

SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION

Third meeting

Online, 16 May-13 June 2021

Agenda item 12

**SPECIALIZED INTERNATIONAL ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING INSTRUMENTS IN
THE CONTEXT OF ARTICLE 4, PARAGRAPH 4, OF THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL**

Draft recommendation submitted by the Chair

The Subsidiary Body on Implementation *recommends* that the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing,

Recalling Article 4 of the Nagoya Protocol and decision NP-3/14,

1. *Takes note* of the indicative criteria for specialized international access and benefit-sharing instruments in the context of Article 4, paragraph 4, of the Nagoya Protocol, contained in the annex to the present decision, noting that they are intended to contribute to strengthening coordination and mutual supportiveness between the Nagoya Protocol and other international access and benefit-sharing instruments, without creating a hierarchy among them;

2. *Invites* Parties, and other Governments to take into account, consistent with Article 4, paragraph 4, of the Nagoya Protocol, each of the indicative criteria in developing and/or applying access and benefit-sharing measures;

3. *Invites* relevant international organizations and intergovernmental processes to take into account the indicative criteria in their efforts to develop or implement specialized international access and benefit-sharing instruments;

4. *Requests* Parties to include information in their national reports and, as appropriate, through the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing House, and *invites* other Governments and relevant international organizations to share information on any steps that they have taken towards the development and/or implementation of specialized international access and benefit-sharing instruments that are consistent with the objectives of the Convention and the Protocol, including information on the specific genetic resource covered by and for the purpose of the specialized instrument;

5. *Decides* to review the present decision in the context of the assessment and review process as provided for in Article 31 of the Protocol, taking into account relevant developments and with a view to taking any steps necessary to promote coherence in the international regime on access and benefit-sharing.

Annex

**INDICATIVE CRITERIA FOR SPECIALIZED INTERNATIONAL ACCESS AND
BENEFIT-SHARING INSTRUMENTS IN THE CONTEXT OF ARTICLE 4,
PARAGRAPH 4, OF THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL ON ACCESS TO GENETIC
RESOURCES AND THE FAIR AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS
ARISING FROM THEIR UTILIZATION**

1. These indicative criteria are reference points or elements to consider as guidance when developing or implementing specialized international access and benefit-sharing instruments. They

are intended to contribute to strengthening coordination and mutual supportiveness between the Nagoya Protocol and other international access and benefit-sharing instruments, without creating a hierarchy among them.

2. *Intergovernmentally or internationally agreed* — The instrument is agreed through an intergovernmental process and/or is endorsed by States and/or Governments. The instrument may be binding or non-binding.

3. *Specialized* — The instrument:

(a) Applies to a specific set of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources which would otherwise fall under the scope of the Nagoya Protocol;

(b) Applies to specific uses of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, or to specific purposes, which require a differentiated and hence specialized approach.

4. *Mutually supportive* — The instrument is consistent with and supportive of, and does not run counter to, the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol, including with respect to:

(a) Consistency with biodiversity conservation and sustainable use objectives;

(b) Fairness and equity in the sharing of benefits;

(c) Legal certainty with respect to access to genetic resources or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, including, as appropriate, the application of prior informed consent, and to benefit-sharing;

(d) Full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities concerned;

(e) Contribution to sustainable development, as reflected in internationally agreed goals;

(f) Other general principles of law, including good faith, effectiveness and legitimate expectations.
