

NOTIFICATION

Discussion Forum and Webinar on Criteria to Consider for Policy Options on Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources

Dear Madam/Sir,

Further to notification [2020-087](#) issued on 10 November 2020, I am pleased to announce that the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, with the guidance of the Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, Mr. Francis Ogwal and Mr. Basile van Havre, is organizing a fourth webinar as part of the global webinar series on digital sequence information on genetic resources and an online discussion forum, as follows:

- A webinar on Criteria for Assessing DSI Policy Options, to be held on **21 April 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. (EDT)**. The webinar will also kick off the online discussion.
- An online discussion forum covering three topics:
 - Categories of policy options, starting **21 April**
 - Potential criteria for assessing policy options, starting **21 April**
 - Policy options feasibility and appropriateness, starting **24 April**

All channels **will close on 2 May 2021**. The discussion forum page is <https://www.cbd.int/dsi-gr/forum.shtml>.

The online discussion forum will enable Parties and stakeholders to share information and views on policy options and evaluation criteria that have emerged to date, noting that there may be others that have not yet been captured. It will also focus on synthesizing proposed **criteria for assessing policy options** with regard to digital sequence information on genetic resources.

Participants who wish to take part in the event can register **by 19 April 2021** by clicking on the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/AdsGJwgNJD>. After registering, they will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information on how to join the webinar and the discussion forum.

The webinar will be held in English with simultaneous interpretation in Spanish and French and will be recorded and made available on the CBD website to accommodate those who will not be able to take part. The online discussion forum will be held in English only. Further information on the DSI webinar series, including recordings of the first three webinars, is available on the DSI webinar series webpage at: <https://www.cbd.int/article/dsi-webinar-series-2020>. Furthermore, a paper summarizing the policy options presented in webinar 3 is available at the following link: <https://www.cbd.int/abs/DSI-webinar/DSIPolicyOptions2021.pdf>.

I look forward to your active participation in this event.

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

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema
Executive Secretary

To: CBD National Focal Points, ABS National Focal Points, Cartagena Protocol Focal Points, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations

