



Louvain-La-Neuve, 27 August 2013

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity  
United Nations Environment Programme  
413 Saint-Jacques Street, Suite 800, Montreal, QC, H2Y 1N9, Canada  
Tel: +1 514 288 2220 Fax: +1 514 288 6588  
secretariat@cbd.int  
www.cbd.int

To the kind attention of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias

**Object: Re: Submission of information and views in preparation for the third Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol**

In preparation to the third Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol we are answering to the call for submission (Ref. SCBD/NB/SBG/BG/jh/81188) of information and views on development, updating and use of sectoral and cross-sectoral model contractual clauses, voluntary codes of conduct, guidelines and best practices and/or standards (Article 19 and 20).

Within the framework of the EU FP7 Project MICROB ([www.microb3.eu](http://www.microb3.eu)) the attached model Access and Benefit Sharing Agreement has been drafted to be used in order to access genetic materials during sampling activities of the Ocean Sampling Day. The model Agreement is an outcome of the project that aims at providing an overarching template to be used in other research frameworks beyond the project itself.



The model Agreement will be adopted as basis to negotiate and sign an ABS Agreement by 61 Genomic Observatories participating to the Ocean Sampling Day in 2014 from all over the world. Moreover, the Model Agreement has been presented to the United Nations General Assembly as an example of best practice among the scientific research, during the Intersessional Workshop on Marine Genetic Resources, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May 2013 in New York.

We feel that the model Agreement provides valuable model contractual clauses as well as best practices according to the terms of article 19 and 20 of the Nagoya Protocol.

The text of the Model Agreement is accompanied by a brief explanatory note. Please find them attached.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, consisting of a stylized 'T' and 'D' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Tom Dedeurwaerdere

Professor at the Université catholique de Louvain  
(UCL)  
Director of the BIOGOV Unit  
<http://biogov.uclouvain.be/index.html>  
Centre for the Philosophy of Law (CPDR)