

5 November 2015

Mr Ahmed Jahoor
Nordic Seed
DK 4960 Højby gardsvej 14
Denmark

**Ref: ECPGR Activity Grant Scheme (Phase IX)
Second Call for proposals**

Subject: Proposal 'EBDB'

Dear Mr Jahoor,

Kindly note that the ECPGR Executive Committee, during its recent meeting on 28-30 October 2015, decided that the proposal 'EBDB DB' could not be approved as such but needs to be revised and re-submitted.

The aims of your proposed Activity are in line with the ECPGR objectives and the ExCo would like to support your Activity. However, a number of doubts have been expressed regarding the role of the Barley database (EBDB) in this Activity and whether the request of funds for its development are justified for ECPGR. In particular please note that, following the recommendations of the Doc&Info meeting held in Prague in May 2014, Central Crop databases are expected to evolve into Crop Portals, with a wider scope than just gathering genebank data. At the same time, the priority receiver of passport and C&E data is EURISCO. You will also note that neither ECCDBs nor Crop Portals are mentioned in the ECPGR objectives as a target for activities (and therefore for funding).

In your project you are planning to develop a mechanism to integrate the EBDB into EURISCO. This is an understandable objective for the EBDB, but the ExCo is of the opinion that ECPGR funds should be prioritized for the development of EURISCO, while the Central Crop Databases or Crop Portals are expected to become self-sustaining through national or institutional funding. Moreover, it is not clear to the ExCo what is the added value of the EBDB database in terms of functionalities that would not be possible to carry out exclusively through EURISCO.

Therefore, you are invited to reconsider or revise or better explain the rationale of Tasks 1 and 2 of your proposal, whenever work with the EBDB is implied. Also the corresponding budget lines related to discussing and developing the EBDB have been questioned by the ExCo for the above-mentioned reasons.

Finally, please note that the partner from Spain will not be eligible for ECPGR funding, as of 1 April 2016, unless the respective country complies with ECPGR Rule of procedure 1.7, related to outstanding membership fees.

You are kindly invited to resubmit the proposal through the ECPGR web site at your earliest convenience, but not later than 15 April 2016. Your resubmission will be promptly evaluated by the ExCo for possible funding.

I wish you and all the partners involved in the project a successful submission of the revised proposal.

Best wishes,



Eva Thörn
Chair of the ECPGR Executive Committee

Copy for information: Mr Jan Svensson, Activity Coordinator, Nordic Genetic Resource Center PO Box 41, SE-230 53 Alnarp Sweden