



NOTIFICATION

Submission of views on issues for further consideration for digital sequence information on genetic resources

Dear Madam/Sir,

The fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing each adopted decisions on digital sequence information on genetic resources (decisions [15/9](#) and [NP-4/6](#), respectively).

In decision 15/9, the Conference of the Parties decided to establish a multilateral mechanism for benefit-sharing from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources, including a global fund. It also established a fair, transparent, inclusive, participatory and time-bound process to further develop and operationalize the mechanism. Among other things, this process includes the establishment of an Ad hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Benefit-Sharing from the Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources to undertake further development of the multilateral mechanism, including the elements identified in the annex to the decision and to make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting. The process also includes the submission of views on the issues set out in the annex.

Accordingly, further to decision 15/9, paragraph 20, I am pleased to invite Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations to submit views on the issues set out in the annex to decision 15/9. The list of issues is reproduced in the annex to this notification.

Pursuant to paragraph 21 of the decision, these submissions will be compiled and synthesized, and made available to the Ad hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Benefit-Sharing from the Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources.

Kindly submit your views and relevant information as soon as possible, but **no later than 15 March 2023**. Please note that submissions should be sent through an official letter addressed to the Executive Secretary by e-mail to secretariat@cbd.int.

Please also note that further information on the timeline of activities on digital sequence information on genetic resources for the intersessional period will be provided in due course following consultations with the COP Bureau.

I thank you for your cooperation and continued support to the Convention and its Nagoya Protocol.

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

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema
Executive Secretary

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



Annex

Issues for further consideration (reproduced from the Annex to decision 15/9)

- (a) Governance of the fund;
- (b) Triggering points for benefit-sharing;
- (c) Contributions to the fund;
- (d) Potential to voluntarily extend the multilateral mechanism to genetic resources or biological diversity;
- (e) Disbursement of monetary benefits, including information on geographical origin as one of the criteria;
- (f) Non-monetary benefit-sharing, including information on geographical origin as one of the criteria;
- (g) Other policy options for the sharing of benefits from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources, including as identified through further analysis as referred to in paragraphs 6 and 7 of decision 15/9;
- (h) Capacity development and technology transfer;
- (i) Monitoring and evaluation and review of effectiveness;
- (j) Adaptability of the mechanism to other resource mobilization instruments or funds;
- (k) Interface between national systems and the multilateral mechanism on benefit-sharing;
- (l) Relationship with the Nagoya Protocol;
- (m) Role, rights and interests of indigenous peoples and local communities, including associated traditional knowledge;
- (n) Role and interests of industry and academia;
- (o) Linkages between research and technology and the multilateral mechanism on benefit-sharing;
- (p) Principles of data governance.