



# Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



Ref.: SCBD/SEL/VN/GD/66101

3 March 2009

## NOTIFICATION

### Information Portal related to the Negotiations of the International Regime on Access and Benefit-sharing

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that, in response to COP decisions IX/12, paragraph 23 and IX/32, paragraph 11, the Secretariat created an "Information Portal related to the Negotiations of an International Regime on ABS" now available at: <https://www.cbd.int/abs/ir/>.

The Information Portal has been developed to serve as a major hub for information related to the negotiation and elaboration of an International Regime on Access and Benefit-sharing. The Portal is designed to assist Parties and all relevant stakeholders during the negotiation of the Regime by facilitating access to information and resources of relevance to the negotiating process. It is *inter alia* possible:

- to search existing CBD documentation of relevance,
- to download an Information Kit on ABS for further dissemination,
- to check the calendar of events of relevance to the negotiating process, as well as
- to view or subscribe to receive latest news on access and benefit-sharing related issues and/or latest notifications and information on upcoming meetings.

Moreover, users can register events or submit other related information and search for external resources on ABS provided by other institutions, such as United Nations organizations, international organizations, non-governmental organisations and stakeholders.

Parties, governments, indigenous and local communities, as well as other stakeholders are encouraged to use the Portal and to promote it widely.

Furthermore, I would greatly appreciate any comments or suggestions to improve the Portal, so that it becomes a key tool in support of the negotiation process.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ahmed Djoghlaf  
Executive Secretary

To: CBD National Focal Points  
ABS National Focal Points



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COP 9 MOP 4 Bonn Germany 2008



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