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D.O.No.C-12023/5/2017-CS-III

Dated: 29th November, 2017

Dear Dr. Pasca Palmer,

This has reference to CBD Notification dated 8 November 2017 regarding peer review of Fact-finding and scoping study on digital sequence information on genetic resources

Please find enclosed our comments on the draft report as per the template provided.

With regards,

Encl. As above.

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. Sujata Arora)

Dr. Cristiana Pasca Palmer
Executive Secretary
CBD Secretariat
Email: secretariat@cbd.int



TEMPLATE FOR COMMENTS

Contact information		
Surname:	Arora	
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Title of document reviewed:	The Emergence and Growth of Digital Sequence Information in Research and Development: Implications for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity, and Fair and Equitable Benefit-Sharing – A Fact-Finding and Scoping Study Undertaken for the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity	
Comments on the draft fact-finding and scoping study		
Page #	Para #	Comment
0	0	<p>This is a well-researched fact finding study. From the perspective of CBD and Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS), the most important conclusion that is drawn from the study, and which needs to be further highlighted in the summary and conclusion is given below.</p> <p>‘Rapid technological advancements have resulted in emergence and growth of Digital Sequence Information as a faster, cheaper and more accurate tool, the use of which offers opportunities as well as challenges for realizing benefits. The challenges in the context of ABS related to identification of contributors, users and provenance; and monitoring the utilization can certainly be overcome, with the use of technological tools, in line with the relevant provisions of the CBD and Nagoya Protocol. This is amply demonstrated by some of the examples given in section 8 of the document (such as GSAID, use of unique identifiers, GGBN, Oldham’s model, etc.)’</p>
		Additional rows can be added to this table by selecting “Table” followed by “insert” and “rows below”

Please submit your comments to secretariat@cbd.int or by fax at +1 514 288 6588.