

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST RESOURCES

SECRETARIAT GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND GAME

TOGO REPUBLIC

Work-Liberty-Homeland

PRESENTATION OF OPINIONS

Modalities for operation of the Clearing-house mechanism on access and benefit-sharing:

For the ABS Clearing-house mechanism to run smoothly, Togo thinks countries should be equipped with computerized equipment for their coordination structure and a permanent internet connection for their national ABS clearing-house mechanism.

Togo suggests that training workshops for managers from this clearing-house mechanism should be organized both at national and regional levels without neglecting technical, scientific and legal capacity-building in all aspects of ABS topics so managers can take part in implementing the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing.

Measures aimed at capacity building, strengthening and developing human resources and institutional capacity in developing countries:

In Togo's view, the areas for capacity building and development which should be highlighted at national level include the following:

- Creation of national ABS management structures;
- Training human resources in research;
- Provision of suitable material resources;
- Supporting the implementation of suitable research programmes;
- Development of bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes;
- Strengthening institutional capacity;
- Awareness raising, participation and education at all levels (decision-makers, users, owners of traditional knowledge and the general public...).

Measures aimed at raising awareness of the importance of genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, as well as access and benefit-sharing:

Given the multitude of different stakeholders (decision-makers, public administration, society, general public and local communities) operating in the utilization of genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, Togo considers that capacity building through awareness-raising campaigns (workshops, radio and TV broadcasts,,,) and preparation of information kits should be paramount.

Cooperation procedures and institutional mechanisms aimed at promoting compliance with the Protocol and treaties, instances of non-compliance, including the procedures and mechanisms aimed at offering advice or assistance:

Togo would like to see regional and sub-regional consultative mechanisms developed and made operational, and better synergies and coordination of capacity-building initiatives.

Further, Togo thinks that more effective and better coordinated financial resources should be provided by bilateral and multilateral technical partners to developing countries, including countries among the latter which are countries of origin and centres of genetic diversity.

The CBD secretariat should place regional experts at the disposal of countries for any ABS-related problem.

NATIONAL CAPACITY-BUILDING REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES

Priority capacity-building areas to solve problems of access to resources and benefit-sharing in Togo can be summarized as follows:

- Formulation and implementation of an information, education and communication programme for all actors involved;
- Formulation of a national framework defining the guidelines for a national ABS policy, a legislative and administrative system, an access and benefit-sharing system, mechanisms for public participation and information sharing;
- Implementation of an institutional framework and related capacity building;
- Training of the various national actors on different ABS topics;
- Preparation of the national genetic resources map;
- Creation of information systems linked to the ABS clearing-house mechanism.
- Development of scientific and technical research, including technology transfer (including modern biotechnology).

CBD focal point

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