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28 January 2015

NOTIFICATION

Call for Expressions of Interest to Participate in a Capacity Building Course on Establishing Legal Frameworks to Implement the Nagoya Protocol

Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to draw your attention to the attached call for expressions of interest from lawyers and policy officers of developing countries and countries with economies in transition that have ratified or acceded to the Protocol and those that are close to ratification/accession to participate in an upcoming capacity-building course on “Establishing Legal Frameworks to Implement the Nagoya Protocol”.

The course has been developed jointly by the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) as part of a broader collaborative capacity-building programme to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, which is funded by the Government of Japan through the Japan Biodiversity Fund.

The course is primarily intended for lawyers and policy officers (including ABS National Focal Points and Competent National Authorities) who are actively involved in designing and implementing domestic frameworks or advising on national processes to implement the Nagoya Protocol. The participants will be introduced to the core requirements of the Nagoya Protocol and key considerations for the design and implementation of domestic frameworks to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit-sharing.

The course will comprise three components: a mandatory 4-week preparatory e-learning session, a 5-day intensive face-to-face workshop, and follow-up peer-to-peer learning and knowledge-sharing through online networking and a discussion forum.

I invite countries that have ratified or acceded to the Protocol and those that are close to ratification/accession to encourage their lawyers and policy officers who meet the stipulated selection criteria to apply for the course. The minimum requirements are:

- A university degree, preferably related to law or public policy at the Masters or Ph.D. level
- Relevant working experience
- Working knowledge of English sufficient to participate actively
- Demonstrated interest and commitment to biodiversity and sustainable development issues
- Demonstrated leadership potential and communication skills
- Active engagement or demonstrated opportunity to actively engage with national processes to implement the Nagoya Protocol

To: ABS National Focal Points and CBD National Focal Points



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The application form for the course is available on the IDLO website at: <http://www.idlo.int/news/events/course-legal-frameworks-implement-nagoya-protocol> and also on the ABS Clearing-House at: <https://absch.cbd.int/partners/idlo/events>.

The expression of interest, including a duly completed application form, a cover letter highlighting the applicant's relevant experience, interests and motivation for taking the course; as well as the applicant's Curriculum Vitae **should be submitted directly to IDLO via e-mail: AichiLaw@idlo.int**.

Please note that the **deadline for application is 22 February 2016**. The selected candidates from developing countries and countries with economies in transition will receive funding support to cover travel and accommodation costs and will be informed by 28 March 2016.

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

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary

Enclosure

ESTABLISHING LEGAL FRAMEWORKS TO IMPLEMENT THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL



CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM LAWYERS AND POLICY OFFICERS

Application Deadline: 22 February 2016
E-Learning Sessions: 18 April - 13 May 2016
Face-to-Face Workshop: 16-20 May / 23-27 May / 5-9 September / 12-16 September 2016

Following the entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol in October 2014, many countries are now actively engaged in making the Protocol operational. An early challenge in the Protocol's implementation is building the necessary capacity to enable countries to establish new or amend existing domestic ABS legislative, administrative and policy measures. Each country will need to define its own approach tailored to its own needs and priorities. In this regard, the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD), with funding from the Japan Biodiversity Fund, are implementing a joint capacity-building programme to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. This course covers key themes and presents the latest knowledge available related to the establishment of domestic ABS legislative, administrative and policy measures.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

The course is designed to build the capacity of lawyers and policy officers actively involved in designing and implementing domestic frameworks or advising on national processes to implement the Nagoya Protocol.

WHAT WILL PARTICIPANTS LEARN?

The course will introduce participants to the core requirements of the Nagoya Protocol, key considerations for the design and implementation of ABS frameworks, and the options available based on country experiences and lessons learned.

GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES

After the course, participants will be able to provide advice on actions and approaches to move forward national processes to build legislative and regulatory frameworks to support implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES

In particular, at the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- describe the concept of ABS, its formulation under the Nagoya Protocol, and its relation to other international and regional instruments related to biodiversity, agriculture, intellectual property etc.;
- outline the variety of ABS policy objectives and identify legal options to achieve these policies;
- identify key elements of the Protocol and the legal approaches taken by countries to date, and options available, to operationalize these elements;
- advise on actions that can be taken to facilitate effective legal drafting and inclusive stakeholder consultation processes;
- elaborate legal roadmaps focusing on the situation in their own countries and regions that outline priority actions to be taken to advance national legislative and regulatory processes to implement the Protocol; and
- demonstrate communication and facilitation skills to act as legal advisers to governments and other stakeholders on issues related to Protocol implementation.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 22 FEBRUARY 2016

Participants will gain access to several experiential learning tools, including weekly e-learning sessions from 18 April to 13 May, an interactive face-to-face workshop (various dates), and ongoing peer-to-peer knowledge exchange through IDLO's Global Network for Biodiversity Lawyers. The workshop will be delivered four times during 2016 and candidates are requested to indicate their preferred week(s) within the application form.

Participants who are selected will receive an invitation to attend the e-learning sessions and one of the four workshops only and will be notified of their dates and venue by 28 March 2016.

Selected candidates from developing countries will receive funding to cover travel and accommodation costs.

TRAINING METHODOLOGY

The course takes a blended approach to learning:

- **Mandatory e-learning sessions** for 4 weeks to learn about the foundational concepts on ABS and Protocol implementation;
- **Interactive face-to-face workshop** held for 5-days to discuss key challenges and legal options, prepare legal roadmaps tailored to country contexts, and build communication and facilitation skills; and
- **Access to the Global Network on Biodiversity Law** where participants can access updated resources, latest news and continue peer-to-peer learning with fellow participants and experts.

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, participants will receive a Certificate of Completion and invitation to join the IDLO Alumni Network.

E-LEARNING SESSIONS

18 April – 13 May 2016

One session per week for 4 weeks, 4-6 hours / week

The e-learning sessions will introduce the main substantive themes and processes to consider when designing legislative, administrative and policy measures for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, including options for setting ABS policies and choosing legal approaches. Participants will be introduced to the following **six key elements of the Protocol**:

- the establishment or designation of appropriate **institutional arrangements** for the implementation of the Protocol, including entities to provide relevant information, grant access, negotiate mutually agreed terms, as well as monitor and check compliance;
- **access requirements** and procedures for obtaining prior informed consent (PIC);
- the rules for **fair and equitable benefit-sharing**, and defining **mutually agreed terms**;

- **traditional knowledge** (TK), and associated rules for access and benefit sharing;
- **monitoring and compliance mechanisms**; and
- **complementary measures** that can support the successful implementation of ABS legal measures.

FACE-TO-FACE WORKSHOP

5 day workshop, dates and venue vary

National processes to ratify and operationalize the Nagoya Protocol will be unique to each country, and thus, there is a need to translate the general requirements of the Nagoya Protocol into country-tailored legal frameworks. Participants will be invited to attend a five-day interactive face-to-face workshop to discuss approaches taken by countries to date and identify key steps towards implementation and possible options in national ABS processes. The sessions will be tailored to the identified needs of the participants with:

- **peer-to-peer knowledge sharing** sessions on country experiences relevant to specific challenges of implementation raised by participants;
- **working sessions to design national legal roadmaps**, including stakeholder analysis, gap analysis, selection of legal measures, legal implementation plans; and
- **practical skills sessions** designed to strengthen participants' leadership, facilitation, communication and presentation skills.

ONLINE NETWORKING & DISCUSSION FORUM

Ongoing from 1 April to 31 December 2016

Upon acceptance to the course, participants will be invited to join the **Global Network on Biodiversity Law**. The Network will host expert chat sessions on key themes of Protocol implementation, issue monthly newsletters, and maintain updated libraries with latest resources. Participants will be invited to ask questions and start discussions with fellow experts and national legal and policy practitioners on the current challenges faced and emerging solutions.

For more information and to access the application form, please go to <http://www.idlo.int/news/events/course-legal-frameworks-implement-nagoya-protocol> or contact IDLO at AichiLaw@idlo.int.

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