



Convention on Biological Diversity

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Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization

Sixth meeting

Yerevan, 19–30 October 2026

Item 13 of the provisional agenda*

Cooperation with international organizations, bodies established under other conventions, and initiatives

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Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. In its decision [NP-3/7](#) on cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization requested the Executive Secretary to continue to engage with relevant ongoing processes and policy debates and liaise with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives, as appropriate, to provide and collect information on current discussions on matters related to access and benefit-sharing and in particular on public health issues (para. 2). This was complemented by decision [NP-3/14](#), in which the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol decided to include a standing item on cooperation with other international organizations in the agenda of its future meetings to take stock of developments in relevant international forums (para. 6).
2. The present note provides an overview of activities undertaken by the Executive Secretary since the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol to develop and enhance cooperation with international organizations, bodies established under other conventions and initiatives, including key developments under international agreements and instruments of relevance and a summary of cooperation activities to support the ratification and implementation of, as well as awareness-raising and capacity-building for, the Nagoya Protocol.
3. Further information on cooperation under the Convention on Biological Diversity is provided in document [CBD/SBI/6/7](#), and an update will be provided to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its seventeenth meeting.

* [CBD/NP/MOP/6/1](#).

II. Key developments under international agreements and cooperation activities with intergovernmental organizations addressing issues related to access and benefit-sharing

4. Issues related to access and benefit-sharing are addressed in other international instruments besides the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization. The Secretariat of the Convention collaborates with various intergovernmental organizations working in this area with a view to following developments in other international forums and providing information on developments under relevant processes of the Convention and the Nagoya Protocol. Many of those organizations participate in processes within the Convention and the Protocol. The information provided in the present section is up to date as of 18 August 2026.

A. International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

5. The Secretariat of the Convention has had a long-standing relationship with the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. The two Secretariats engage in regular communications, and the Secretariat of the Convention is actively involved in different areas of work under the International Treaty.

6. During the intersessional period, a representative of the Secretariat of the Convention participated in the following meetings:

(a) Sixth meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee on the Global Information System of Article 17 under the International Treaty and the preceding special event on strengthening partnerships on plant genetic resources for food and agriculture information exchange and knowledge-sharing, held from 6 to 8 May 2025;

(b) Thirteenth and fourteenth meetings of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System, held from 1 to 4 April 2025 and from 7 to 11 July 2025, respectively;

(c) Eleventh session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty, held from 24 to 29 November 2025.

7. In addition, in December 2024, an informal meeting on enhancing the functioning of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing was convened by the Meridian Institute in collaboration with the Secretariat of the International Treaty to engage in informal exchanges on key aspects being considered in the negotiations on the Multilateral System. The Secretariat of the Convention participated in the informal meeting and provided information on relevant outcomes from the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in particular regarding decision [16/2](#) on digital sequence information on genetic resources.

8. The Secretariat of the Convention submitted a report to the Governing Body at its the eleventh session on recent developments under the Convention and the Nagoya Protocol.¹ A video statement by the Executive Secretary was played as part of the opening ceremony of the session.

9. At its eleventh session, the Governing Body considered a report from the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System, including a draft package of measures to enhance the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing established under the Treaty.² The deliberations of the Working Group had been focused in particular on three “hotspots”,

¹ Made available for the eleventh session of the Governing Body as document IT/GB-11/25/16.3/Inf.1. The documents of the eleventh session of the Governing Body are available at www.fao.org/plant-treaty/events/events-detail/Eleventh-Session-of-the-Governing-Body/en.

² For further background information, see the report on cooperation with international organizations, bodies established under other conventions, and initiatives submitted to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its fifth meeting (document [CBD/NP/MOP/5/8](#)).

namely: the possibility of expanding annex I to the International Treaty (which sets out the list of crops and forages covered under the Multilateral System); if and how to address digital sequence information; and the structure and rates of payment for access to and use of material in the Multilateral System.

10. Negotiations continued during the session of the Governing Body; however, no agreement on the package of measures was reached. The Governing Body took note of the Chair's compromise proposal, which was included as an appendix to the report of the Governing Body on its eleventh session, but no resolution was adopted and no further work was mandated.

11. The Governing Body adopted a number of resolutions of relevance to the Convention and the Nagoya Protocol, including on the implementation of the Global Information System, farmers' rights, capacity development, cooperation with the Convention, and digital sequence information/genetic sequence data³ on plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.

12. In resolution 4/2025, on the implementation of the Global Information System, the Governing Body requested the Scientific Advisory Committee on the Global Information System of Article 17 to continue considering scientific and technical issues related to digital sequence information/genetic sequence data as they related to article 17 of the International Treaty and the implications of relevant processes in other forums with a view to strengthening mutual support, while noting that the Global Information System was currently not intended to serve as a repository for, or as a tracking and tracing system of, digital sequence information/genetic sequence data. The Governing Body also requested the Scientific Advisory Committee to undertake a technical assessment of the capabilities of the Global Information System to integrate digital sequence information/genetic sequence data and other emerging digital technologies.

13. In resolution 9/2025, the Governing Body approved the capacity-development strategy of the International Treaty (2026–2030). The strategy includes a “strategic approach” for the mutually supportive implementation of the International Treaty and the Convention and its Nagoya Protocol in support of the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The strategy also includes an action plan in which synergies with the Convention are emphasized.

14. In resolution 12/2025, on cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Governing Body emphasized the importance of maintaining cooperation, complementarity and coherence as well as avoiding duplication between the International Treaty and the Convention, including the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. It encouraged national focal points for the International Treaty to strengthen coordination with national focal points for the Convention and the Nagoya Protocol, as well as with institutions engaged in the implementation of the Framework, in order to promote coherent national approaches and avoid duplication.

15. The Governing Body requested its Secretary to continue following relevant processes under the Convention and the Nagoya Protocol, including those concerning digital sequence information/genetic sequence data on genetic resources, in order to promote mutual supportiveness between the instruments. The Governing Body took note of the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention of the modalities for operationalizing the multilateral mechanism for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources (decision [16/2](#)), thanked the Conference of the Parties for inviting the International Treaty to collaborate with the multilateral mechanism and encouraged mutual supportiveness and non-duplication in the implementation of the multilateral mechanism and its Cali Fund, and the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing and its Benefit-sharing Fund.

16. Furthermore, the Governing Body requested its Secretary to continue liaising with the Executive Secretary of the Convention to discuss how best to collect and share the information on

³ In resolution 16/2022, the Governing Body noted that it had not yet decided on the official terminology for digital sequence information/genetic sequence data and would therefore use the term “digital sequence information/genetic sequence data” until new terminology was agreed.

monetary and non-monetary benefits related to the Multilateral System of the International Treaty, as well to foster collaboration on monitoring non-monetary benefit-sharing in support of the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

17. In resolution 14/2025, on the consideration of digital sequence information/genetic sequence data on plant genetic resources for food and agriculture for the objectives of the International Treaty, the Governing Body noted that decision [16/2](#) of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention did not affect the rights and obligations of Contracting Parties under the International Treaty. The Governing Body encouraged Parties to the Convention, in implementing the multilateral mechanism for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources, to take into account the relevant provisions of the International Treaty, as well as the need for the mutually supportive implementation of the Convention and its Nagoya Protocol, as appropriate, and the International Treaty. The Governing Body also requested its Secretary to facilitate activities to reduce the capacity gap between developed and developing countries regarding the generation of, access to and use of digital sequence information/genetic sequence data for research and development.

18. The Secretariat of the International Treaty submitted information to contribute to the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including in relation to Goal C and Target 13 of the Framework.

19. The two Secretariats collaborated in the monitoring process for target 15.6⁴ under the global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.⁵

B. Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

20. The Secretariats of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the Convention cooperate on numerous issues, including issues related to access and benefit-sharing.

21. The Secretariat of the Convention submitted a report to and participated in the twentieth regular session of the Commission, which was held from 24 to 28 March 2025. The Executive Secretary delivered a statement during the opening of the session.

22. During its twentieth regular session,⁶ under the agenda item on access and benefit-sharing for genetic resources for food and agriculture, the Commission took note of the draft report on the impact of access and benefit-sharing measures on the use and exchange of genetic resources for food agriculture and associated traditional knowledge, which had been prepared in response to a request from the Commission at its nineteenth regular session. A previous draft of the report had been reviewed by the Team of Technical and Legal Experts on Access and Benefit-sharing at its seventh session, which had been held online from 14 to 16 January 2025. The Secretariat of the Convention had participated in that meeting.

23. Under the same item, the Commission invited its members to provide written inputs and updates to the draft report and requested its Secretariat to revise it based on the inputs received for review by the Team of Technical and Legal Experts on Access and Benefit-sharing and by the Bureau. The revised report is to be submitted for review by the Commission at its twenty-first regular session.

24. Also under the same item, reconfirming the importance of taking the distinctive features of genetic resources for food and agriculture into account in the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol,

⁴ Sustainable Development Goal target 15.6 is to promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and to promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed.

⁵ The Secretariat of the Convention is the custodian of the related indicator (15.6.1) for target 15.6 and collaborates with the Secretariat of the International Treaty to provide the necessary data to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat.

⁶ The report of the Commission on its twentieth regular session is available at www.fao.org/cgrfa/meetings/detail/twentieth-regular-session/en.

the Commission invited its members to contribute to their countries' national reports on the implementation of the Protocol. The Commission also recommended that its Secretariat continue to contribute to the development and monitoring of indicators on access and benefit-sharing for genetic resources for food and agriculture, in particular for non-monetary benefits.

25. Under the agenda item on digital sequence information on genetic resources for food and agriculture, the Commission took note of decision [16/2](#) of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and stressed the importance of coordinated efforts among the different legal instruments and processes relevant to digital sequence information on genetic resources for mutual supportiveness.

26. Under the same item, the Commission requested its Secretariat to convene an open-ended multi-stakeholder workshop, in partnership with the Secretariats of the Convention and the International Treaty, on the implications of decision [16/2](#) for research and development in the food and agriculture sector, the need for capacity-building and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources for food and agriculture. The workshop is tentatively scheduled for January 2027.

27. A representative of the Secretariat of the Commission participated in the sixth meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee on Capacity-building for the Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, held from 1 to 4 June 2026.

C. Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction

28. As described in document [CBD/NP/MOP/5/8](#), the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction was adopted on 19 June 2023. The Agreement entered into force on 17 January 2026 and had 93 Parties as at 17 August 2026.

29. The General Assembly, in its resolution 78/272 of 24 April 2024, established a preparatory commission to prepare for the entry into force of the Agreement and for the convening of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Agreement. The Preparatory Commission met three times over the course of 2025 and 2026. Representatives of the Secretariat of the Convention participated in each of the sessions. Over the course of these deliberations, the Secretariat submitted information on relevant work and experiences under the Convention that can inform and support work under the Agreement, as well as information on relevant mandates and arrangements for cooperation with other instruments, frameworks and bodies under the Convention and its Protocols.⁷ This information was shared through various modalities, including the dissemination of a booklet, statements delivered during the deliberations of the Preparatory Commission and collaboration in side events on the margins of these meetings. The Secretariat of the Convention also contributed information to inform a study on technical aspects for operationalizing the Clearing-House Mechanism under the Agreement, which was made available to the Preparatory Commission at its third session.⁸ The topic of synergies in and collaboration on the implementation of the Agreement was also addressed through other activities of the Secretariat, including an expert workshop on scientific and technical work conducted under the Convention relevant to marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, held in Norway from 2 to 5 December 2025.⁹ The aim of the expert workshop was to address, among other things, marine genetic resources, including digital sequence information on genetic resources.

⁷ See www.un.org/bbnjagreement/en/prepcom-ii-iff-cooperation.

⁸ The advance unedited version of the draft study is available at www.un.org/bbnjagreement/en/third-session-23-march-2-april-2026.

⁹ See www.cbd.int/meetings/MCB-WS-2025-01.

30. At its third session, the Preparatory Commission adopted its report, which included recommendations to the Conference of the Parties to the Agreement for consideration at its first meeting. These recommendations largely address procedural and administrative matters, including draft rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties, draft terms of reference and modalities for the operation of, and rules of procedure for, the subsidiary bodies established under the Agreement (including the Access and Benefit-Sharing Committee established under article 15), a draft decision concerning the relationship between the secretariat of the Agreement and the United Nations, a draft memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the Agreement and the Council of the Global Environment Facility and a draft decision on arrangements to enhance cooperation with relevant legal instruments and frameworks and relevant global, regional, subregional and sectoral bodies.

31. The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Agreement will be held from 11 to 22 January 2027.

32. In addition to the formal proceedings, several organizations convened webinars and dialogues on different aspects of the Agreement to encourage and facilitate information-sharing among States and relevant organizations. The Secretariat of the Convention participated in a number of these events to share information on relevant experiences under the Convention and the Nagoya Protocol, including with regard to the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House, mechanisms for cooperation and digital sequence information on genetic resources. These events included the “BBNJ informal dialogues” convened by the International Centre for Dialogue and Peacebuilding and webinars organized by the Caribbean Community and the High Seas Alliance. The Secretariat also shared experiences regarding the Cali Fund for the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits from the Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources in an online event focused on the special fund established in the Agreement. The event was organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, the Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations, the European Union and the Office of the Pacific Ocean Commissioner, in collaboration with the High Seas Alliance.

33. Article 12 of the Agreement requires that certain information be notified to the Clearing-House Mechanism of the Agreement prior to the collection in situ of marine genetic resources of areas beyond national jurisdiction. At present, until the Clearing-House Mechanism and the secretariat of the Agreement are operational, notifications to be submitted in accordance with article 12 are to be sent to the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the United Nations, which will circulate the information further. Accordingly, in July 2026, Ireland submitted a pre-collection notification regarding a research expedition to, among other things, carry out water sampling in the high seas that will include the collection of marine genetic resources and environmental DNA. As described in the notification, the genomics data collected during the research expedition will be used to quantify and investigate planktonic communities and their relationship to ocean physical and biogeochemical properties.¹⁰

D. General Assembly high-level meeting on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response

34. In 2023, the General Assembly adopted the political declaration of the General Assembly high-level meeting on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, which addressed, among other things, aspects related to access and benefit-sharing.¹¹ In the political declaration, Heads of State and Government and representatives of States and Governments decided to convene a high-level meeting on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response in 2026 aimed at undertaking a comprehensive review of the implementation of the declaration.

¹⁰ See www.un.org/bbnjagreement/sites/default/files/2026-07/16July2026BBNJMGRTEMP2026001PrepCollection.pdf.

¹¹ General Assembly resolution 78/3. For more information on provisions of the declaration relevant to access and benefit-sharing, see document [CBD/NP/MOP/5/8](#).

35. On 5 September 2025, the General Assembly adopted resolution 79/333, on the scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting. Among other things, the Assembly decided that the overall theme of the high-level meeting would be “Fostering a multilateral and intergenerational approach to prevent, prepare for and respond to pandemics and public health emergencies, through the principles of equity and solidarity”.

36. The General Assembly also decided that the high-level meeting would approve an action-oriented political declaration, agreed in advance by consensus through intergovernmental negotiations.

37. The President of the General Assembly will convene the meeting in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) on 25 September 2026.

E. World Health Organization

38. As described in document [CBD/NP/MOP/5/8](#), the seventy-seventh World Health Assembly (May 2024) adopted decision WHA77(20), in which it decided to extend the mandate of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body to draft and negotiate a WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response in order to finish its work as soon as possible and submit its outcome for consideration by the seventy-eighth World Health Assembly in 2025, or earlier by a special session of the World Health Assembly, if possible in 2024.

39. The Intergovernmental Negotiating Body continued to meet in 2024 and 2025. It submitted the draft WHO Pandemic Agreement to the seventy-eighth World Health Assembly (May 2025), which adopted it by resolution WHA78.1.

40. In article 12 of the Agreement, the Parties establish a multilateral system for access and benefit-sharing for materials and sequence information on pathogens with pandemic potential – the WHO Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing System. Under paragraph 2 of article 12, the provisions governing the System are to be developed and agreed upon in an annex – referred to as the Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing Instrument – to the Agreement. Other paragraphs in article 12 outline different elements to be addressed in the System, including the sharing of materials and sequence information on pathogens with pandemic potential, as well as the sharing of benefits arising from the sharing or utilization of such materials and sequence information for public health purposes.

41. Moreover, paragraph 4 of article 12 provides that, having regard to Article 4.4 of the Nagoya Protocol, the Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing Instrument is to be consistent with, and not run counter to, the objectives of the Convention and the Protocol, recognizing that nothing in paragraph 4 of article 12 creates obligations under those instruments for non-Parties thereto.

42. Article 31 of the Agreement provides that the Agreement will be opened for signature only after the World Health Assembly adopts the annex to the Agreement containing the Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing System. Consequently, the Agreement cannot be signed or ratified and cannot enter into force until the System has been adopted by the World Health Assembly.

43. In resolution WHA78.1, the World Health Assembly established an open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group to, among other things, but as a priority, draft and negotiate the annex to the WHO Pandemic Agreement described in article 12 of the Agreement and to submit the outcome to the seventy-ninth World Health Assembly for its consideration.

44. Six meetings and two resumed sessions, as well as numerous informal meetings, of the Intergovernmental Working Group were held between July 2025 and May 2026. At its resumed sixth session in April and May 2026, the Intergovernmental Working Group decided to submit the draft text of the annex on the Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing System to the seventy-ninth World Health Assembly while also recommending that the Assembly mandate the Working Group to continue its work. The seventy-ninth World Health Assembly (May 2026) adopted decision WHA79(7), wherein it decided that the Intergovernmental Working Group was to continue its work

and submit the outcome to the eightieth World Health Assembly (May 2027) for its consideration or earlier by a special session of the World Health Assembly in 2026.

45. The seventh meeting of the Intergovernmental Working Group was held from 6 to 17 July 2026. An eighth meeting is planned for 14 to 18 September 2026 and a ninth meeting for 2 to 13 November 2026.

F. World Intellectual Property Organization

46. The Secretariat of the Convention regularly exchanges information with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). In the context of the Nagoya Protocol, the Secretariat is following the ongoing process of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore.

47. As described in document [CBD/NP/MOP/5/8](#), the Diplomatic Conference to conclude an International Legal Instrument Relating to Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge Associated with Genetic Resources, which was held in May 2024, adopted the World Intellectual Property Organization Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge. As at 18 August 2026, four countries had ratified or acceded to the Treaty. Fifteen instruments of ratification or accession are required for the Treaty to enter into force.

48. The adoption of the Treaty on Intellectual Property, Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge did not end the mandate of the Intergovernmental Committee. At its fifty-eighth session, held in July 2025, the WIPO General Assembly decided to renew the mandate of the Intergovernmental Committee for the biennium 2026/27, agreeing that the Committee would continue its work on the protection of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, with the objective of finalizing an agreement on an international legal instrument or instruments. The Committee was mandated to continue to discuss intellectual property issues concerning genetic resources and their interlinkage with traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, but without normative work on genetic resources.¹²

III. Cooperation to support ratification, raise awareness and build capacity for implementation

49. The Secretariat of the Convention works with a number of partners to support ratification of the Nagoya Protocol, raise awareness of the Protocol and build capacity for its implementation. Some specific cooperation activities with partners are outlined below.

A. United Nations Environment Programme

50. The Secretariat of the Convention collaborated with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on the arrangements necessary to support eligible Parties to the Nagoya Protocol to obtain funds for the preparation and submission of their first national reports on the implementation of the Protocol through a global project funded by the Global Environment Facility.¹³

51. As part of the project, UNEP and the Secretariat co-organized an online global inception workshop and a series of in-person regional workshops to provide technical support to Parties in the preparation of their national reports and to promote knowledge exchange through peer-to-peer learning.

B. Access and Benefit-Sharing Capacity Development Initiative

52. The Secretariat of the Convention continued to collaborate with the Access and Benefit-Sharing Capacity Development Initiative, a multi-donor initiative aimed at improving the conditions

¹² The decision, under item 12 (v), is contained in the 2025 list of decisions, which is available at www.wipo.int/en/web/assemblies/a66.

¹³ For further information, see notification No. [2024-074](#) of 19 July 2024.

for successful cooperation between providers and users of biological resources for the fair sharing of benefits in support of biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and local livelihoods.

53. The Initiative was a key partner of the Secretariat since its launch at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held in March 2006. The Secretariat was a member of the Initiative steering committee and engaged in regular exchanges of information with the Initiative. The Initiative concluded its activities on 31 December 2025, bringing to a close its long-time support for capacity development and implementation efforts under the Nagoya Protocol.

54. During the intersessional period, the Secretariat participated in and contributed to various events organized by the Initiative, including a Pan-African workshop on supporting an enabling environment for access and benefit-sharing and biotrade, and the closing event for the Initiative.

55. Furthermore, the Secretariat delivered presentations on digital sequence information at events organized by the Initiative, including an informal online Asia-Pacific regional science-policy dialogue on digital sequence information on genetic resources and a webinar on engaging the private sector in the multilateral mechanism for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources and the Cali Fund.

56. The Secretariat also collaborated with the Initiative and the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership on a series of webinars to build the capacities of countries in implementing access and benefit-sharing measures. Five webinars were held between September 2025 and January 2026 to address a range of issues, including lessons learned in advancing access and benefit-sharing measures; finance tools for access and benefit-sharing; the Capacity-building and Development Action Plan for the Nagoya Protocol; and accelerating implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Recordings of the webinars are available online.¹⁴

C. **Leibniz Institute DSMZ**

57. During the intersessional period, the Secretariat collaborated with the Leibniz Institute DSMZ on different areas of work related to access and benefit-sharing. The Leibniz Institute DSMZ leads and manages the German Nagoya Protocol HuB, a project aimed at helping academic researchers in Germany understand compliance with the Nagoya Protocol.

58. With the generous financial support of the Government of Japan, through the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the Secretariat commissioned the Leibniz Institute DSMZ to undertake a project to work with 10 Parties in developing and communicating access and benefit-sharing procedures through the creation of a user-friendly guide for each Party. The guides, which will address both commercial and non-commercial access to genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, will be communication tools specifically designed for users, providing straightforward and user-friendly information on how to access genetic resources and traditional knowledge. Once completed, the guides will be published in the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House.

59. Furthermore, with the generous financial support of the European Union, the Secretariat supported the continuation of the project on examining trends in non-monetary benefit-sharing, implemented by the Leibniz Institute DSMZ and funded by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation. The objective of the project is to support the global collection of data on headline indicator C.2 of the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Headline indicator C.2 addresses non-monetary benefits arising from applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments.

60. As part of the project, a database of scientific publications that cite an access and benefit-sharing permit was established.¹⁵ In accordance with the agreed methodology for headline indicator

¹⁴ <https://absch.cbd.int/en/kb/tags/absch-announcement/Webinar-Series-on-Capacity-Building-for-Access-and-Benefit-Sharing-September-December-2025-/68c427bcbf63f80e4068d091>.

¹⁵ See <https://nmbs.dsmz.de/>.

C.2,¹⁶ Parties could include the information from the database in their national reports to report on several indicators on non-monetary benefit-sharing related to research and development results and scientific publications.

61. The Secretariat and the Leibniz Institute DSMZ also collaborated to hold two webinars related to the methodology for collecting data on non-monetary benefit-sharing. The aim of the first webinar (March 2025) was to provide information and guidance on the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, national biodiversity strategies and action plans, national targets and the monitoring framework in relation to access and benefit-sharing.¹⁷ The goal of the second webinar (November 2025) was to explain the importance of publishing internationally recognized certificates of compliance in the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House to enable the collection of information on the sharing of non-monetary benefits.¹⁸

62. The Leibniz Institute DSMZ is working on expanding the database and applying the methodology to quantify non-monetary benefits arising from the use of digital sequence information of genetic resources.

63. A representative of the Leibniz Institute DSMZ participated in the sixth meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee on Capacity-building for the Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and is a member of the Steering Committee of the multilateral mechanism for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources, including the Cali Fund.

64. Representatives of the Secretariat participated in and contributed to several events organized by the Leibniz Institute DSMZ, including on streamlining compliance with access and benefit-sharing systems, examining trends in non-monetary benefit-sharing, and the “BBNJ” standardized batch identifier.

D. Cooperation with other organizations

65. The Secretariat cooperated with the interim secretariat of the multilateral mechanism for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources, including the Cali Fund, in particular by providing substantive support to the interim secretariat, such as through the preparation of the first draft of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Steering Committee.

66. A side event on genetic resources, associated traditional knowledge and the intellectual property system was held on the margins of a July 2026 meeting of the Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights under the World Trade Organization. The side event was co-organized by Bangladesh, Brazil, Colombia and India. The Secretariat of the Convention participated remotely in the event and made a presentation on the contribution of access and benefit-sharing to research and conservation and the sustainable use of biological diversity.

67. The Secretariat participated in the plenary meetings and intersessional working groups of the project entitled “Transformative environmental governance in the Anthropocene”, a multi-stakeholder action research process examining the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. Through this engagement, the Secretariat contributed to policy dialogues and knowledge exchanges on achievements, challenges and emerging opportunities related to strengthening implementation of access and benefit-sharing measures and advancing transformative approaches to environmental governance.

¹⁶ More information on the methodology agreed for this indicator can be found in the following metadata factsheet: <https://gbf-indicators.org/metadata/headline/C-2>.

¹⁷ The recording of the webinar is available at <https://absch.cbd.int/en/kb/tags/absch-announcement/Webinar-Recording-ABS-in-the-Global-Biodiversity-Framework-NBSAPs-and-monitoring-framework/67d43b4f4d49ea3b9f795931>.

¹⁸ The recording of the webinar is available at <https://absch.cbd.int/en/kb/tags/absch-announcement/Webinar-Why-IRCCs-matter-for-reporting-on-non-monetary-benefit-sharing/6925dd3682d37a5b7f085cc5>.

IV. Conclusions

68. The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources, is the third objective of the Convention and the subject of the Nagoya Protocol. It is also reflected in Goal C and Target 13 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Access and benefit-sharing is also a highly salient issue in numerous intergovernmental forums. In that regard, cooperation with a wide range of organizations has been and will continue to be important.

69. At the same time, a number of global and regional capacity-building and development projects that supported the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol have ended in recent years. Further efforts will be needed to support Parties in achieving the objectives of the Convention and the Nagoya Protocol, as well as Goal C and Target 13 of the Framework, and in responding to international developments in the field of access and benefit-sharing.
