

The side event **The concept Genetic Resources & ABS and the Interfaces with other International Frameworks** aimed at presenting two recent publications by the Fridtjof Nansen Institute. Due to the high number of participants and the fruitful discussion on the paper about 'genetic resources' which was commissioned by the Secretariat, the other study was postponed to a special side event later in the week. About 90 participants attended the side event about '*Genetic Resources in the CBD: The Wording, the Past, the Present and the Future*' by Schei, Peter Johan and Morten Walløe Tvedt published as FNI Report 4/2010. Lysaker, FNI, 2010, 24 p.

This report, '*Genetic Resources in the CBD: The Wording, the Past, the Present and the Future*', aims at contributing to the development of an International Regime on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) by clarifying the concept of 'genetic resources' as it has emerged and keeps evolving. This is done particularly in light of the new knowledge and understanding developed in genomics and proteomics since 1992, the establishment of ex situ collections of genetic material and data bases of genetic information, the emerging global markets for these resources, and recent developments in modern biotechnology, biochemistry and synthetic biology. It takes a look at several examples of different ways in which the term 'genetic resources' is used in other international arenas than the CBD. The concept 'genetic resources' seems to be a dynamic one which has potential to grasp the changing knowledge and technology.

This report has also been published as Information Document UNEP/CBD/WG-ABS/9/INF/1 at the 9th meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing (WG ABS 9) in Cali, Colombia, 22-28 March 2010.