

FAO Activities in Support Member Countries in Plant Biotechnology. (C07-le123917-Oral)

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Abstract:

In the WFS:fyl, member countries (MC) have called on 'the FAO, the CGIAR and other...institutes, to advance...research into ..biotechnology...to improve agricultural productivity in developing countries (DC)'. FAO has strengthened its capacity in biotechnology to support MC. FAO activities include: i) policy advice, ii) information exchange, iii) development assistance and iv) neutral forum. Direct advice, studies, and decision support system (DSS) are used in policy planning. A web-based DSS in biosafety, developed in collaboration with ISNAR, is being revised for pilot test. Information exchange, facilitated through network and electronic fora, and database in crop biotechnology in DC and a technology monitoring were constructed. The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) secretariat and the Joint FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission set standards and build capacity in risk assessment. Notwithstanding the GM controversy, global efforts have been very fragmented and limited in resource. In this meeting, co-sponsored by CSSA/ABSP/MSU/FAO and USAID, FAO wishes to consult with partners to develop a global strategy in plant biotechnology to enable global partners to work effectively in an action plan for food for all.

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Presentation Information:

Presentation Date: Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Presentation Time: 1:20 pm

Keywords: