GLOBAL PLANT COUNCIL REPORT

for the ASPS Board Meeting November 2023

By Peter Ryan (ASPS representative on the GPC Board)

Background

The GPC is a global network of plant, agricultural and environmental societies, as well as other professional organisations, that aims to:

- Support plant science research and help its members respond to global challenges impacting biodiversity and food security;

- Foster international collaboration, education, training and communications;

- Provide an independent forum for the dissemination of knowledge and resources relevant to plant sciences.

The GPC communicates daily with researchers, educators, policymakers and the general public using a range of platforms, seminars and online tools tailored to different audiences.

The GPC board meets every 6-8 weeks for strategic planning.

GPC has one part-time employee who manages communications and logistics. The Council is financed by member fees and donations. The current financial balance is ~US$40,000.

Selected Activities 2022-2023

- GPC organised a series of webinars on plant science throughout the year with many 100s

attendees to each one. The most recent series was held just before with COP28.

- The GPC worked with *Divseek* which is a global initiative to safeguard biodiversity and

to enable the sharing of genetic resources for accelerated crop improvement.

- GPC attended COP15 which is the UN Convention of Biological Diversity (Montreal December 2022).

- GPC applied for Consultative Status to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

- GPC developed a statement on climate change and was granted “Observer status” at COP28 in Dubai in Dec 2023. Our representations to COP28 are Dr Isabel Mendoza (Spain) and Professor KC Bansal (ICAR, India).

For further information and online resources go to:

[**www.globalplantcouncil.org**](http://www.globalplantcouncil.org/)

[**https://www.youtube.com/c/TheGlobalPlantCouncil**](https://www.youtube.com/c/TheGlobalPlantCouncil)