

# Setting up a Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Access and Benefit-Sharing for Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

Side-Event at WG ABS 9, Cali, Colombia  
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# Introduction

- Building upon previous work on ABS for GRFA carried out under the framework of the CGRFA
- Bringing together stakeholders from the main sub-sectors in the food and agriculture sector (animal, plant, microbial, aquatic, forest, invertebrate)
- Creation of a multi-stakeholder expert dialogue to:
  - Compare use and exchange practises in the different sub-sectors and identify commonalities and differences
  - Assess the possible implications of typical ABS measures on those use and exchange practises
  - Formulate guiding principles for addressing ABS for GRFA and identify possible innovative solutions for ABS in the FA sector

# Purpose of the Dialogue

- Facilitate the exchange of knowledge, experiences, views and ideas among the different sub-sectors
- Build a common understanding of the specific characteristics, problems and needs of the different sub-sectors and the food and agriculture sector as a whole in regards to ABS
- Raise awareness, generate knowledge and build capacity of stakeholders and user communities in the food and agriculture sector
- Enhance their participation in national and international ABS discussions and decision making processes
- Raise awareness and provide information on the perspectives of the agriculture sector to policy makers and administrators
- Contribute to the CGRFA's further work on ABS

# Main Output of the Dialogue

Guide the preparation of a study for the CGRFA on:

*“Access and benefit-sharing for genetic resources for food and agriculture – Current use and exchange practises, commonalities, differences and user community needs”*

The study will include:

- Summary of current use and exchange practises in the main subsectors
- Comparative analysis of commonalities and differences among the main sub-sectors
- Assessment of potential impact of typical ABS scenarios on use and exchange practises
- Compilation of principles and innovative solutions, including arrangements and mechanisms, for addressing ABS in the FA sector

# Work Process

- Two multi-stakeholder expert meetings
- Written consultations in between the meetings and after the second meeting
- First meeting to review initial chapters of the study and to provide outline and identify elements for following chapters
- Written consultations to review in depth different chapters of the study
- Second meeting to finalize full study and identify areas of consensus and reasons for disagreement among stakeholders

# Next Steps and Milestones

- Project started on 15 March 2010
- Identification of stakeholders and consultations will be initiated during the coming weeks
- First multi-stakeholder expert meeting scheduled for fall 2010
- Progress report at COP 10 in Nagoya
- Study to be finalized in summer 2011

# Thank you!

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