



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

And

The Union for Ethical BioTrade

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (hereinafter “the CBD Secretariat”) and the Union for Ethical BioTrade (hereinafter “UEBT”),

Recalling Decision VIII/17 adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention inviting businesses to align their policies and practices more explicitly with the three objectives of the Convention and its goals and targets;

Recalling also Decision IX/6 adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and in particular its paragraph 13 inviting the BioTrade Initiative of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its work on trade promotion for biodiversity-based products which are produced in a sustainable manner and compatible with the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, through capacity-building, enhancing market access, promoting enabling environments and engaging relevant public and private actors,

Recalling further Decision IX/6, and in particular its paragraph 16 (c) inviting relevant organizations to promote scientific and technical cooperation among Parties on the design and implementation of incentive measures and to provide technical support, capacity-building and training, including for the promotion of biodiversity-based products which are produced in a sustainable manner (biotrade),

Whereas UEBT was created with support of the BioTrade Facilitation Programme of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to promote private sector engagement in BioTrade,

Whereas progress has been made in integrating biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in business operations, including through the successful implementation of a Memorandum of Understanding between the CBD Secretariat and UEBT,

Aware of the role of the business community, and in particular of companies involved in biotrade, in the effective implementation of the Convention and the efforts towards the realization of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets,

Aware also of the importance of engaging the business community in the implementation of the Convention, including through awareness-raising and support for improved business practices, as recognized in Decision X/1 and Decision X/21,

Have reached the following understanding:

Article I

Objective

The objective of the present Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter “the Memorandum”) is to enhance cooperation between the CBD Secretariat and UEBT with a view to contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, particularly with respect to targets on public awareness of the values of biodiversity, business engagement in the protection of biodiversity, and putting in practice access and benefit sharing.

Article II

Activities

Awareness raising

With a view to contribute to Target 1 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, which focuses on public awareness of the values of biodiversity, the following activities will be undertaken:

- UEBT will provide regular updates, through its Biodiversity Barometer, on people’s awareness and understanding of biodiversity.
- UEBT and the CBD Secretariat will collaborate to make the results of the Biodiversity Barometer available to the CBD parties and other relevant stakeholders.
- Using the information and expertise deriving from the Biodiversity Barometer, UEBT will contribute, where appropriate, to the convening of focus groups and regional surveys on attitudes towards biodiversity,
- UEBT and the CBD Secretariat will collaborate on communicating biodiversity and its value to human well-being to the general public and to target groups such as youth, the business community and policy makers.

Business engagement

With a view to contribute to Target 4 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, which focuses inter alia on business engagement, the following activities will be undertaken:

- UEBT will engage with the business community in its target sectors and promote the adoption of biotrade principles and criteria in support of CBD objectives,
- UEBT will measure impacts of such engagement in advancing CBD objectives,
- UEBT will keep its business members informed about relevant CBD meetings and consultations, as well as encourage their participation,
- Where relevant, UEBT and the CBD Secretariat will jointly organize, with other

- organisations as appropriate, sessions on business and biodiversity during CBD meetings,
- Where relevant, UEBT and the CBD Secretariat will collaborate and communicate on practical cases and lessons learned, and
 - Funds permitting the SCBD will participate in UEBT meetings on business and biodiversity.

Access and benefit sharing

With a view to contribute to Target 16 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, which focuses on access and benefit sharing, the following activities will be undertaken:

- Awareness raising of access and benefit sharing among companies, particularly in the food and cosmetics sectors. In particular,
 - UEBT will carry out, in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat where appropriate, awareness-raising activities among the business community to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing.
 - UEBT will regularly feature access and benefit sharing in its annual “The Beauty of Sourcing with Respect” conference, as well as hold workshops on specific access and benefit sharing topics.
 - Where relevant and funds permitting, the CBD Secretariat will participate in and communicate these activities.
- Development of tools, guidelines and good practices on ABS. In particular,
 - UEBT will contribute any relevant information and case studies towards the collection of existing guidelines and codes of conduct related to access and benefit-sharing on the clearing-house mechanism;
 - Where relevant and funds permitting, the CBD Secretariat will participate in, and communicate the development of these tools and guidelines.

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)

With a view to contribute to Target 17 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, which focuses on national biodiversity strategy and action plan, the following activities will be undertaken:

- CBD and UEBT will cooperate to develop guidance and advice to Parties on how ethical trade can be integrated into NBSAPs.
- UEBT and CBD will cooperate to include biodiversity issues in relevant trade and development processes.
- UEBT, where appropriate, nominate representatives to workshops on NBSAPs.

UEBT governance

- UEBT will share with the CBD Secretariat its strategic plans and annual reports;
- UEBT will invite a CBD representative as observer to its Board and General Assembly meetings;
- Financial and human resources permitting, the CBD Secretariat will participate in relevant meetings organized by UEBT;

Article III

Focal Points

Each signatory will designate focal points for the implementation of relevant activities under this Memorandum.

Article IV

Reporting and Further Guidance

The CBD Secretariat and the Union will report to their respective governing bodies on progress made in the implementation of this Memorandum and seek further guidance from such bodies regarding new areas of cooperation.

Article V

Settlement of Disputes

Any dispute between the CBD Secretariat and UEBT arising out of the interpretation or execution of this Memorandum shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation.

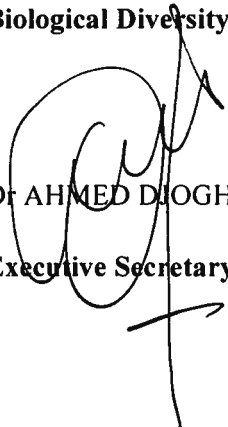
Article VI

Entry into Effect, Review and Termination

1. This Memorandum will enter into effect upon signature by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Executive Director of the Union for Ethical BioTrade and will remain in force up to 2020 unless earlier terminated in accordance with paragraph 3 below.
2. The CBD Secretariat and the Union may, by mutual agreement, review and amend this Memorandum.
3. This Memorandum may be terminated by either signatory giving a one-year written notice.

Signed this eighteenth day of August 2011 at Geneva, Switzerland

**For the Secretariat of the Convention on
Biological Diversity**


Dr AHMED DJOGHLAF

Executive Secretary

For the Union for Ethical BioTrade


MR RIK KUTSCH LOJENGA

Executive Director