



## Aichi Biodiversity Target 16 on the Nagoya Protocol

The Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing is an international agreement adopted under the auspices of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Nagoya, Japan, in 2010. Its objective is the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, thereby contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and implementing the three objectives of the CBD.

In 2010, Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) also adopted the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Aichi Biodiversity Target 16 provides that “By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.”

By 12 October 2014, 50 Parties to the CBD had ratified the Protocol, enabling its entry into force. The first element of Target 16 had been achieved.

The second element of Target 16 is for the Nagoya Protocol to be operational, consistent with national legislation. This element involves a number of steps to be taken by countries to effectively implement the Protocol domestically. Depending on their specific circumstances, countries need to revise legislative, administrative or policy measures already in place or develop new measures in order to meet the obligations set out under the Protocol. Countries also need to put in place appropriate institutional arrangements (a national focal point, one or more competent national authorities and one or more checkpoints) to manage ABS at the national level.

Since the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity in 2010, Parties to the CBD have made considerable progress towards Aichi Biodiversity Target 16.

As of 5 December 2016, 91 countries from all regions had ratified the Protocol and many others were in the final stages of the ratification process, demonstrating broad support for the Nagoya Protocol around the world. Many Parties and non-Parties to the Protocol have also adopted new or revised existing ABS measures and designated the appropriate institutions or are in the process of doing so.

In addition, Parties, non-Parties, international and regional organizations, indigenous and local communities as well as users of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge are taking steps to support the effective implementation of the Protocol, for example by conducting awareness-raising and capacity-building activities, engaging with stakeholders or developing guidance.

The cumulative efforts carried out thus far are bearing fruit and, as a consequence, the number of countries taking steps to ratify the Protocol and to make it operational at the national level is growing.



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However, some countries still lack the necessary capacity and financial resources to take the steps needed towards ratification and implementation of the Protocol. Further efforts are still needed in this regard to achieve the second part of Aichi Biodiversity Target 16.

## Key Messages

- With 91 ratifications and 62 countries currently planning to ratify or in the process of ratifying, **the Nagoya Protocol is widely supported across all regions**
- **Many Parties and non-Parties** to the Protocol have adopted new or revised existing ABS measures and designated the appropriate institutions or are in the process of doing so
- The **efforts carried out since the adoption of the Protocol** by Parties, non-Parties, international and regional organizations, indigenous and local communities as well as users of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge **are supporting the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol**
- Continued capacity-building and development efforts as well as financial resources are **key to achieving widespread implementation of the Protocol**

## Work of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing

The entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol in 2014 was an important milestone for the international community in aiming to achieve one of the three objectives of the Convention: the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources.

Since the last meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol (COP-MOP) held in Pyeongchang, Korea in 2014, several more Parties to the CBD have ratified the Protocol – bringing the total number of ratifications to 91. To encourage ratification and implementation, the Secretariat and its partners, including capacity-building providers, have carried out several activities during the biennium to support countries in their efforts. In particular, with support from the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the Secretariat has carried out activities aiming to help countries establish ABS measures, use and publish information on the ABS Clearing-House, implement the awareness-raising strategy for the Nagoya Protocol, and implement the Protocol and the International Plant Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in a mutually supportive manner.

At their second meeting taking place in Cancun, Mexico, the COP-MOP will take note of progress and discuss several key issues related to the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, including awareness-raising, capacity-building, the ABS Clearing-House, cooperation with other organizations and the financial mechanism of the Protocol, all of which play an important role in the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 16.

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### Important links

- Convention on Biological Diversity: [www.cbd.int](http://www.cbd.int)
- Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing: [www.cbd.int/abs](http://www.cbd.int/abs)
- UN Biodiversity Conference, Cancun, Mexico, 2016: [www.cbd.int/cop2016](http://www.cbd.int/cop2016)
- Aichi Biodiversity Targets: [www.cbd.int/sp/targets](http://www.cbd.int/sp/targets)
- Quick Guides for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets: [www.cbd.int/nbsap/training/quick-guides](http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/training/quick-guides)
- Access and Benefit sharing Information Kit: [www.cbd.int/abs/information-kit-en](http://www.cbd.int/abs/information-kit-en)
- Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House: <https://absch.cbd.int>

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