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1 December 2017

NOTIFICATION

Call for Expressions of Interest to Participate in the Capacity-building Programme on Establishing Measures to Implement the Nagoya Protocol

Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that the Secretariat in partnership with the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) is launching the second phase of a capacity-building programme to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) with the financial support of the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the European Union, the ABS Capacity Development Initiative and other partners.

I invite countries that have ratified or acceded to the Protocol and those that are close to ratification/accession to encourage their legal and policy officers actively involved in designing and implementing domestic frameworks or advising on national processes to implement the Protocol to apply to the programme.

In 2016, three training courses on “Establishing Legal Frameworks to Implement the Nagoya Protocol” were successfully hosted. The Secretariat has renewed its collaboration with IDLO to host six more regional training courses to take place in 2018.

The 2018 course on “Establishing Measures to Implement the Nagoya Protocol” is 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 (see attached course description for more details).

The course will comprise three components: a mandatory 6-week preparatory e-learning session, a 5-day intensive face-to-face workshop, and follow-up peer-to-peer learning and knowledge sharing through an online discussion and networking forum. The six regional face-to-face workshops are tentatively planned for:

1. Central Africa (in French): 9 to 13 April;
2. Asia (in English): 28 May to 1 June;
3. Latin America (in Spanish): 18 to 22 June;
4. Pacific Islands (in English): 23 to 27 July;
5. Central Eastern Europe (in English): 10 to 14 September;
6. Western Africa (in French): 17 to 21 September.

To: ABS National Focal Points and CBD National Focal Points (where ABS focal points have not yet been designated)

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

The application process is competitive as there are a limited number of spots available per course. The following criteria will be taken into consideration during the selection process:

- a. A university degree, preferably related to law or public policy at the Master's or Ph.D level;
- b. Degree of engagement with national processes related to the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol;
- c. Demonstrated leadership potential and communication skills;
- d. Availability and commitment to complete the 6-week online training modules and 5-day face-to-face workshop.

To apply, please visit the IDLO website at <http://www.idlo.int/news/events/course-legal-frameworks-implement-nagoya-protocol>. The application consists of submitting a duly completed application form, a Curriculum Vitae, a cover letter highlighting the applicant's relevant experience, interests and motivation for taking the course as well as a letter of endorsement by the ABS National Focal Point or CBD National Focal Point (when an ABS focal point has not yet been designated).

Please note that the deadline for applications is **15 January 2018**. Selected candidates from developing countries and countries with economies in transition will receive funding to cover travel, accommodation and meals for the face-to-face workshop.

I thank you for your continued cooperation and support for the work of the Nagoya Protocol.

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

Cristiana Paşca Palmer, PhD
Executive Secretary



IDLO – SCBD CAPACITY BUILDING COURSE

ESTABLISHING MEASURES TO IMPLEMENT THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Following the entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing (ABS) in October 2014, many countries are now engaged in making the Protocol operational. A key challenge in the Protocol's implementation involves establishing new or amending existing domestic ABS legislative, administrative and policy measures. Each country will need to define its own approach tailored to its own needs and priorities.

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) and the International Development Law Organization (IDLO) are implementing a joint capacity-building programme to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol with financial support from the Japan Biodiversity Fund and the European Union. The programme offers training opportunities through regional courses that will cover key themes and present the latest knowledge available related to the establishment of domestic ABS legislative, administrative and policy measures.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

The course is designed for 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 to date.

GENERAL COURSE OBJECTIVES

After completing the course, participants will be able to provide advice on actions and approaches to move forward national processes on establishing legislative and regulatory frameworks aiming at the 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 relationship with other international instruments related to ABS;
- 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 or complete 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 the Protocol's implementation.

TRAINING METHODOLOGY

The course takes a blended approach to learning:

- > **Mandatory e-learning sessions** for 6 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 ABS 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

1-2 modules per week for 6 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.

Designing ABS measures – An introduction

- > **Module 1 - Legal reform**

Initial steps to support the design of ABS measures

- > **Module 2 - Policy-setting**
- > **Module 3 - Institutional arrangements**

What are the core elements of ABS measures?

- > **Module 4 - Access to genetic resources**
- > **Module 5 - Benefit-sharing**
- > **Module 6 - Compliance**
- > **Module 7 - Indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs)**

How to build ABS measures that work?

- > **Module 8 - Supportive measures**

FACE-TO-FACE WORKSHOP

5 day workshop with varying dates and venues

National processes to ratify and operationalize the Nagoya Protocol are unique to each country and there is a need to translate the general requirements of the Protocol into country-tailored legal frameworks.

Participants will be invited to attend a 5-day interactive face-to-face workshop to discuss approaches taken by countries to date and identify key steps towards implementation and possible options. The sessions will be tailored to the needs identified by participants:

- > **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 and legal implementation plans; and
- > **practical skills sessions** designed to strengthen participants' leadership, facilitation, communication and presentation skills.

In 2018, six face-to-face regional workshops are planned with tentative dates shown below (subject to change):

- > Central Africa (in French): 9-13 April
- > Asia (in English): 28 May-1 June
- > Latin America (in Spanish): 18-22 June
- > Pacific Islands (in English): 23-27 July
- > Central Eastern Europe (in English): 10-14 September
- > Western Africa (in French): 17-21 September

ONLINE NETWORKING & DISCUSSION

Ongoing from February to December 2018

Upon acceptance to the course, participants will be invited to join the **Global Network on ABS Law**. The Network will host expert chat sessions on key themes of Protocol implementation, issue quarterly newsletters and maintain updated libraries with latest resources.

Participants will be invited to ask questions and start discussions on the current challenges faced and emerging solutions with fellow experts and national legal and policy practitioners from around the world.



APPLICATION PROCESS AND DEADLINE

To apply, please visit the IDLO website at <http://www.idlo.int/news/events/course-establishing-measures-implement-nagoya-protocol-2017-2018>. **Applications can be submitted online or be sent via email to ABSlnetwork@idlo.int by 15 January 2018.** The application consists of submitting a duly completed application form, a Curriculum Vitae, a cover letter highlighting the applicant's relevant experience, interests and motivation for taking the course, as well as a letter of endorsement by the ABS National Focal Point or CBD National Focal Point (when an ABS focal point has not yet been designated).

The process is competitive and there are a limited number of spots available per course. The following criteria will be taken into consideration during the selection process:

- A university degree, preferably related to law or public policy at the Master's or Ph.D level;
- Degree of engagement with national processes related to the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol;
- Working knowledge of the language in which the face-to-face workshop will be held, e.g. English, French or Spanish;
- Demonstrated leadership potential and communication skills;
- Availability and commitment to complete the 6-week online training course and the 5-day face-to-face workshop.

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

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