



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/COP/8/INF/22
15 February 2006

ENGLISH ONLY

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Eighth meeting
Curitiba, Brazil, 20-31 March 2006
Item 22.3 of the provisional agenda*

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND COOPERATION

Synthesis report of information on national, regional and international information systems

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In order to develop meaningful and effective action to enhance the implementation of Articles 16 to 19 as well as related provisions of the Convention, the Conference of the Parties, by decision VII/29, adopted a programme of work on technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation. Element two of the programme of work provides for the development or strengthening of national, regional and international systems for the gathering and dissemination of relevant information on technology transfer and cooperation and technical and scientific cooperation, including the establishment of effective networks of electronic databases of relevant technology.

2. The preamble to the programme element further explained that activities under this programme element should build on existing initiatives and programmes with a view to maximizing synergy and avoiding the duplication of work, and should ensure accessibility of such systems for indigenous and local communities and all relevant stakeholders. It also explained that, at the international level, these systems, using the clearing-house mechanism, would provide, *inter alia*, information on the availability of relevant technologies, including their technical parameters, economic and social aspects, data on patents (owners and date of expiration), models of contracts and associated legislation; the identified technology needs of Parties, as well as case-studies and best-practices on measures and mechanisms to create enabling environments for technology transfer and technology cooperation.

3. Two activities under this programme element foresaw the compilation and synthesis of information on existing information systems for technology transfer and cooperation by the Executive Secretary:

(a) Under activity 2.2.1, the Executive Secretary was requested to undertake a compilation and synthesis of information on national and regional information systems for technology transfer and cooperation, including the identification of best-practices and of needs for further improvements, in particular in regard to the accessibility of such systems for indigenous and local communities and all relevant stakeholders as well as information on capacity and human resources available and needed;

* UNEP/CBD/COP/8/1.

(b) Under activity 2.4.2, the Executive Secretary was requested to undertake a compilation and synthesis of information on regional and international information systems, including best-practices and opportunities for further development, and make this information available through the clearing-house mechanism and other means, as appropriate.

4. The table annexed to the present document responds to the above requests. The table was prepared by initiating a web-based search for existing systems and by analyzing the systems found in accordance with the requirements spelt out in activities 2.2.1 and 2.4.2. The webpages of national clearing-houses were included in the search and analysis. By notification 133-2005, National Focal Points to the Convention and National Focal Points for the clearing house mechanism of the Convention were invited to peer review the compilation. Responses were subsequently received by: Australia, China, Germany and the United States. A review was also provided by the Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN).

5. A large number of information systems exist that offer, on national, regional and/or international levels, either *general* information on issues pertaining to technology transfer and cooperation, or on a number of scientific issues related to biodiversity, but not related to technology transfer, including for instance databases on taxonomic information. Only those information systems were selected to be included in the table if they had a *specific focus on technologies of relevance to the Convention* as defined by Article 16 (1), or if they provided tools to users to put such focus (e.g. by entering appropriate keywords into a search tool, as for instance in patent databases).

6. In light of the limited number of responses received from Parties on the invitation to review the present note, no claim for comprehensiveness of the compilation can be made. Rather, the compilation is to be understood as a first output in an ongoing effort to identify and analyse existing information systems of relevance under element two of the programme of work.

7. This table was also used as a basis for the development of proposals to enhance the clearing-house mechanism as a key mechanism for exchange of information on technologies and in the development of advice and guidance on the use of new information exchange formats, protocols and standards to enable interoperability among relevant existing systems of national and international information exchange. The development of these proposals was foreseen in activities 2.1.2 and 2.1.3 of the programme of work. They are made available for consideration by the Conference of the Parties in document UNEP/CBD/COP/8/19/Add.2.

8. As requested by activity 2.4.2, links to pertinent information systems were also included in the information database on technology transfer that is available on the provisional webpages on technology transfer and cooperation. The database offers the option of a more structured search on the information provided, including on existing information systems. The webpages are accessible under the clearing house mechanism of the Convention, at <www.biodiv.org>.

Annex

Compilation and synthesis of information on national, regional and international information systems for technology transfer and cooperation

Name of network	Geographical coverage	Languages used	Public / Private	Technology: public/ private	Relevance to Decision VII / 29 Annex Programme Element 2 Activity 2.1.2	Accessibility of system Activity 2.2.1	Info on resources available & needed Activity 2.2.1	Best practices Activity 2.2.1	Opportunities for development Activity 2.2.1
National Information Systems									
CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems http://www.cse.csiro.au/research/biodiversity.html	Australia (occasionally Asia)	English	Public	Public	This webpage gives an overview of the biodiversity research being carried out by CSIRO Sustainable Ecosystems with links to key research activities, publications and related links, including several CSIRO databases	The information is in English only and is relevant principally to Australian environments. It occasionally contains research in Asia conducted by CSIRO	Includes country-specific department names and information	Also provides information for the information/technology seeker to contact the experts. Is readily accessible to indigenous and local communities and all relevant stakeholders	Updated on a regular basis
The Austrian Environmental Technology Database: http://www.umweltechnik.at/en/index.php	Austria	German and English	Public	Private	The network was built for EST transfer	Although the user has the option to read the site in English or German, most of the documents and information are in German.	Includes contact information of the company supplying the technology.	The objective of the network is to promote Austrian EST world-wide. This is accomplished through a close collaboration with the Austrian companies	Having the option of navigating the site (documents and other) solely in English
The Aboriginal Mapping Network http://www.nativemaps.org/	B.C., Canada	English	Public	Public	Network created by BC's First Nations to map their community and environment	The network is specifically directed at First Nations. It only uses the English language which could limit its accessibility.	Mapping including satellite imagery; also includes training information: free on-line training, university training (courses specifically provided for First Nations and general courses).	Part of the data collected (particularly for Traditional Use Studies) is communicated to the government to integrate the results in the resource management plan.	This initiative would probably benefit from expanding throughout Canada therefore having a wider exchange of experiences.
WetKit http://www.wetkit.net/modules/1/	Canada	English, French	Public	Both	The network covers soft technologies relating to wetland conservation	Accessible to different audiences. The website's only topic is wetland	The tools are available through the web and can also be ordered	The range of tools available is quite large and available in different formats. Feedback is requested after using the tool.	include appropriate hard technologies

Name of network	Geographical coverage	Languages used	Public / Private	Technology: public/ private	Relevance to Decision VII / 29 Annex Programme Element 2 Activity 2.1.2	Accessibility of system Activity 2.2.1	Info on resources available & needed Activity 2.2.1	Best practices Activity 2.2.1	Opportunities for development Activity 2.2.1
Biodiversity Clearing House Mechanism of China http://www.biodiv.gov.cn	China	Chinese, English	Public	Public	Introduces the knowledge, dynamics and conservation technology for biodiversity in China	Having a website in two languages improving the communication of information. Offers open free access	Offers the <i>status quo</i> , trends and threats of China's biodiversity, disseminates policies, laws and regulations, action plan and activities, Access to a number of databases including a database on traditional Chinese medical plants/materials and to a retrieval system for patents	Provides access to database of traditional technologies (medicinal plants)	Further links to EST and biotechnology provided including database
Center for Environmentally Sound Technology Transfer (CESTT) http://www.cestt.org.cn/English/index.htm	China	Chinese, English	Public	Public	Promotes the transfer and adoption of environmentally sound technology (EST) (<i>inter alia</i> energy and water saving) by forming bridges between policy makers, technology suppliers, technology developers, financial institutions, and Chinese industry, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).	Having a website in two languages improving the communication of information. Offers open free access	Technical know-how, procedures, products and services, facility, organization and management of EST	N/A	Focus on technologies available and needed under the Convention
The French Ministry of Industry Database of Environmental Technology http://www.industrie.gouv.fr/base-tde/index.htm	France	French	Public	Private	The database consists of environmentally sound technologies	Possibility of language barrier.	Includes the description of the technology, the companies in France that have acquired it, the patent information, the economic and commercial implications of the technology	Providing references of case studies and links related to the technology.	Last time it was updated is in February 2004
Cleaner production Germany http://www.cleaner-production.de	Germany	English, German	Public	Private	Offers access to a range of possible EST to be used in different fields.	Having the website in two languages improves the communication of information. Offers open access.	No information on resources required to use technology. Offers a brief description of the technology with contact information.	N/A	Offers a means for potential users to express their needs related to technologies

Name of network	Geographical coverage	Languages used	Public / Private	Technology: public/ private	Relevance to Decision VII / 29 Annex Programme Element 2 Activity 2.1.2	Accessibility of system Activity 2.2.1	Info on resources available & needed Activity 2.2.1	Best practices Activity 2.2.1	Opportunities for development Activity 2.2.1
German Appropriate Technology and Ecoefficiency Programme (GATE). www.gtz.de/gate	Asia, Africa, South America	Mainly in English, although some elements in French, Spanish or German	Public		the governmental cooperation assists in disseminating appropriate technology to developing countries, among them EST.	This program targets developing countries and NGO working in the development sector.	The GATE offers a yearly seminar on appropriate technology (AT). It helps in developing local innovation by funding and assists in providing the AT to NGO.	Funding program to promote local innovations.	Since the internet is not widely used in developing countries, it might be hard to contact the GATE, unless they open more local offices.
A Guide to Integrated Coastal Zone Management http://www.netcoast.nl/	Netherlands	English	Public	Both	Soft technologies about managing the coastal zone	There is a demo available for some technologies, but for the full access it is required to order the software.	For some technologies, the manual is provided, for others, only the contact information. The requirements to download and use the software are mentioned	Different training possibilities about coastal management are mentioned	The following topics could be added: needs assessment and decision-making tools.
Russian Environmental Technologies http://ecotechru.chat.ru/english/index.htm	Russian Federation	Russian, English	Public	Private	National database of ESTs	Offers open access. Information was well organized making it simple to query the database and retrieve needed information.	Includes contact information of the company supplying the technology, and a brief description are provided.	N/A	Focus on technologies available and needed under the Convention
The Swedish Environmental Technology Network http://www.swedentech.com/	Sweden	Swedish, English, French, Spanish, Hungarian, Polish, Chinese, Slovakish, Romanian, Portuguese, Russian	Public	Private	The network provides different services in the field of EST.	It is easily accessible particularly thanks to its use of 11 languages.	Includes contact information of the company and their field of specialization. There are also a few case studies of how the network has facilitated the TT.	The case studies provide background on the company's success as well as information on how the network has enhanced that success.	There is no space for technologies needed.
Environmental Technology Opportunities Portal http://www.epa.gov/etop/	U.S.	English	Public	Private	Environmentally friendly technologies that aim at improving the environment.	The information is provided in English only, and it is limited to US products.	Contact information is indicated for each field. Technology developers have access to needed information.	The grant programs for SME promotes innovation.	More information about the technologies

Name of network	Geographical coverage	Languages used	Public / Private	Technology: public/ private	Relevance to Decision VII / 29 Annex Programme Element 2 Activity 2.1.2	Accessibility of system Activity 2.2.1	Info on resources available & needed Activity 2.2.1	Best practices Activity 2.2.1	Opportunities for development Activity 2.2.1
TechKnow3.0 http://www.techknow.org/index.cfm	U.S.	English	Public	Private	Includes environmental remediation and ozone protection technologies	The information is provided in English only, and it is limited to US products.	Includes a technical description, cost, contact information, patent information.	Includes information to assist in decision-making	The latest technologies date from 2004. There are only 18 technologies in the ozone protection database.
The National Environmental Technology Database http://www.sustainableusa.org/netd/	US	English	Public	Private	A database of companies that provide EST.	Information is well organized making it simple to query the database and retrieve needed information. The information is provided in English only.	Includes contact information and at times a description of the technology.	Users of the database may subscribe to listserve informing them of new technologies.	Links in the system need updating.
USDA - Agricultural Research Service http://www.ars.usda.gov/partnering/	U.S.	English	Public	Private. Technologies with their respective patents.	The ARS has created a platform for the exchange of information on technologies (including natural resources, biotechnology and other).	Information was well organized making it simple to query the database and retrieve needed information. The information is provided in English only.	Includes contact information. Some of the resources needed are described in the patent document of each technology.	The partnering initiative promotes the moving of the technology from the research to the marketplace.	To have a focus on EST.
BIODI http://biodi.sdsc.edu/	U.S.	English	Public	Public	The website has different soft technologies that help modelling the environment and other.	The site is intended for professionals and researchers.	The software tools are downloadable from the site and accompanied by a manual. The resources needed are mentioned.	The site focuses on software that helps in analysing ecological and environmental data only. By being more specialized in one field, the user is less lost by the multitude of existing technologies.	When the number of software will increase, it might be better to organize them under headings.

Name of network	Geographical coverage	Languages used	Public / Private	Technology: public/ private	Relevance to Decision VII / 29 Annex Programme Element 2 Activity 2.1.2	Accessibility of system Activity 2.2.1	Info on resources available & needed Activity 2.2.1	Best practices Activity 2.2.1	Opportunities for development Activity 2.2.1
The Sea Grant Nonindigenous Species Site (SGNIS) http://sgnis.org/ http://sgnis.org/publicat/96_22.htm	U.S.	English	Public	Both	An information system that gives access to soft technologies to monitor and reduce the occurrence of invasive species.	This information system is mainly directed at researchers and scientists.	Includes contact informations at the end of each paper. In some cases, resources needed are mentioned.	The availability of information on the technology.	Space for mentioning research needs.
National Biological Information and Infrastructure/ USGS	US	English Spanish	Public and private	Public and some private	NBII is a public/private partnership to make all biodiversity and biological information available to the public and decision makers.	The information is publicly available – free and open access.	NBII provides access to Datasets Training GIS Applications Tools Capacity Building	General environmental and biological information, tools, technologies and training provided to assist in decision-making, and for educational purposes	Offers technology, tools, metadata standards and training. Also provides these to international efforts on informatics and these are used by a number of public and private international organizations.
Regional Information Systems									
APEC Virtual Center for Environmental Technology Exchange http://www.apec-vc.org/	APEC countries	English	Public	Private	APEC Virtual Center has established a network between its members that facilitates the transfer of environmental technologies	The network is aimed at professionals that seek these technologies. Activity 2.3.1.(b)	Includes a brief description of the technology and the contact information.	The user gets the contact information of each company that offers the requested technology.	More description of technologies mentioned; space provide for users to comment on their experience in technology transfer.
APCTT http://www.apctt.org/	Asia and the Pacific	English	Public	Private	APCTT is a hub for the transfer of environmentally and socially responsible technologies.	There is a service fee for every successful transaction, which could limit the accessibility to smaller local companies.	Includes consulting services	A list of technologies needed and technologies provided exist. The APCTT provides matching and consulting services. In addition there is assistance for local SME.	To promote environmentally sound technologies to local SME by reducing the service fee. Some important links are inactive.

Name of network	Geographical coverage	Languages used	Public / Private	Technology: public/ private	Relevance to Decision VII / 29 Annex Programme Element 2 Activity 2.1.2	Accessibility of system Activity 2.2.1	Info on resources available & needed Activity 2.2.1	Best practices Activity 2.2.1	Opportunities for development Activity 2.2.1
European Community CHM http://biodiversity-chm.eea.eu.int/	E.U.	Mainly English, but some links and documents are in different languages too.	Public	Private	The national focal point provides information on EST.	The network provides information about EST developed by SME. It is aimed at anyone who has an interest in new environmental technologies.	Description of some of the technologies (around 200 in all) with contact information.	Promoting the R&D in SME.	Create a network where all the ESTs funded by the European Community and protected by IPR are included.
Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN)	Western Hemisphere (34 countries)	English Spanish Portuguese	Public and Private	Public and Private	The Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network is an Internet-based forum for technical and scientific cooperation that seeks to promote greater coordination among Western Hemisphere countries in the collection, sharing, and use of biodiversity information relevant to decision-making and education.	The information is available to the public free of charge.	IABIN provides access to biodiversity information in general, with a specific focus on Protected Areas, Species, Specimens, Invasives Species, Ecosystems and Pollinators. It also offers access to training, capacity building, GIS applications, and tools for decision makers.	One of the first regional biodiversity information networks to be established in the global biodiversity community.	The information to be offered by IABIN will assist environment decision makers throughout the region to implement informed environmental policies. It will also serve as an example for other regions of the World.
International Information Systems									
Name of network	Geographical coverage	Languages used	Public / Private	Technology: public/ private	Relevance to Decision VII / 29 Annex Programme Element 2 Activity 2.1.2	Accessibility of system Activity 2.2.1	Info on resources available & needed Activity 2.2.1	Best practices Activity 2.2.1	Opportunities for development Activity 2.2.1
BIOBIN http://www1.oecd.org/ehs/biobin/	UNIDO and OECD countries	English	Public	Private	BIOBIN has a list of biotechnology products relating genetic information	Information was well organized making it simple to query the database and retrieve needed information. The information is provided in English only.	Includes the name of the company (with sometime a contact name) and the name of the gene associated with the trait	UNIDO and OECD have joined efforts to avoid duplication between BINAS and BioTrack.	Provide the contact information of the company.

Name of network	Geographical coverage	Languages used	Public / Private	Technology: public/ private	Relevance to Decision VII / 29 Annex Programme Element 2 Activity 2.1.2	Accessibility of system Activity 2.2.1	Info on resources available & needed Activity 2.2.1	Best practices Activity 2.2.1	Opportunities for development Activity 2.2.1
China - US Energy & Environment Technology Data Service System http://www.us-china-eetc.org/	China USA	Chinese English	Public	Public	Strengthens technology transfer and cooperation in the field of energy and environmental protection between China and USA Provides integrated access to databases environmentally sound technology and recycle economy	Having a website in two languages improving the communication of information. Offers open free access	Offers information of the fundamental data of enterprises, products data, technological progress data, market information data, supply-demand information data and collaborative projects information data of Chinese and US enterprises.	Database integration/interoperability	Establishes platform for enterprises cooperation and technology transfer
EMERALD http://www.urban-emerald.net/	International	English	Public	Both	Network providing information on ESTs and decision-making tools as well as discussing other environmental fields like urban planning.	This site targets specially the urban managers. Some of the trainings are free. Accessibility is restricted to English speakers. Activity 2.3.1.(b)	The network provides contact information as well as trainings for some of the technologies. Activity 2.4.2.	Being directed at a specific audience, the search is more focused and less broad.	Having this website in other languages would probably broaden its audience.
ESTIS http://www.estis.net /	International	English for the main website, different languages for the ESTIS community	Public??	Private	ESTIS has created a community where there is an exchange of environmental information and ESTs	The website is intended for professionals, NGOs and governments. Access to communities of IT is not easy to find.	Provides a manual on how to build and use ESTIS.	N/A	N/A
FAO Biodec http://www.fao.org/biotech/inventory_admin/dep/default.asp	International	English, French, Arabic, Spanish and Chinese.	Public	Private	FAO Biotech collects and disseminates crop biotechnology information and techniques.	The website is easily accessible through its use of five main languages in developing countries. A login restricted to members is required to have access to more information	Includes country-specific department names and information.	Giving information on crop biotechnology by country (what are the departments / universities that have an interest and a role in the field).	More information provided for each project

Name of network	Geographical coverage	Languages used	Public / Private	Technology: public/ private	Relevance to Decision VII / 29 Annex Programme Element 2 Activity 2.1.2	Accessibility of system Activity 2.2.1	Info on resources available & needed Activity 2.2.1	Best practices Activity 2.2.1	Opportunities for development Activity 2.2.1
Greentie www.greentie.org	International	English	Public	Private	Greentie is a directory of companies that provide technologies that help in reducing greenhouse gas emissions	Information was well organized making it simple to query the database and retrieve needed information. The information is provided in English only.	A project broker is available to match needs and availabilities as well as the manual for using it. Contact information of the companies are provided. Activity 2.4.2.	The project broker facilitates the technology search	Starting April 2005, support for the service is no longer available, so the information is not always up-to-date. Continuous support would enhance the quality of the network.
The International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) http://www.icgeb.org/	International	English	Public		ICGEB conducts innovative research in life sciences for the benefit of developing countries. It strengthens the research capability of its Members through training and funding programmes and advisory services.		Biocomputing, some biotechnologies and some soft technologies for biosafety		
RunNet – rural University network	Africa, Caribbean, Western Europe	Spanish, French, English, German; (articles in original language only)	Public	Public	Needs oriented information system for rural development, including soft and hard technology. Covers e-journals/articles. Over 200 entries under biodiversity keyword	The use of four languages enhances the accessibility to information. Articles are in the original language only, but a reference to google translation is provided	Soft and hard technologies for sustainable use in the context of rural development in developing countries	Provides options to users to generate own e-journals	Search tool could include further guidance the design of data retrieval and of the types of information provided
SANet - Sustainable Alternatives Network http://www.sustainablealternatives.net/	International	English, Spanish, Portuguese	Public	Both	Promotes the transfer of clean technologies	The use of three main languages enhances the accessibility to information	A list of experts (by field of expertise) with their contact information is provided, as well as case studies and financial tools. Activity 2.4.2.	Putting the technology seeker in contact with experts enhances the quality of decision making. Activity 2.1.2	Information about the clean technology itself is missing.
The Global Directory for environmental Technology. http://eco-web.com	International	English	Public	Private	EST relating to transport, energy, wastewater, air pollution, recycling, soil preservation	Information was well organized making it simple to query the database and retrieve needed information. The companies are from 147 countries	Includes contact information of the companies. In addition, there is a forum where users can post articles and discuss their experiences. Activity 2.4.2.	Involving local companies from developing countries by providing their contact information.	Give a more detailed description of what type of technologies are used by the company, the level of skills required, and other. Activity 2.3.1. (b)

Name of network	Geographical coverage	Languages used	Public / Private	Technology: public/ private	Relevance to Decision VII / 29 Annex Programme Element 2 Activity 2.1.2	Accessibility of system Activity 2.2.1	Info on resources available & needed Activity 2.2.1	Best practices Activity 2.2.1	Opportunities for development Activity 2.2.1
UNEP - Division of Technology, Industry and Economics. http://www.unep.or.jp/	International	English, Japanese	Public	Public	It promotes the transfer of environmentally sound technologies through a downloadable interface.	Information was well organized making it simple to query the database and retrieve needed information.	Manual provided on using the tools (multi-language) as well as virtual training. System requirements for PALMOLARE: win95, win 98, win 2000 or win xp. Requirements for the ESTIS manual: PDF	Capacity building for sharing information on EST.	More tools.
UNEP - Capacity Building and Technology Support Database http://capacitybuilding.unep.ch/website/	International	English	Public	Both	The database gives an overview of the technologies and development projects being implemented in countries, among these are environmental technologies and projects	The information is easily accessible and well organized. A username and password are required for governments to record their requests for assistance in capacity building and technology support	This is a database of projects throughout the world, which gives an idea of the scope of resources available and no mention of resources needed.	This information system gives access to governments to request assistance in technology support. It can be searched using different parameters.	N/A
UNFCCC http://unfccc.int/2860.php	international	English	Public	Both	The CH promotes EST in order to combat climate change.	Accessibility to TT:CLEAR is through a free login. Except for possible language barrier, it is easy to navigate through the network.	Includes decision making tools, adaptation options, needs assessment. Activities 2.4.2. and 2.3.1.(b)	To include the decision making tools and other useful information at low or no cost.	Address relevance of technologies for CBD.
maESTRO II Directory - http://www.unep.or.jp/maestro2/	International	English	Public	Both	Promotes the exchange of environmentally sound technologies through a network.	Easily accessible because it can be acquired in different formats. Targets decision makers in governmental institutions and in organizations.	Indicates resources needed to download the version. All the contact information is available as well as pertinent information on the technology. Activity 2.4.2.	For every technology mentioned there is information about its cost, its cultural acceptability, effectiveness, advantages, disadvantages, level of skills required, etc. Activity 2.3.1. (b)	The fields of technologies included could be broadened.

Name of network	Geographical coverage	Languages used	Public / Private	Technology: public/ private	Relevance to Decision VII / 29 Annex Programme Element 2 Activity 2.1.2	Accessibility of system Activity 2.2.1	Info on resources available & needed Activity 2.2.1	Best practices Activity 2.2.1	Opportunities for development Activity 2.2.1
Patent databases									
European Patent Office http://ep.espacenet.com	International	English, French, German	Public	Private	A free online searchable database comprising over 50 million patent documents from around the world (worldwide database).	Search tools easy to use. Require some prior understanding of patent information including relevant keywords, but offers search by classification	Patent information	Offers search by classification	
Free patents online http://freepatentsonline.com/	International	English	Private	Private	Provides fast, free access to all US patents and patent applications, partial European data, free PDF downloading & free account features	Search tools easy to use. Require some prior understanding of patent information including relevant keywords	Patent information		Provide further information on search design and criteria including classifications

Name of network	Geographical coverage	Languages used	Public / Private	Technology: public/ private	Relevance to Decision VII / 29 Annex Programme Element 2 Activity 2.1.2	Accessibility of system Activity 2.2.1	Info on resources available & needed Activity 2.2.1	Best practices Activity 2.2.1	Opportunities for development Activity 2.2.1
GenericsWeb.com http://www.genericsweb.com/		English		Private	Provides relevant patent information for generic drugs.	Search tools easy to use. Require some prior understanding of patent information including relevant keywords	Patent information		Provide further information on search design and criteria including classifications

Name of network	Geographical coverage	Languages used	Public / Private	Technology: public/ private	Relevance to Decision VII / 29 Annex Programme Element 2 Activity 2.1.2	Accessibility of system Activity 2.2.1	Info on resources available & needed Activity 2.2.1	Best practices Activity 2.2.1	Opportunities for development Activity 2.2.1
Canadian Intellectual Property Office http://patents1.ic.gc.ca/	Canada	English, French	Public	Private	Access over 75 years of patent descriptions and images. It is possible to search, retrieve and study more than 1,500,000 patent documents.	Search tools easy to use. Require some prior understanding of patent information including relevant keywords	Patent information		Provide further information on search design and criteria including classifications
Japan Patent Information Organization (JAPIO) http://www.japio.or.jp/index.html	Japan	Japanese	Public	Private	Searchable online patent database		Patent information		
Government of India National Informatics Centre (NIC) http://pk2id.delhi.nic.in/	India	English	Public	private	One of the most comprehensive databases on the Patent Bibliography, providing <i>inter alia</i> access to the EPIDOS database (European Patent Information and Document Service).	Search tools easy to use. Require some prior understanding of patent information including relevant keywords	Patent information		Provide further information on search design and criteria including classifications
SurfIP-Intellectual Property Office of Singapore http://www.surfip.com/	Singapore	English	Public		The site provides a search engine covering a number of important patent databases (EPO, USPTO, IPOS, WIPO, SIPO, CIPO)	Search tools easy to use. Require some prior understanding of patent information including relevant keywords	Patent information		Provide further information on search design and criteria including classifications
