



# WORKING GROUP ON CRYOPRESERVATION - ONE YEAR AFTER -

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*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

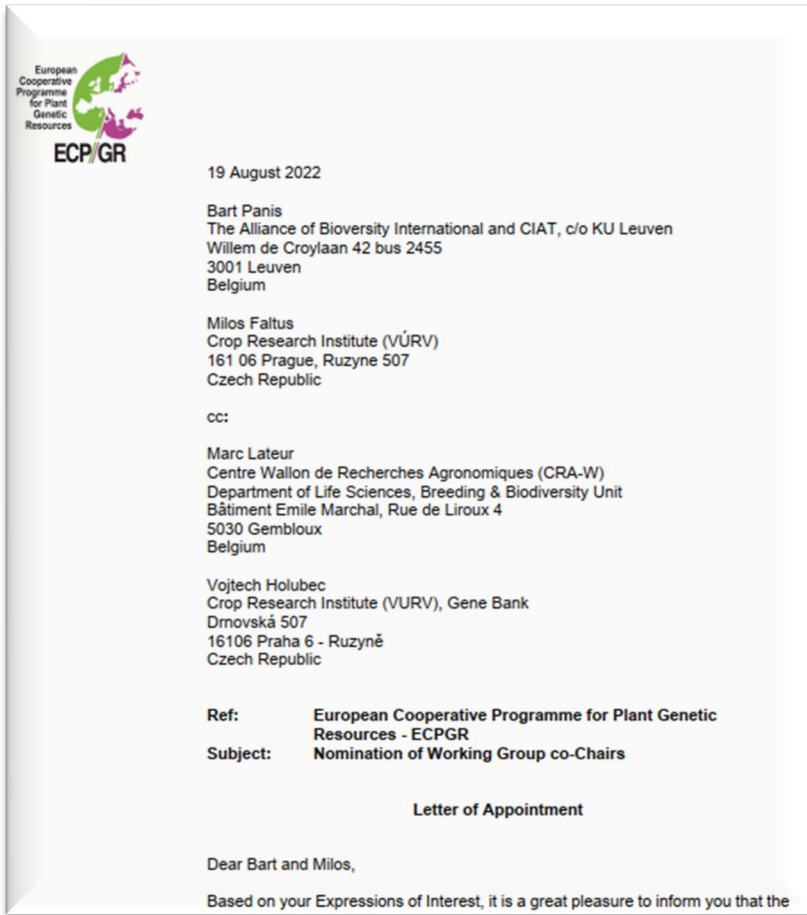
## SC recommendations:

- 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<sup>st</sup> 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

A close-up photograph of a hand using tweezers to handle a small, green, cylindrical plant specimen. The specimen is being held over a white petri dish that has a grid pattern overlaid on it. The background is dark and out of focus. The text "THANK YOU" is superimposed in the center of the image.

**THANK YOU**

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