

## PRESS STATEMENT

### Seed sector commends countries' commitment to agricultural innovation

Fourteen governments and regional bodies have endorsed the International Statement on Agricultural Applications of Precision Biotechnology that was released in Geneva at the World Trade Organization Committee on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. The statement supports policies that enable agricultural innovation through the use of the latest plant breeding methods, including gene editing

“The International Seed Federation (ISF) applauds these governments for their collective commitment to science-based and harmonised regulation, a collaboration that will allow the seed sector to continue to innovate and support farmers to address climate change and food security,” said Michael Keller, ISF Secretary General.

“Therefore, we call on the 14 governments and regional bodies to work together to ensure that agricultural innovation reaches farmers and consumers around the world,” said Mr Keller.

Those supporting the statement, to date, are: Argentina – which led the effort – as well as Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Honduras, Jordan, Paraguay, the United States, Uruguay, Vietnam and the Secretariat of the Economic Community of West African States.

The text of the joint statement, which is being updated as additional countries sign on, is available on the World Trade Organization website: [www.wto.org](http://www.wto.org).

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#### About ISF

ISF is the voice of the global seed industry. It has represented the interests of its members since 1924, and represents 96% of the international seed trade today. With a global reach extending to members around the world, and official observer status in intergovernmental and international organizations, ISF is uniquely positioned to assist in the development of government policy and business strategy.

[www.worldseed.org](http://www.worldseed.org)

