

**ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS FOR
LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES**

PANAMA CITY, PANAMA, 15-16 JANUARY 2010

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

**Damaso LUNA (MEXICO)
Joseph Ronald TOUSSAINT (HAITI)**

7 January, 2010

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

OUR ENDEAVOR

“Towards a Protocol with functional institutional mechanisms and relevant policy and legal measures to ensure respect of binding commitments regarding access, subject to PIC and MAT, fair and equitable benefit-sharing, accountability and prevention of violations, protection of TK, enhance capacity-building, facilitate technology transfer and providing funding”

1. *Opening*

The GRULAC Regional Consultation on ABS will be opened by a representative of the host Government and by Mrs. Mara Murillo, Officer in Charge of UNEP’s Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean on behalf of UNEP.

This will be followed by opening remarks from the Co-Chairs of the Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing and the representative of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The purpose of the Consultation will be underlined by the GRULAC Co-Chairs in their interventions.

2. *Adoption of the agenda*

The draft agenda will be submitted for consideration and it will be adopted as presented or with the changes/additions proposed by the Participants.

3. *Contribution of the regional consultations for the intersessional process and for the preparation of ABS 9*

ABS Co-Chairs will be invited to present their views about this issue including strategic thinking and approaches for progress on the Montreal Annex (UNEP/CBD/WG-ABS/8/8, Annex), followed by comments or questions by Participants.

4. *Key elements of the Protocol*

Under this agenda item and drawing upon the Montreal Annex, Participants will be invited to exchange views and identify areas of coordinated actions/proposals with respect, among others, to the following issues¹:

- Access/Benefit-Sharing/Compliance
- Definitions, Preamble and Implementation related issues (institutional arrangements, ABS Clearing House and others)
- Traditional Knowledge² and Capacity-building
- Nature, objective, scope
- “Holistic” issues around the Regime -- e.g., policy coherence and architectural design of the regime as well as implementation

¹ The list of items includes proposals that were raised during the GRULAC consultations in Montreal.

² Participants may take into account the concepts and elements contained in document UNEP/CBD/WG-ABS/8/7: Views of the Ad Hoc Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions on the Elaboration and Negotiation of the International Regime on Access and Benefit-Sharing, available at: <http://www.cbd.int/wgabs8/doc/>

5. *The way to move forward: from a GRULAC Perspective*

- Intersessional process

Participants will have the opportunity to comment on the Co-Chairs “Montreal Road Map”, including ways and means to promote the full involvement of the region in the next steps of the international negotiation of the Protocol.

- Composition of GRULAC delegation to attend the 2nd Meeting of the Intersessional process.

Participants will be invited to present nominations for GRULAC Representatives at the inter-regional consultations, to be held back to back with the ninth meeting of the Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing.

- GRULAC standing vis-à-vis of other negotiations groups

Participants will be invited to discuss the best options and opportunities to meet with and to contact other regional and negotiating groups, in order to learn more about the position of each group and to promote the interests shared by GRULAC countries.

6. *Other matters*

Under this agenda item, Participants shall address other issues relevant to the objectives of the meeting that have not been covered by the specific Items of the agenda.

7. *Closure of the meeting*