



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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AD HOC OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING

Fourth meeting

Granada, Spain, 30 January - 3 February 2005

Item 10 of the provisional agenda*

STRATEGIC PLAN: FUTURE EVALUATION OF PROGRESS – THE NEED AND POSSIBLE OPTIONS FOR INDICATORS FOR ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND IN PARTICULAR FOR THE FAIR AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS ARISING OUT OF THEIR UTILIZATION: COMPILATION OF VIEWS AND INFORMATION PROVIDED BY PARTIES, GOVERNMENTS, RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND ALL RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its third meeting, in recommendation 3/5, the Working Group recognized the need for indicators for access to genetic resources and in particular for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, and associated innovations, knowledge and practices of indigenous and local communities.
2. It underlined that both process- and outcome-oriented indicators are needed for assessing progress in the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and towards the 2010 biodiversity target, and also recognized the need for further development of targets and indicators for access to genetic resources and in particular for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources.
3. The Working Group also noted the limited number of views provided to the Executive Secretary on the need, and possible options, for indicators for access to genetic resources, and in particular for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, and associated knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles, as reflected in the note prepared by the Executive Secretary on the subject for the third meeting of the Working Group (UNEP/CBD/WG-ABS/3/6).
4. In paragraphs 1 and 2 of the recommendation, it invited Parties, Governments, relevant international organizations, indigenous and local communities and all relevant stakeholders:
 - (a) To submit their views and information on the need and possible options for indicators for access to genetic resources and in particular for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the

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utilization of genetic resources, and associated knowledge, innovations, and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles;

(b) To submit their views and information on the further consideration and review of targets under goal 10 of the provisional framework for goals and targets annexed to decision VII/30.

5. In paragraph 3, the Executive Secretary was requested to prepare a compilation of the submissions received.

6. Notification 2005-044 of 14 April 2005 was sent to Parties, Governments, indigenous and local communities, international organizations and relevant stakeholders inviting them to submit their views and information on the issues above.

7. One submission was received from Canada and is included in section II.

II. COMPILATION OF VIEWS PROVIDED BY PARTIES, GOVERNMENTS, INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS ON THE NEED AND POSSIBLE OPTIONS FOR INDICATORS FOR ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND IN PARTICULAR FOR THE FAIR AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS ARISING OUT OF THEIR UTILIZATION

Canada

“Prior to ABSWG-3, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity grouped suggested indicators into two major categories: process-oriented and outcome-oriented indicators. Since some States have already put national ABS measures in place, while others (including Canada) are still working to identify what national measures may be needed, both process and outcome oriented indicators should be identified. Canada agrees with this division but notes that the number of indicators developed in each case could be limited in number to minimize the cost to Parties of collecting the necessary information.

Canada recognizes the importance of the 2010 target. To the extent that national ABS measures will help achieve the 2010 target, the development of indicators to highlight progress toward establishing such national measures is a positive step. It is also important to develop indicators that can measure whether the anticipated outcomes of these measures or other contractual ABS agreements is realized.

Process indicators could serve to gauge progress toward the establishment of both facilitated access measures at the national level and mechanisms for the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of their use within jurisdictions that have authority over the genetic resources in question. The following indicators might be considered as ways to measure both access and benefit-sharing:

- # of national jurisdictions with national focal points
- # of jurisdictions who have established the competent national authority for granting access
- % of total land within a country that has measures in place for those with jurisdiction or authority to grant prior informed consent
- # of jurisdictions who have in domestic policy or regulation mutually agreed terms in consistent with the Bonn Guidelines for use as a the foundation of negotiations between users and providers

Outcomes indicators could serve to measure whether established measures are leading to documented cases of access on one hand and the generation of quantifiable monetary or non-monetary benefits on the other.

- # of contracts between users and providers that contain benefit-sharing elements consistent with the Bonn Guidelines
- # of mechanisms established within national jurisdictions that direct benefits from ABS measures into support for conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

Once a suite of indicators is agreed upon, the collection of information for use in reporting and monitoring of progress toward Goal 10 of the Provisional Framework for Goals and Targets could take place through existing reporting procedures so as to be cost-effective and efficient. The CBD Clearing-house Mechanism would be the appropriate channel through which reporting from the Parties could be compiled and analyzed.

The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group in Indicators for Assessing Progress Towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target met in Montreal in October 2004. Identification of indicators for ABS was one of the issues to be discussed at the meeting. Unfortunately, no concrete work was done by the group as no ABS “expert” attended the meeting. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group referred the development of indicators for ABS to the CBD-ABS Working Group. Canada suggests that further work on indicators could reasonably be undertaken by an international organization with expertise in this area, such as the OECD, IUCN, or UNU-IAS.”
