

Ref.: SCBD/SEL/OJ/VN/SG/69952

18 December 2009

NOTIFICATION
Information on access and benefit-sharing measures

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that the database on access and benefit-sharing measures available at <http://www.cbd.int/abs/measures/> has been further improved. In addition to information on national or regional ABS measures, the database now also includes a matrix providing references to relevant provisions dealing with key ABS elements, such as National Focal Points, Competent National Authorities, Prior Informed Consent procedures, Mutually Agreed Terms including benefit-sharing, and others.

In a click, the users of the database will now be able to obtain an overview of the main provisions dealing with ABS at the national or regional level. However, the database will be useful only if it is comprehensive. Therefore, all Parties, Governments and relevant entities are invited to provide information regarding national or regional access and benefit-sharing measures not included in the database by filling the attached data entry form.

The form should be returned to the Secretariat at secretariat@cbd.int, or by fax: +1 514 288 6588, by **29 January 2010**. Parties, Governments and relevant entities are also encouraged to forward to the Secretariat a copy of the measure, preferably in **electronic form** (Word format would be appreciated), which will be made available on our website for information purposes. In addition, Parties and Governments are invited to provide information on an ongoing basis regarding new measures under development. Finally, I also invite any suggestions to help the Secretariat further improve the database in order to make it a most useful tool for all stakeholders.

I thank you for your continued collaboration and wish to reiterate the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary

To: ABS National Focal Points
CBD National Focal Points
Relevant Organizations

Database on Access and Benefit-sharing Measures

DATA ENTRY FORM

General guidelines for completing the form

Parties, Governments and other relevant entities are invited to fill out this form in order to make available, through the Clearing House Mechanism of the Convention, information regarding the measures adopted at national or regional level to address access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits, in accordance with Article 15 of the Convention. They are also encouraged to forward to the Secretariat **a copy of the measure; preferably in electronic form** (Word format would be appreciated).

In the event that more than one measure has been adopted at the national or regional level, Parties and relevant organizations are requested to fill in a separate form for each different type of measure.

Identification of level and name

- 1) In the second column, please indicate whether the measure has been undertaken at the regional, national, sub-national or community level.

	Level
Regional	
National	
Sub-national	
Community	
Other	

- 2) Please provide the name of the region or the country and, if applicable, the sub-national level (e.g. State, Province, etc.) or community within that country to which the measure applies:

Type of measure in place and official title

Please indicate whether the measure undertaken has taken the form of a national or regional strategy, policy, legislation or regulation.

Strategy	
Policy	
Legislation	
Regulation	
Other	

If other, please specify:

Please provide the official title of the measure:

Current status of the measure

Where applicable, please indicate whether the measure is still in draft form, or whether it has been adopted and has entered into force and if so, at which date it has been adopted and/or has entered into force.

Status	Date (Day/Month/Year)
Draft	
Adopted	
Entered into force	

Main elements covered by the measure

Please identify in the following table the relevant articles of the measure that address specific elements of access and benefit-sharing.

ABS Element	Relevant articles and sections
National Focal Point on ABS	
Competent National Authority	
Scope	
Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Procedures	
Mutually Agreed Terms (MATs), e.g. benefit-sharing	
Compliance Mechanisms	
Traditional Knowledge Associated to Genetic Resources	
Other	