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**Dr. D. K. Yadava**  
**Assistant Director General (Seed)**

F. No. CS. 11/7/2020-Seed (e77797)  
Dated: 16.01.2024

**Subject: Approval of the proceedings of 25<sup>th</sup> Research Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting of ICAR - NBPGR, New Delhi**

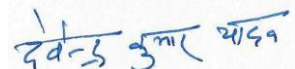
The 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of RAC of ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, New Delhi was held 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023 under the chairmanship of Dr P.L. Gautam, Ex-Chairperson, PPVFRA, New Delhi. Other members of the RAC; Dr. M.R. Dinesh, Former, Director, ICAR-IIHR, Bangalore; Dr. Paramjit Singh, Director, Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata; Dr. Ramesh V. Sonti, Director, ICGEB, Delhi component; Dr. K.S. Varaprasad, Former Director, ICAR-IIOR, Hyderabad; Dr. S.K. Barik, Former Director, CSIR - National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow; Dr. J.S. Chauhan, Former ADG (Seed), ICAR; Sh. Sanjay Maruti Patil, Farmer Representative; Dr. G.P. Singh, Director, NBPGR; Dr. D.K. Yadava, ADG (Seed), ICAR and Dr. Ashok Kumar, Member Secretary participated in the meeting. Brief presentations on salient achievements were made by the Heads of Divisions/Unit Incharges/ Officer Incharges of different Regional Stations/ Units of the Institute. The recommendations along with comments of Crop Science Division are placed below for kind perusal and necessary action:

SN	Recommendation of RAC	Comments of SMD
1.	The committee recognized the relevance of explorations and stressed the importance of securing a standing permission from the respective state biodiversity board and NBA, to facilitate ICAR-NBPGR to conduct explorations in protected areas across all states and Union Territories.	Communication in this regards was made to Secretary, MoEF&CC vide D.O. No. CS.11/3/2023-Seed/415 dated 24.08.2023 by Secretary, DARE & DG, ICAR. Institute should follow it up for signing the MoU with MoEF&CC. Incase, the response is not received, a reminder will be sent to MoEF&CC from the council.
2.	It was suggested that pre-breeding and core collection development require human resources and matching facilities and ICAR-NBPGR alone cannot accomplish this task. Hence, it is important to prioritize specific crops and associated pre-breeding and core collection efforts with respective crop-based institutions. ICAR-NBPGR should focus on potential crops where no other Institutions are working.	Agreed. A meeting in this regard may be organized under the chairmanship of DDG (CS) involving all Institutes of Crop and Horticultural Science Divisions to review the pre-breeding activities being undertaken by different ICAR Institutes including ICAR-NBPBR for making the pre-breeding activity more organized across the crops.

3.	The practical utilization of identified sources of resistance to various biotic and abiotic stresses remains unutilized. Hence, collaborations of ICAR-NBPGR with crop-based institutes is essential to utilize the identified genetic resources.	Agreed. This issue may also be included in the agenda of the meeting proposed at Point No. 2 for elaborate discussion and devise/ refine the mechanism of wider use of germplasm of different crops with special traits registered with ICAR-NBPGR through Plant Germplasm Registration Committee.
4.	ICAR-NBPGR should actively share information regarding its available germplasm with other institutions. It also needs to establish a system for sharing materials from the <i>in vitro</i> or <i>cryo-bank</i> with other researchers in the country. Comprehensive guidelines and information should be developed for the sharing of materials from the repositories.	Agreed. As on today all the information regarding the available germplasm is on the portal of ICAR-NBPGR, however, modalities need be discussed during the above proposed meeting.
5.	There is need to streamline the process of introducing plant genetic resources. Hence, the ICAR-NBPGR should collaborate with other institutes and State Agricultural Universities to facilitate introduction of the valuable genetic resources. Additionally, ICAR-NBPGR should establish an effective feedback mechanism to assess, how those genetic resources are being utilized in crop improvement.	Agreed. Necessary steps in streamlining the introduction of germplasm and collaboration with SAUs/ Institutes for facilitating introduction need to be taken. Regarding feedback, ICAR-NBPGR should devise a mechanism and present during the above meeting for sensitizing the users.
6.	<i>In-situ</i> on-farm and community seed banks should be linked with the national PGR management and conservation. This will help in <i>ex-situ</i> conservation of farmers' varieties and landraces from community seed banks in the National Genebank.	Agreed. Germplasm Exploration Division may identify such community gene banks for linking them with ICAR - NBPGR PGR Management and Conservation system. Proposal for financial support for establishing more Community Seed/ Gene Banks in the diversity rich areas should be submitted to DA&FW, PPV&FRA and NBA through the SMD.

Institute should ensure the implementation of the general recommendations made by the committee as per original proceedings of the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of RAC.

Issued with the approval of competent authority of the Crop Science Division i.e. Deputy Director General (Crop Science).



Assistant Director General (Seed)