



## COMMUNIQUÉ

### **Informal meeting on implementation of Articles 19 and 20 of Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing**

*Montreal, 1 March 2013* – An informal meeting for government experts and relevant stakeholders to discuss model contractual clauses, voluntary codes of conduct, guidelines and best practices and/or standards, as set out in Articles 19 and 20 of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization, will be held in Tokyo, Japan, on 25-26 March 2013.

The informal meeting is organized with the financial and organizational support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Articles 19 and 20 of the Nagoya Protocol require Parties to the Protocol to encourage, as appropriate, the development, update and use of sectoral and cross-sectoral model contractual clauses for mutually agreed terms as well as the development, update and use of voluntary codes of conduct, guidelines and best practices and/or standards in relation to access and benefit-sharing. The outcomes from the informal meeting will contribute to discussions on this issue at the third meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol.

The Nagoya Protocol was adopted in October 2010, at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya, Japan. Ninety-two Parties had signed the Protocol at the closure of signature on 1 February 2012, and to date, 14 have ratified or acceded to the Protocol.

At the informal meeting, participants from different institutions and organizations will provide an overview of existing model contractual clauses, codes of conduct, guidelines and best practices or standards and share views and experiences on their implementation. This will be an opportunity to discuss challenges and opportunities in the development and use of these tools. It will also assist governments in their implementation of the Nagoya Protocol by increasing awareness of different approaches used by relevant sectors involved in access and benefit-sharing activities.

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, said: “This informal meeting will facilitate the sharing of experience between government experts and stakeholders on the development and implementation of model contractual clauses and voluntary codes of conduct, guidelines and best practices or standards, which are key tools for engaging stakeholders and the private sector in the implementation of the Protocol.”



**Convention on  
Biological Diversity**

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Atsushi Suginaka, Director, Global Environment Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, said, “Article 19 and 20 is indispensable to achieve the objectives of the Protocol – the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits, the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components. I believe this informal meeting, in which diverse experts from around the world frankly exchange their opinions and experiences, will form a useful basis of the discussions to be held in the forthcoming Intergovernmental Committee.”

The informal meeting will be held at Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo, 2-2-1 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-Ku, Tokyo. The working language of the meeting will be English.

Those wishing to participate in the informal meeting are invited to visit the website:

[https://www.ias.unu.edu/sub\\_page.aspx?catID=8&ddlID=2509](https://www.ias.unu.edu/sub_page.aspx?catID=8&ddlID=2509).

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