

Dr. Pratibha Brahmi, with basic education in Botany from University of Delhi, India, started her research career joining the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) - National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi in the year 1985, where she worked with Germplasm Exchange Division in various positions. Her major responsibilities were managing import and export of plant genetic resources within the country as well as outside India. She was instrumental in the import of many new germplasm and crops for use in the country, including husk tomato, hing (asafoetida), Dragan fruit, monk fruit, tepary bean and other vegetables. She developed the Material Transfer Agreements (MTA) for transfer of Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (GRFA) for bilateral exchange, and guidelines for exchange of germplasm under International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA). In addition, she outlines the procedure for filing applications for Plant Variety Protection with Protection of Plant Variety and Farmers Rights Authority (PPV&FRA). She served many national committees relating to plant genetic resources such as: (i) Member Secretary National Advisory Committee on management of genetic resources, (ii) Member National Advisory Board on Management of Genetic Resources (NABMGR); (iii) Member Expert Committee on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA); and (iv) Member Regulatory Expert Committee of Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) of the Department of Biotechnology (DBT).

With her wider experience in the exchange of plant genetic resources at national and international level, she played a key role for the establishment of STOL programme, assisting KT management to develop MoU between ICAR-NBPGR and KT through the approval of Department of Agriculture Research and Education (DARE). Following the approval, she continued supporting STOL activities for the past over 5 years in exchange of germplasm among India and African partners. As PI of Indian component of STOL programme she participated in all STOL activities. KT management is thankful for her significant contributions and looking forward for her continued support and advise for the successful completion of the STOL programme.

She will be retiring from her services with ICAR-NBPGR on 31st August 2023, and the entire STOL family wish her all success for her days ahead and to lead a happy and healthy life with family and friends.