 (Secretariat's Proposal for the Implementation of the Task Force Recommendations).

RECOMMENDATIONS 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10

All accepted and adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 11

Agreed and adopted with the following addition to the beginning of the first sentence: "Pending any formal arrangements with the EU under Recommendation 10, the European Commission should be invited to become a full member of the Steering Committee".

RECOMMENDATION 12

Agreed and adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 13

Agreed and adopted with the following amendment:

The following phrase is added to the second sentence
"...based on recommendations of the Steering Committee".

RECOMMENDATION 14

Agreed and adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 15

Agreed and adopted with the following amendment:

First sentence to read:

"Prior to the end-of-Phase meeting, the Network Coordinating Groups, in consultation as appropriate with the Working Groups to be prioritized in the next Phase (see Recommendation 10), should make proposals for specific priorities and objectives".

RECOMMENDATIONS 16, 17 and 18

Agreed and adopted.

RECOMMENDATION 19

Agreed and adopted with the following amendment:

The first sentence to be replaced by:

"Involved sectors should be consulted and their views considered when establishing priorities".

RECOMMENDATION 20

Agreed and adopted with the following amendment to the fourth indent:

“... completion of infrastructure for automatic updating, completion and maintenance of the national inventories”.

RECOMMENDATION 21

Agreed and adopted with the following observation:

“After discussion on the Network structure, the Steering Committee concluded that the division of work on Industrial Crops, which currently falls within the competence of two separate Networks, might need to be considered further in the future”.

RECOMMENDATION 22

Agreed and adopted.

RECOMMENDATIONS 23-25

Frank Begemann (Germany) presented Recommendations 23-25⁵ that were felt by Germany to be complementary to the objectives of the Task Force. Whilst the Task Force had not considered these, the Steering Committee agreed that they should be taken into consideration during discussion of Agenda Item 4a and 4c the following day.

Planning for Phase VII

The recommendations of a Task Force on priorities for Phase VII were discussed, based on an Implementation document provided by the Secretariat. The discussion led to the approval of eight decisions regarding mode of operation and communication, setting priorities and implementation of themes (See Annex I).

Annual contributions and a budget for Phase VII were proposed by the Secretariat and these were approved with some amendments (See Tables 1 – 7 pp. 8-11 and the Explanatory notes to the five-year budget for Phase VII pp.12-13).

The Secretariat specified that all IPGRI accounts are subject to regular internal audits to look at efficiency and effectiveness of operations and adequacy of financial control. There is also an external audit each year to certify all financial statements. Copies of IPGRI's audited financial statements are available upon request.

The European Commission and ECP/GR

Fred Steenhoff explained the history of Regulation 1467/94 and the events leading to the continuation of this measure after its first cycle, which ended in 2000. Although inside the European Commission there was reluctance to renew the programme in its existing form, political pressure from the European Parliament resulted in the formulation of a new proposal and the member countries required that the Commission maintain the management of the programme.

The new Regulation, after conclusion of the round of consultations with other Directorates General (DG), will have to be approved by the European Council and Parliament and is expected to be launched early/mid 2004. It puts emphasis on *in situ* conservation and stresses the objective of the utilization of genetic resources for food and agriculture.

Under the new regulation it is not possible to spend the funds coming from DG Agriculture for research, since this service is provided by DG Research. This action has to complement the Rural Development Regulation (1257/99).

Seven million euro were planned to be used for the period 2003 – end of 2006, to become ten million after the accession of new member countries in May 2004.

⁵ See <http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/SteeringCommittee/SC9.htm>.

Eligible actions would consist in inventorying, characterization and evaluation of genetic resources for food and agriculture (with no explicit mention of fish resources), meetings, also with NGOs, training, capacity building and so on.

It will be possible for non-EU countries to participate without the financial support of the EU. The Commission will maintain the management of the Programme, while the evaluations will be delegated to external experts. The European Commission is counting on the action of the ECP/GR Working Groups to submit qualified project proposals as were submitted during the previous cycle of the Regulation.

It was specified that further integration of measures and policies of DG Agriculture and DG Research would be pursued after the Regulation 1467/94 is completed.

The need to integrate NGOs in the action was emphasized. They can also be effective in actions of on-farm maintenance.

FAO and ECP/GR

Brad Fraleigh, Senior Officer, Seed and Plant Genetic Resources Policy, FAO conveyed greetings from Murthi Anishetty, who used to attend the ECP/GR Steering Committee meetings and who is due to retire by the end of the year. The FAO officer noted that 32 countries had ratified the IT as of 16 October 2003 and the Treaty may well enter into force during early 2004. The first meeting of the Governing Body will take decisions on important issues, including the standard MTA and the funding strategy. An Expert Group on the standard MTA is expected to meet in spring 2004, subject to the provision of extra-budgetary funding.

The Intergovernmental Working Group on Plant Genetic Resources will meet 5-7 November 2003 at FAO. The background documents are available on the FAO Web site at www.fao.org/waicent/FaoInfo/Agricult/AGP/AGPS/pgr/ITWG2nd/docsp1.htm.

The Group will discuss items related to the Global Plan of Action (GPA) and the Global System for PGRFA. Subsequent to a Stakeholder Consultation held in July 2003 on the Facilitating Mechanism to the GPA, guidance will be requested on proposals concerning its objectives, operational principles, activities, operational structure and financial support. A new approach to monitoring the GPA has been launched and country-driven, participatory, capacity building pilot testing activities are underway in eight countries, including the Czech Republic and Germany.

The FAO Commission decided that a Second State of the World Report should be prepared, with information gathering integrated into the GPA monitoring exercise. A workshop, to be held on 4 November 2003 in Rome will discuss how this integration should be carried out and will seek guidance on additional information requirements, extending the pilot phase, timetable and resources. The FAO officer thanked ECP/GR for agreeing to participate in the FAO Commission's network self-assessment, and encouraged components of ECP/GR to use this tool as well, providing information on the results to the FAO Secretariat.

B. Fraleigh also noted that information will be provided to the Intergovernmental Working Group meeting on PGR about the establishment of the Global Crop Diversity Trust. He also mentioned the possible role of ECP/GR as a platform to identify collections for upgrading/capacity building and sustainability support, as part of a regional system that will dovetail with a rational global system, and as a source of expertise on various crops, priorities and standards, evaluation of proposals, monitoring implementation of projects and so forth.

FAO looks upon ECP/GR as a regional network of member states, and considers its collaboration with the Programme as part of the Global System for PGRFA and as an opportunity to exchange views and information on issues and activities.

NGOs and ECP/GR

Béla Bartha, Director of Pro Specie Rara, presented the viewpoint of the Non Governmental Organizations in their collaborative relationship with the ECP/GR Programme. NGOs working on PGR focus their attention mostly on organic farmers and small-scale breeders. NGOs look towards ECP/GR as a possible door opener for funding opportunities at the decision maker level within national and international bodies. Finances would be needed for capacity building and training in order to bring NGOs all over Europe to an operational level that allows them to be reliable partners in on-farm and *in situ* conservation. ECP/GR could create a list of NGOs that fulfill specified criteria and recommend them to politicians or governmental representatives as cooperation partners in national action plans, for example.

On the other hand, ECP/GR could benefit from existing strong NGOs who could offer their national or international NGO-network and strengthen the role of ECP/GR as a cooperation network or platform. Larger NGOs have experience in building up operational seed saving strategies with low input and limited facilities, for example databases which are specialized in seed control and decentralized seed propagation on-farm and that help to coordinate the many people involved in such work. These facilities could be offered by stronger NGOs to smaller NGOs through one of the ECP/GR Networks.

A benefit of including NGOs as permanent observers in the SC of ECP/GR is that the expertise of NGOs would be more visible to the National Coordinators and would stimulate new contacts between NGOs and genebanks, with particular focus on Eastern European countries.

B. Bartha referred to the expertise of NGOs within the area of public awareness and offered to closely collaborate with ECP/GR to assist it in reaching the widest target in the most appropriate way, in order to enhance PGR visibility to reach the market.

European Consortium for Organic Plant Breeding (ECO-PB) and ECP/GR

Edith Lammers van Bueren informed the Group that ECO-PB is committed to the principle of organic agriculture, as laid down by the international Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) basic standards and EU regulation 2092/91.

Among their activities, a number of meetings were recently organized and are planned (World Organic Seed Conference at FAO in Rome in 2004, to be organized by IFOAM/ISF/FAO; and round table meetings to provide input for EC Organic Seed Regulation 1452/2003).

The Consortium is inspired by principles of a non-chemical, agroecological and ethical agriculture. In this context, Genetically Modified Organisms are considered unsuitable for organic agriculture, due also to ethical implications such as breaking of the natural crossing borders. The use of organic seed is considered necessary to complete the organic chain, therefore, due to political pressure, the current possibility to use conventionally produced seed for organic farming will be terminated by the EU.

The organic crop ideotype includes yield stability, flexibility, adaptation to organic and lower input, more intensive root geometry, ability to interact with soil micro-organisms, weed suppression, broad disease resistance, quality traits, like flavour, etc.

Among the requirements for a growing organic agriculture, the following were quoted: on-farm conservation and development, participatory selection, professional guidance to farmer groups, links to user groups, trans-national exchange and a regulation for trading varieties.

Examples of organic breeding actions were listed: INRA (F) – brassicas; Sativa (CH) – spelt; Darzau (D) – barley; EFRC/J. Innes (UK) – winter wheat; LBI/CGN (NL) – onion.

With regard to PGR, it is important to screen and characterize genebank material according organic criteria and to assist with pre-breeding activities (basic populations).

Regarding ECP/GR, ECO-PB would like to become an observer in the SC, participate in the On-farm task force, establish a link between reciprocal Web sites, suggest the

preparation of a fact sheet on organic agriculture and PGR and receive support for the preparation of a project proposal to be submitted to the EU regulation 1467/94.

ECP/GR and the National Programmes – follow up from Alnarp 2003

Jens Weibull provided a brief review of the activities and outcome of the European Workshop on National PGR Programmes, held in Alnarp (Sweden) 24-26 April 2003. The results of a questionnaire sent out to the workshop participants were presented, demonstrating that the workshop had had a positive impact on national PGR activities, especially on policy making, raising of public awareness and the build-up of national PGR networks. The Alnarp Statement, calling for the sustainable conservation and use of European genetic resources, had been particularly useful in this respect. The general opinion among the responding participants was that this workshop initiative should be repeated, perhaps with an interval of two years. The independent countries of former Yugoslavia have been invited to consider organizing the next workshop, within the framework of a Southeast European PGR Network (SEEDNET), which is currently being developed.

Concluding remarks

The Steering Committee took note of the commitment expressed by Zeinal Akperov on behalf of Azerbaijan to join Phase VII of ECP/GR.

Sulejman Redzic, representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina, also expressed an interest to join and will involve the relevant authorities in his country.

Leena Hömmö, on behalf of the Steering Committee, thanked the local hosts for their organization and warm hospitality and the ECP/GR Secretariat for its effective support.

Jozef Turok thanked the local organizers for their extraordinary hospitality and for the excellent logistics during the meeting. On behalf of IPGRI, he expressed the Institute's commitment to coordinate and support the Programme in its seventh Phase. The spirit of collaboration and ownership that continues to characterize the ECP/GR Steering Committee and the PGR community in Europe at large, was highlighted.

**Table 1a. ECP/GR annual contributions during Phase VII.
List of countries with expected commitment.**

	UN rates (%) 1)	Cat. 2)	Annual contribution (Phase VII) euro
ARMENIA	0.002	A	2,350
ALBANIA	0.003	A	2,350
AZERBAIJAN	0.004	A	2,350
MACEDONIA (FYR)	0.006	A	2,350
ESTONIA	0.010	A	2,350
LATVIA	0.010	A	2,350
BULGARIA	0.013	A	2,350
MALTA	0.015	A	2,350
LITHUANIA	0.017	A	2,350
SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO	0.020	A	2,350
ICELAND	0.033	B	6,000
CYPRUS	0.038	B	6,000
CROATIA	0.039	B	6,000
SLOVAKIA	0.043	B	6,000
ROMANIA	0.058	B	6,000
SLOVENIA	0.081	B	6,000
HUNGARY	0.120	C	9,400
CZECH REP	0.203	C	9,400
IRELAND	0.294	C	9,400
POLAND	0.378	C	9,400
ISRAEL	0.415	C	9,400
TURKEY	0.440	C	9,400
PORTUGAL	0.462	C	9,400
FINLAND	0.522	C	9,400
GREECE	0.539	C	9,400
NORWAY	0.646	D	15,500
DENMARK	0.749	D	15,500
AUSTRIA	0.947	D	15,500
SWEDEN	1.027	D	15,500
BELGIUM	1.129	D	15,500
SWITZERLAND	1.274	D	15,500
NETHERLANDS	1.738	D	15,500
SPAIN	2.519	D	15,500
ITALY	5.065	E	42,500
UK	5.536	E	42,500
FRANCE	6.466	E	42,500
GERMANY	9.769	E	42,500
Annual Total			438,100
Total 5 years:			2,190,500

1) UN Scale of Assessments approved for the year 2003, as established by General Assembly Resolution 55/5B adopted on 22 December 2000.

2) Key to calculation of annual contributions to ECP/GR.

Threshold	Category
$x < 0.03$	A
$0.03 \leq x < 0.1$	B
$0.1 \leq x < 0.6$	C
$0.6 \leq x < 5$	D
$5 \leq x$	E

**Table 1b. ECP/GR annual contributions during Phase VII.
List of potential participating countries.**

	UN rates (%) 1)	Cat. 2)	Annual contribution (Phase VII) euro
MOLDOVA	0.002	A	2,350
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	0.004	A	2,350
GEORGIA	0.005	A	2,350
BELARUS	0.019	A	2,350
UKRAINE	0.053	B	6,000
LUXEMBOURG	0.080	B	6,000
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	1.200	D	15,500
	Annual Total		36,900
	Total 5 years:		184,500

1) UN Scale of Assessments approved for the year 2003, as established by General Assembly Resolution 55/5B adopted on 22 December 2000.

2) Key to calculation of annual contributions to ECP/GR.

Threshold	Category
$x < 0.03$	A
$0.03 \leq x < 0.1$	B
$0.1 \leq x < 0.6$	C
$0.6 \leq x < 5$	D
$5 \leq x$	E

Table 2. Budget for Phase VII of ECP/GR (in euro)

	Phase VII	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Coordinator at IPGRI (100%)	472,675	87,269	90,759	94,390	98,165	102,092
Secretariat administrative support (50%)	109,462	20,210	21,018	21,859	22,733	23,642
Secretariat scientific support (50%)	146,332	27,012	28,097	29,223	30,393	31,607
Secretariat staff travel	39,375	7,875	7,875	7,875	7,875	7,875
Steering Committee mtgs.	78,750	0	0	39,375	0	39,375
Network Coordinating Group meetings	56,875	0	0	56,875	0	0
Network operations - Crop Networks	498,750	99,750	99,750	99,750	99,750	99,750
Network operation - Thematic Networks	105,883	21,176	21,176	21,177	21,177	21,177
Fund for lower priority Working Groups	43,750	8,750	8,750	8,750	8,750	8,750
Public awareness tools/actions	21,875	4,375	4,375	4,375	4,375	4,375
Thematic cross cutting issues	32,810	6,562	6,562	6,562	6,562	6,562
EURISCO	50,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
AEGIS project	78,750	39,375	39,375	0	0	0
Network operations - total	888,693					
Publications (compilation, layout, either web or printed)	146,332	27,012	28,097	29,223	30,393	31,607
Newsletter	13,125	2,625	2,625	2,625	2,625	2,625
Communication and office consumables	43,750	8,750	8,750	8,750	8,750	8,750
Sub-total	1,938,494	370,741	377,209	440,809	351,548	398,187
Overhead (13%)*	252,004	48,196	49,037	57,305	45,701	51,764
Total	2,190,498	418,937	426,246	498,114	397,249	449,951

* This includes provision of space in IPGRI headquarters, the input and time of IPGRI professional staff, etc.

Percentage use of funds by category

Category	Phase VII
Coordination	33.3%
Staff travel	1.8%
Steering Committee meetings	3.6%
Network operations (meetings, actions)	40.5%
Publications (compilation, layout, either web or printed)	7.3%
IPGRI	13.5%
Total	100%

Table 3. Budget breakdown for the Crops Networks' activities (in brackets the number of WGs per Network) (5 years)

	euro
Oil and Protein Crops Network (1)	27,709
Vegetables, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Network (7)	193,957
Cereals Network (3)	83,125
Forages Network (1)	27,709
Sugar, Starch and Fibre Crops Network (3)	83,125
Fruit Network (3)	83,125
TOTAL	498,750

Table 4. Budget breakdown for Thematic Networks' activities (5 years)

	euro
Documentation and Information Network	42,353
<i>In situ</i> and On-farm Conservation Network	42,353
Inter-regional Cooperation Network	21,177
TOTAL	105,883

Table 5. Reallocation of remaining Network operation funds from Phase VI (estimate)

	US\$
Solanaceae joint meetings with EGGNET (2004)	10,000
Grain Legumes <i>ad hoc</i> workshop on allogamous species (2004)	5,819
NGO project (On-farm conservation) (2004)	5,000
<i>In situ</i> / On-farm Task Forces meetings	11,750
AEGIS project (2004-2005)	52,250
TOTAL	84,819

Table 6. Use of remaining Publication funds from Phase VI (estimate)

	US\$
2 nd Potato WG meeting	3,500
2 nd <i>Beta</i> WG meeting	3,500
<i>Ad hoc Arachis</i> workshop	3,000
8 th Forages WG meeting	3,500
1 st <i>Vitis</i> WG meeting	3,500
6 th <i>Prunus</i> WG meeting	2,500
1 st Vegetables Network meeting	4,350
1 st Cereals Network meeting	4,350
EPGRIS Final Conference, jointly with ECP/GR Documentation and Information Network	4,537
TOTAL	32,737

Table 7. Budget for the AEGIS project (2004 - 2005)

	euro	US\$
Reallocation from Phase VI (See Table 5)		52,250
Specific funds from Phase VII budget (See Table 2)	78,750	
TOTAL	78,750	52,250

Explanatory notes to the five-year budget for Phase VII of ECP/GR (2004 – 2008)

Coordinator at IPGRI = 472,675 euro

This cost has been calculated on the basis of the actual cost of the Coordinator in euro for the year 2003, incremented by 4% per year (2% inflation + 2% step increase).

Secretariat administrative support (half-time) = 109,462 euro

Secretariat scientific support (half-time) = 146,332 euro

These amounts were calculated on the basis of 2003 costs, incremented by 4% per year. The scientific support will cover the following areas: Web maintenance, facilitating the implementation of WG workplans; strengthening linkages with stakeholders; raising public awareness.

Secretariat staff travel = 39,375 euro

This budget item has been reduced, compared to the previous Phase; the amount should be sufficient to allow 6-8 short travels per year in Europe.

Steering Committee meetings = 78,750 euro

Budget item maintained at the same level of Phase VI.

Network operations = 888,693 euro

These funds are broken down as follows:

9 Network Coordinating Group meetings = 56,875 euro

Estimated cost of one meeting of each of the nine NCGs during Phase VII, or one single meeting of the nine NCGs. A maximum of 63 participants is expected.

Crop Networks = 498,750 euro

Estimated cost of 28 meetings, with 20 participants each (?17 800 euro per meeting or ?900 per participant), corresponding to 2 meetings for each of 12 Working Groups of average size. Use of this money for any combination of meetings, actions, publications, etc. is left to the discretion of the Crop NCGs, on behalf of the respective Networks and in consultation with the Steering Committee. The funds are further broken down per Network in different percentages, on the basis of the number of established Working Groups per Network (see Table 3 p.11).

Thematic Networks = 105,883 euro

These funds are further broken down for the three Networks, with priority given to the Documentation and Information Network (40%) and to the *In situ* and On-farm Conservation Network (40%), in line with the priorities endorsed for Phase VII. The Inter-regional Cooperation Network receives 20% of these funds (see Table 4 p.11).

Specific actions need to be prioritized by the Thematic NCGs, in consultation with the Steering Committee.

Funds for lower priority Working Groups = 43,750 euro

Minimum budget allocated to lower priority Working Groups, to allow for modest funds available to promote continued contact between WG members.

Public awareness tools/actions = 21,875 euro

Modest funds dedicated to PA actions in order to respond to the request for more PA action, as expressed by the Steering Committee in St. Petersburg. To be used for brochures, posters, etc. according to a PA strategy to be formulated in consultation with the Steering Committee.

Thematic cross-cutting issues = 32,810 euro

Funds dedicated to thematic actions of cross-cutting interest for more Networks, such as in the area of *in situ*/on-farm conservation and management and overall policies for *ex situ* conservation. Proposals for specific actions can be raised by the NCGs and submitted to the Steering Committee for approval.

EURISCO = 50,000 euro

These funds contribute to the further development of the EURISCO catalogue, through actions such as providing training to the National Inventory Focal Points and improving the upload mechanism, improving the web interface and userfriendliness of the catalogue.

AEGIS project = 78,750 euro

These funds, together with reallocated funds from Phase VI (52 250 US\$), will contribute to the AEGIS project for "An European Genebank Integration System".

Publications = 146,332 euro

These funds will be devoted to the compilation, layout and Web or print preparation of meeting reports and other publications. Costs of printing and distribution are not included in this budget line and should be specifically allocated by the NCGs, from the respective Network budgets.

Newsletter = 13,125 euro

This budget item remained unaltered. This amount is a contribution towards the cost of one issue of the Newsletter for Europe per year.

Communication and office consumables = 43,750 euro

Budget item maintained unaltered (therefore a reduced cost for ECP/GR, since no inflationary adjustment was applied).

Overheads = 13 %

Percentage was maintained unaltered.

Annex I. Implementation of the recommendations of a Task Force on priorities for Phase VII

Summary

The Steering Committee thoroughly discussed the proposals for the implementation of the recommendations of a Task Force for a new Phase of ECP/GR and reached the following conclusions:

Structure

The structure and role of the Network Coordinating Groups (NCGs) was defined in detail⁶.

Modus operandi

New rules for the participation of Working Group (WG) members in ECP/GR meetings were agreed, with the introduction of a fixed quota of funded participants granted to each member country during the entire Phase and an additional Working Group Chair quota at the discretion of the Chairs.

Communication

Improved ways to exchange information within and between the Networks were agreed.

Project funding

A new role of the Secretariat for fund raising was agreed in principle, but no funds were allocated to strengthen this type of action.

Steering Committee

Opening of the Steering Committee to new observers (EUCARPIA) and steps to strengthen links between ECP/GR and the European Commission were defined.

Setting priorities

A detailed planning and prioritizing mechanism was established, enabling the definition of priorities and actions for each subsequent Phase. Approximately 10 Working Groups would be prioritized for funding during each Phase, while other Groups would still receive minimum support from the Secretariat. The steps of a planning mechanism are summarized in Figure 1, p.20.

Priorities for Phase VII

Four main issues were endorsed as future ECP/GR priorities: 1) Characterization and evaluation (including use of modern technologies); 2) Task sharing; 3) *In situ* and On-farm conservation; 4) Documentation and Information.

Structure of the Networks

A few changes were agreed, including merging the Vegetables and Minor Crops Networks and the expansion of the Grain Legumes Network into an "Oil and Protein Crops Network". The Industrial Crops and Potato Network was converted into a "Sugar,

⁶ A document summarizing the Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee, Network Coordinating Groups and Working Groups will be prepared and made available by the Secretariat.

Starch and Fibre Crops Network". Three new Working Groups were established: "Cucurbits", "Leafy Vegetables" and "Fibre Crops (flax and hemp)" (see Figure 2, p.23).

Implementation of themes

A project to focus on sharing of responsibilities as a possible model of a European genebank integration system (AEGIS) was endorsed for ECP/GR funding. The Task Force on International Agreements will continue and analyze the relationship between ECP/GR and the supporting components of the International Treaty.

Implementation decisions, based on the implementation proposals prepared by the ECP/GR Secretariat, were the following:

1. Mode of operation and communication

1.1. Structure

1.1.1 Implementation Decision 1 (ID 1)

Definition and structure of the NCGs

NCGs are defined as groups of maximum 5-7 people, established within each Network (crop and thematic) and composed of the Working Group or Task Force leaders, plus a number of other coopted Network members. NCGs are coordinated by a Network Coordinator, selected by the Working Groups from among their members and have the task of delivering the NCG outputs to the ECP/GR Secretariat and the ECP/GR Steering Committee.

It was understood that the Networks that have not yet established a NCG should now do so.

Role of the NCGs

In consultation with Working Groups, NCGs formulate proposals for the attention of the Steering Committee on Working Group priorities and activities, as indicated by Implementation Decision 6 below.

Two months prior to the Steering Committee meetings, the NCGs will provide the Secretariat with an assessment of the progress made by each Network. The reports, based on information received by the Working Groups, should indicate progress and constraints in reaching the planned objectives⁷.

Outputs and meetings of the NCGs

NCGs will have to provide a number of outputs consisting of the following:

- two reports on Network progress (before the Steering Committee meetings);
- revision of the division of work within the Network in the current Phase and a proposal for the subsequent Phase (by mid-term of the current Phase);
- draft of the division of work within the Network in the subsequent Phase (by end of Phase), to be recommended to the Steering Committee for its consideration.

NCGs are expected to deliver the above outputs mainly working through Email communication, except for one regular meeting to be held during the first half of year 3. NCG meetings are self-organized. Alternatively, several NCG meetings can be held during

⁷ Guidelines on the required format will be provided to the Secretariat by the Steering Committee.

the first part of the third year, at the same time in one location, in order to benefit from the technical support of the Secretariat.

Sustainability of the NCGs (and the entire system)⁸

In order to ensure proper functioning of the NCGs, the Group members will have to commit part of their time to this coordinating task. It is the responsibility of the National Coordinators to find ways whereby NCG members can see their ECP/GR activity formally acknowledged as part of their terms of reference.

Planning of each Phase of ECP/GR

Each Phase of ECP/GR is planned to last 5 years, with budget, priorities and prioritized Working Groups broadly defined in the mid-term meeting of each previous Phase and reconfirmed in accordance with ID6.

1.2 *Modus operandi*

1.2.1 Implementation Decision 2 (ID 2)

Modus operandi for participation in ECP/GR funded meetings

Each country is assigned a quota of funded participants to attend Working Group meetings organized by ECP/GR during the entire Phase. When the country has exhausted its quota, it may send self-funded participants to meetings of interest.

In addition to the quota assigned to each country, a quota will be assigned to the Working Group Chairs to allow each prioritized Working Group to maximally benefit from the available expertise on that crop in the European region.

The country quotas are based on the following considerations:

- the level of research and development activities in the area of genetic resources conservation and utilization in the countries;
- the past attendance and contribution of the countries in the Working Group meetings.

The country quotas are the following:

Category⁹	Quota
A	10
B	11
C	13
D	15
E	18

The Working Group Chair quota is at the Chair's discretion on the understanding that the Chair can invite one additional expert from one of the ECP/GR member countries for each Working Group meeting.

Should it so wish, in consultation with the Secretariat, a country can transfer part of its quota to a particular prioritized Working Group quota or to the Working Group quota in general.

⁸ The role of the NCGs is specifically strengthened in this case and it is important to enable its members to operate properly. However, all the members of the Working Groups should be enabled to offer inputs-in-kind to the system, and this should also be in close consultation with and/or under the responsibility of the National Coordinators.

⁹ See Categories in Budget Table 1a, p.8.

In order to allow the member countries to plan their participation in WG meetings, the Secretariat will provide a calendar of the foreseen meetings for the entire Phase, as soon as possible at the beginning of each Phase.

1.3 Coordination and communication between Working Groups and within and between Networks

1.3.1 Implementation Decision 3 (ID 3)

Reporting of Working Group activities

Three months in advance of the Steering Committee meetings, WG Chairs should provide the respective Network Coordinating Groups with reports on progress made, including an assessment of what has and has not been achieved. These reports will be used by the NCGs to prepare Network reports for the Steering Committee (see ID 1).

Meetings of Chairpersons

Proposals from NCGs to convene *ad hoc* meetings of Working Group/Network Chairs to discuss specific problems should be taken into consideration for funding by the Steering Committee.

Communication between Chairpersons

A listserv specifically dedicated to Working Group and Network Chairs should be set up, possibly in parallel with the existing ECP/GR listservers managed by the Nordic Gene Bank, and its use should be encouraged and promoted by the Secretariat.

Publication of meeting reports

Working Group reports will be published on the ECP/GR Web site and linked to the respective Working Group pages immediately after the meetings, as "Discussion and Recommendations" in draft form. These documents should subsequently be replaced with the final report, including all the articles presented during the meetings. Web publishing will not necessarily replace the publication of paper reports, which will remain an option for the NCGs/WGs when prioritizing the use of their Network resources. In order to save on printing and distribution costs, the Secretariat is invited to review the mailing lists and to rationalize the distribution of printed reports.

1.4 Working language

It was agreed that English should remain the working language of the meetings and no translation of documents or interpretation during meetings should be provided.

1.5 Project funding and the role of Secretariat

1.5.1 Implementation Decision 4 (ID 4)

Fundraising role of the Secretariat

A fundraising role for the Secretariat is agreed in principle and it should specifically include the following tasks:

- exploring the possibility to ensure funding from private sector and other agencies for ECP/GR module activities;

monitoring closely the Global Crop Diversity Trust development process with the aim of informing the ECP/GR Networks of the most appropriate ways to be an active partner in the process, including benefiting from the fund.

Although it is acknowledged that these tasks require additional staff resources, no specific funds are allocated for the time being and the Secretariat is invited to undertake this role within its present capacity. When it is possible to allocate funds for this purpose, the Steering Committee recommends that the outcome of this action be evaluated at the end of an appropriate period.

1.6 Observers in the Steering Committee

1.6.1 Implementation Decision 5 (ID 5)

ECP/GR and the European Commission

The European Commission is invited to become a full member of ECP/GR and therefore of the Steering Committee. The EC representative at the current ninth ECP/GR Steering Committee meeting and the ECP/GR Secretariat are invited to discuss existing practical options, either to ensure EC membership to ECP/GR or to formalize as much as possible a permanent link between ECP/GR and the EC activities on plant genetic resources.

Full membership of the EC in ECP/GR would not necessarily require the EC to directly contribute funds to the Programme. However, it should ensure that EC regulations and relevant programmes on genetic resources include a provision that all measures undertaken would be pursued in conjunction, when appropriate, with actions carried out in the same area by ECP/GR (as already indicated in the draft work programme of a proposed “Council Regulation establishing a Community programme on the conservation, characterization, collection and utilization of genetic resources in agriculture and repealing Regulation (EC) N. 1467/94”).

Observers in the Steering Committee

Observer status in the Steering Committee continues to be granted on a permanent basis to EuroMab, FAO, IPGRI, ISF, NGB, NGOs and is extended to EUCARPIA. Participation in meetings would be on a self-funded basis, with possible justified exceptions on an *ad hoc* basis.

Observers in the Working Group meetings

Working Groups should consider inviting the private sector, NGOs and specific experts to their meetings in appropriate cases and on an *ad hoc* basis. The private sector and NGOs should only attend on a self-funded basis, with possible justified exceptions on an *ad hoc* basis.

2. Setting priorities

2.1 General rules for setting priorities

2.1.1 Implementation Decision 6 (ID 6)

Planning and prioritizing mechanism

Two months prior to the mid-term Steering Committee meeting:

Network Coordinating Groups should provide the Steering Committee through the Secretariat with a proposal related to the subsequent Phase, including the following elements:

- prioritize Working Groups for the subsequent Phase;
- give a broad indication of activities to be pursued by WGs;
- prioritize the proposed activities and identify funds required, either potentially deriving from ECP/GR or from other sources or as inputs-in-kind. These activities might consist of meetings (WG, Network, *ad hoc*) or alternative actions (publication products, research, collecting, regeneration, etc.).

In order to deliver this information, all NCGs should hold a meeting during the first part of year 3 of each Phase (see also ID 1).

Mid-term Steering Committee meeting:

The SC initially reviews the progress made during the first part of the Phase and provides guidance for the remainder of the Phase.

The SC then evaluates proposals from NCGs and determines which WGs would be prioritized for funding in the subsequent Phase, taking into consideration priorities established by NCGs and such issues as the SC deems appropriate. It also establishes broad priorities and objectives and the funds attributed to each Network/Working Group. The budget for the subsequent Phase has therefore to be approved, in broad terms, during the mid-term meeting of the ongoing Phase. It is expected that approximately 10 WGs within the Crop Networks remain prioritized during a 5-year Phase and that they meet 1-2 times during the Phase. To allow for this level of activity it is understood that the Network Coordinating Groups prioritize the following number of Working Groups as a maximum:

Network	Total	Prioritized
Cereals	3	2
Forages	1	1
Fruits	3	2
Oil and Protein Crops	1	1
Sugar, Starch and Fibre Crops	3	2
Vegetables and MAPs	7	4

In addition, activities could be undertaken within the Thematic Networks, considering proposals from the NCGs.

Two months prior to the end of Phase Steering Committee meeting:

NCGs, in consultation with WGs, as appropriate, provide proposals to the Steering Committee through the Secretariat, with the following elements:

- specific priorities and objectives;

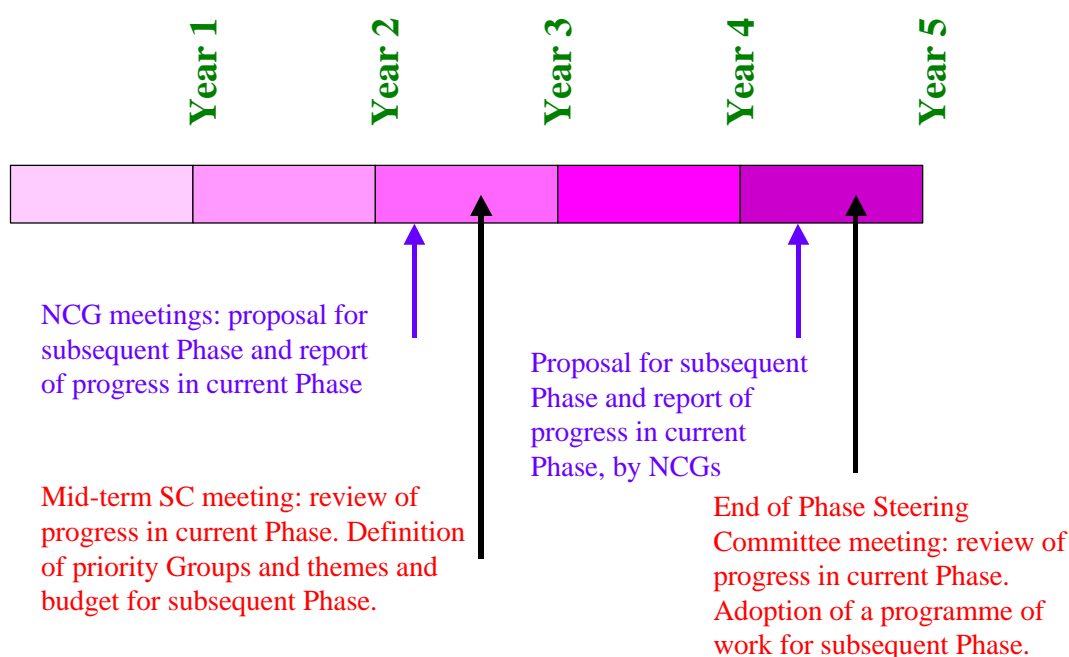
- clear, measurable targets, dates for completion and estimate of funding required from ECP/GR, based on funds attributed by the Steering Committee to each Network/Working Group.

WGs that are not planned to be prioritized for funding during the following Phase can make proposals (and request modest funds or technical support from the Secretariat) to promote continued contact between WG members by means other than formal meetings (example: support for exchange visits, participation of members in events organized by other associations, fund small components of the Group's workplan).

End of Phase Steering Committee meeting:

The Steering Committee (1) initially reviews the activities during the current Phase and progress made so far, (2) assesses opportunities for future activities, considering *inter alia* proposals from NCGs and (3) adopts a programme of work for the subsequent Phase. The Steering Committee can accept proposals or request modifications.

Fig.1 ECP/GR planning and prioritizing mechanism



2.2 Main priorities for Phase VII

2.2.1 Implementation Decision 7 (ID 7)

Information on new policy developments in international fora

When considering priorities for the subsequent Phase (i.e. at its mid-term meeting), the SC should have access, one month prior the meeting, to a background document compiling all relevant information on developments in the EU and in other international fora that might impact on ECP/GR activities, including the views of involved sectors on priorities for the

future. This document will be prepared by the Secretariat, mainly on the basis of information and opinions collected from National Coordinators and observers in the SC. The Secretariat would also update and make this document available to the SC in a revised form one month prior to the end of Phase SC meeting, with the purpose of verifying the choice of priorities made in the previous meeting.

Priorities for Phase VII

The following issues are endorsed as ECP/GR priorities for Phase VII:

characterization and evaluation for conservation (e.g. genetic integrity, genetic drift, diversity analysis), and sustainable utilization of genetic resources (including for traits of agronomic importance) using *inter alia* modern technologies such as molecular markers, genomics and bioinformatics;

task sharing through collaboration, rationalization and specialization of activities and collections (formation of core collections, identification of most original samples) to maximize efficient use of human and financial resources;

in situ and on-farm conservation, including an analysis of material subject to *in situ* and on-farm conservation, and development of conservation and management techniques in relation to the existing opportunities of *ex situ* conservation;

documentation - establishment, completion, improvement and maintenance of national PGR inventories, central crop databases, including validation of data, integration of characterization and evaluation data, improved and integrated data management, completion of infrastructure for automatic updating and completion and maintenance of the National Inventories and the EURISCO catalogue.

By 30 April 2004, NCGs should summarize progress to date in achieving objectives related to the four priority areas, make proposals for activities in Phase VII (2004-2008), restricting themselves to the four priority areas, and set out necessary tasks and dates for their completion. The available budget per Network/Working Group is defined by the SC meeting in Izmir 2003 (see Tables 2 – 5 and explanatory notes to the budget pp.10-13). The SC will discuss, revise and approve the proposals by the end of June 2004, through listserver discussion coordinated by the Secretariat.

Network structure and Working Groups

The three proposals for the establishment of new WGs (Leafy Vegetables, Cucurbits and Fibre Crops (flax and hemp) are approved by the Steering Committee. Allocation of funding to these new WGs, as well as to all the other WGs, will be determined by the mechanism of prioritization, as defined under the previous paragraph (Priorities for Phase VII).

Following the agreement to change the name and the structure of some Crop Networks, the following 6 Crop Networks and 18 Working Groups remain in operation, while the Thematic Networks remain unaltered (see also Figure 2):

Cereals Network:

Working Groups: *Avena*, Barley, Wheat;

Forages Network

Working Group: Forages;

Fruit Network

Working Groups: *Malus/Pyrus*, *Prunus*, *Vitis*;

Oil and Protein Crops Network

Working Group: Grain Legumes;

Sugar, Starch and Fibre Crops Network

Working Groups: *Beta*, Potato; Fibre Crops (flax and hemp);

Vegetable, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Network

Working Groups: *Allium*, *Brassica*, Cucurbits, Leafy Vegetables, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Solanaceae, Umbellifer Crops.

It was considered that the current *Brassica* WG includes activities mainly related to oil, forage, root and vegetable species, and it could therefore be hosted by different Networks (in particular the Vegetables and MAPs and the Oil and Protein Crops Network). The *Brassica* WG is invited to consider whether they find it more appropriate to remain as one Group or to split into two Groups, hosted by the Oil and Protein Crops Network and the Vegetables and MAPs Network.

3. Implementation of themes linked to priorities

3.1.1 Implementation Decision 8 (ID 8)

Funding of model projects

Model projects on high priority issues can be proposed for funding to the Steering Committee. A specific budget line can be dedicated to this.

A model project on sharing of responsibilities as a possible model of an European genebank integration system (AEGIS), submitted by Germany, was approved for funding under the ECP/GR budget.

Funds allocated to the project will come from funds remaining from Phase VI and specific funds from Phase VII. A breakdown of the budget (in euro), which is not to exceed 131 000, is included in the project document¹⁰:

A proposal for the selection of model crops, project partners, AEGIS Steering Committee members and terms of reference for the project manager will be formulated by the ECP/GR Secretariat. The proposal will be circulated as soon as possible to the Steering Committee for comments and approval, with the aim of starting the project at the beginning of 2004.

ECP/GR and the International Treaty

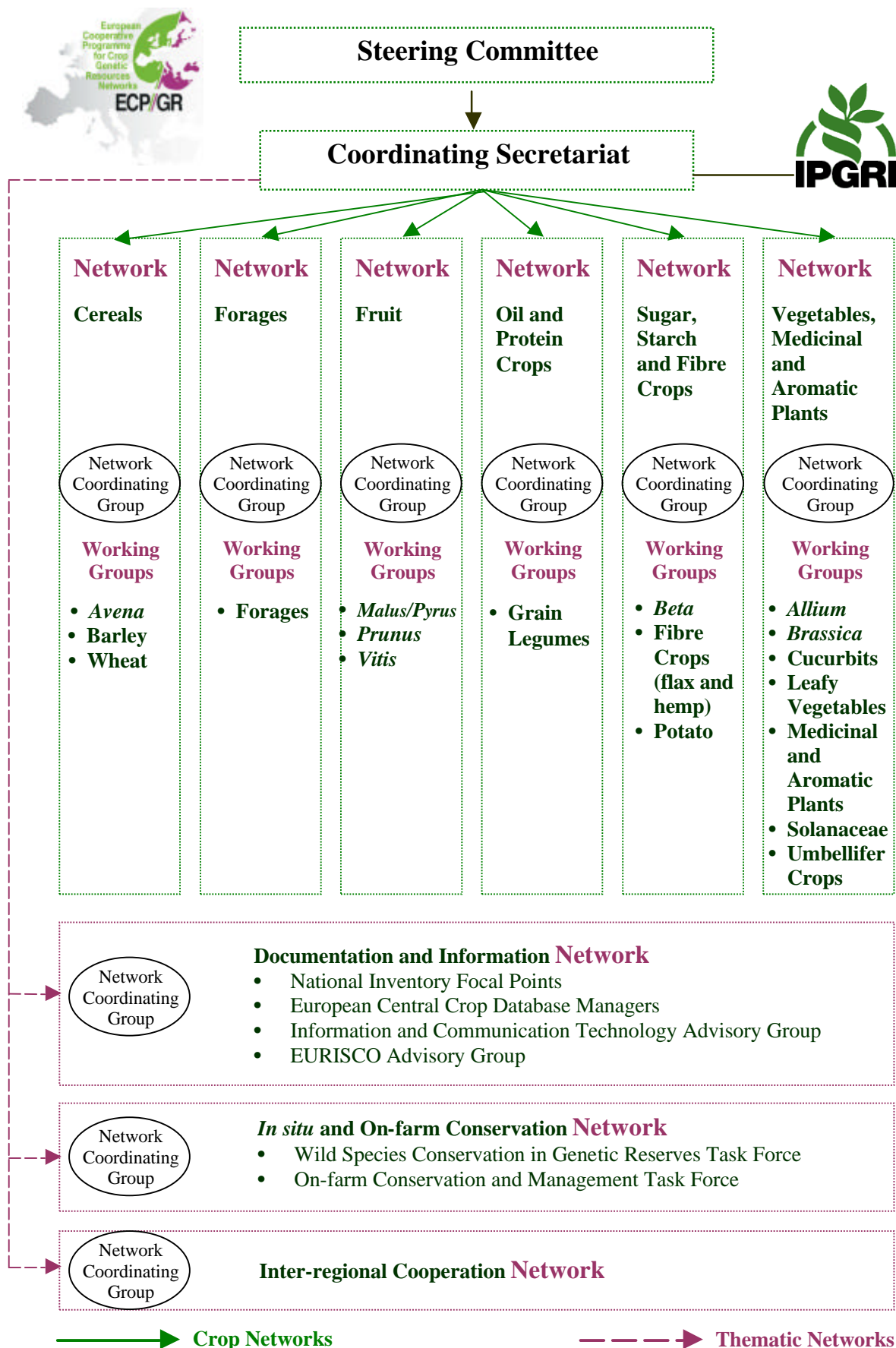
The existing Task Force (TF) made up of Steering Committee members, which was in operation during Phase VI to discuss relevant international agreements, will continue to operate in order to analyze the relationship between the ECP/GR Networks and the supporting components (i.e. Networks and Global Information System) of the International Treaty and to suggest the necessary steps arising from such a review. The TF, chaired by B. Visser, will operate by email correspondence and deliver its analysis and recommendations by the Phase VII mid-term Steering Committee meeting. SC members can join the TF by informing the Chair of their interest.

Workshop on modern technologies

A workshop to assess opportunities arising from and impacts of modern technologies such as biotechnologies (molecular markers, genomics, etc.) and bioinformatics for conservation and utilization of genetic resources might be useful but would not be organized by ECP/GR for the time being.

¹⁰ The project document is included among the background documents for the Ninth Steering Committee meeting (Item 4). It is also available from the ECP/GR web site at:
http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/SteeringCommittee/SC_Documents.htm

Fig.2 ECP/GR operational structure (Phase VII)



Annex II. Programme

Ninth meeting of the Steering Committee 22-25 October 2003 Menemen, Izmir, Turkey



22 October 9:00-10:00	Opening <i>Chair:</i> L. Holly	Opening statements by representatives of the host country and IPGRI Adoption of the Agenda
10:00-11:00	Item 1: Report on Phase VI <i>Chair:</i> L. Holly	1.A - Technical and Financial Report of Phase VI (ECP/GR Secretariat). <i>Discussion and adoption of the report</i>
Coffee break		
11:30-13:00	<i>Chair:</i> E. Bettencourt	1.B - Review of the Networks progress and future plans, based on brief reports prepared by the Chairs (Introduced by ECP/GR Secretariat). <i>Discussion</i>
Lunch		
14:00-14:45	<i>Chair:</i> E. Bettencourt	1.C - Progress in fulfilling the ECP/GR objectives recommended in St. Petersburg (2001) for increased attention by the Secretariat (increasing use of PGR and public awareness) (ECP/GR Secretariat). <i>Discussion</i>
14:45-15:30	Item 2: Task Force on MTAs <i>Chair:</i> B. Visser	2.A - Report of a Task Force on the implementation of relevant international agreements by genebanks and how they will affect the work of genebanks and other collection holders (B. Visser). <i>Discussion</i>
Coffee break		
16:00-18:00	Item 3: Task Force on a Strategy for Phase VII <i>Chair:</i> M. Ibbotson	3.A - Report of a Task Force on the impact of recent developments in relevant science and technology and international policy on PGR, ECP/GR policies and workplan (Introduced by M. Ibbotson). <i>Discussion</i>
Welcome dinner offered by AARI		

23 October 9:00 – 11:00	Item 4: Planning for Phase VII <i>Chair:</i> <i>J. Weibull</i>	4.A – Proposal for the implementation of Task Force recommendations for Phase VII and proposed budget (<i>introduced by the ECP/GR Secretariat</i>). <i>Discussion</i>
Coffee break		
11:30 - 13:00	<i>Chair:</i> <i>J. Weibull</i>	4.B - Evaluation of proposals for the establishment of new Working Groups: 1) Cucurbit; 2) Fibre crops; 3) Leafy vegetables (introduced by the ECP/GR Secretariat). <i>Discussion</i>
Lunch		
14:00 – 15:30	<i>Chair:</i> <i>I. Rashal</i>	4.C - Concept note for a model project on sharing long-term conservation responsibilities in a European Genebank System (Introduced by Germany). <i>Discussion</i>
Coffee break		
16:00 – 18:30	Item 5: Collaboration <i>Chair:</i> <i>L. Dotlacil</i>	5.A – The European Commission and ECP/GR (Introduced by EC representative). 5.B - FAO and ECP/GR (Introduced by FAO representative). 5.C - NGOs and ECP/GR (Introduced by NGO representative). 5.D - European Consortium for Organic Plant Breeding and ECP/GR (Introduced by E. Lammerts van Bueren). 5.E - ECP/GR and the National Programmes – follow up from Alnarp 2003 (J. Weibull and E. Bettencourt). <i>Discussion</i>
Organized dinner		
24 October		Excursion to Ephesus and the Dilek Peninsula
25 October 9:00–12:30	Report drafting	Drafting and finalizing the Steering Committee recommendations
9:00–12:30	Meeting	FAO Working Group for the European Region
Lunch		
14:00 – 15:30		Drafting and finalizing the Steering Committee recommendations
Coffee break		
16:00–18:00	Conclusion <i>Chair:</i> <i>L. Hömmö</i>	Approval of recommendations Any other business Closing remarks
Social dinner in a typical Turkish restaurant		

Annex III. List of Participants

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