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23 February 2017

NOTIFICATION

Submission of the Interim National Report on the Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and Publication of Information on the ABS Clearing-House

Madam/Sir,

The purpose of this notification is to invite the submission of the interim national report on the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and the publication of information in the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House (ABS Clearing-House).

Submission of the interim national report

In decision NP-1/3, paragraph 4, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol (COP-MOP) requests Parties to the Protocol to submit an interim national report on the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, as called for under Article 29 of the Protocol, twelve months prior to the third meeting of the COP-MOP. The decision also welcomes submissions of relevant information by non-Parties.

Accordingly, Parties and non-Parties are invited to submit to the Secretariat their interim national report, through the ABS Clearing-House, **as soon as possible and no later than 1 November 2017**, in the format and following the guidelines for submission contained in decision NP-1/3.

Preparation of the interim national report

When preparing the report, it is recommended that countries involve all relevant stakeholders in order to ensure a participatory and transparent approach to its development. In addition, countries are:

- Encouraged to include information in their interim national reports on difficulties and challenges related to implementation of the Protocol in line with decision NP 2/3, paragraph 4;
- Invited to pay particular attention to providing information on the implementation of the provisions of the Protocol related to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources held by indigenous peoples and local communities, with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, when preparing and submitting their interim national reports, in line with decision NP-2/10, paragraph 3; and
- Invited to submit information on their experiences related to the mobilization of resources in support of the implementation of the Protocol, as well as on the status of funds mobilized in line with decision NP-1/7, paragraph 8.

To: ABS National Focal Points and CBD National Focal Points (where ABS focal points have not yet been designated)

How to submit the interim national report

Countries should submit the report in an official language of the United Nations and should use the online version of the format available at the following address: <https://absch.cbd.int/en/register/NR/new>.¹

Only if it is not technically feasible to submit online, Parties may resort to offline submissions using the form available on the ABS Clearing-House². Countries should send the report via email to the Secretariat (secretariat@cbd.int), and include a scanned copy signed by the ABS Clearing-House publishing authority.

Publication of information in the ABS Clearing-House

In accordance with Article 14, paragraph 2, of the Protocol, and in line with decision NP 2/2, paragraph 11, Parties are urged to publish all mandatory information available at the national level on the ABS Clearing-House, as soon as possible. They are also urged to ensure that the information published is complete and relevant and kept up-to-date, with a view to having all existing information available in the ABS Clearing-House by COP-MOP 3.

In addition, Parties are urged to make permits or their equivalents available to the ABS Clearing-House so that they can constitute internationally recognized certificates of compliance (in line with paragraph 5 of the same decision).

Non-Parties are also encouraged to provide the ABS Clearing-House with relevant information as soon as possible (paragraph 12 of the same decision).

In order to make national information available on the ABS Clearing-House, countries first need to nominate a publishing authority. Countries that have not yet designated their publishing authority are kindly requested to do so at their earliest convenience. The designation can be done by the national focal point on access and benefit-sharing, online³ or offline⁴.

The Secretariat is available to provide support for the publication of information in the ABS Clearing-House and to assist in the submission of the interim national report. For any questions or assistance, please contact absch@cbd.int. More information is available on the ABS Clearing-House (<https://absch.cbd.int/about>).

Information submitted through the interim national report, as well as through the ABS Clearing-House, will be taken into account by the Executive Secretary in the preparation of documentation for consideration by the Compliance Committee, the second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, and the third meeting of the COP-MOP.

I thank you for your continued cooperation and support of the work of the Nagoya Protocol.

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

David Cooper
Deputy Executive Secretary
Officer-in-Charge

¹ More information on how to submit the interim national report through the ABS Clearing-House is available in a step-by-step guide available at: <http://www.cbd.int/abs/doc/guides/NR.pdf>

² Which can be downloaded in MS Word format: ([en](#) | [fr](#) | [es](#) | [ru](#) | [ar](#) | [zh](#))

³ For online designations more information is available in a step-by-step guide available at: <https://www.cbd.int/abs/doc/guides/UserManagement.pdf>

⁴ For offline designations please use the following common format in MS Word format: <http://www.cbd.int/abs/doc/commonformats/ABSCH-PA-NAU.doc> and submitted to the Executive Secretary by fax to +1 514 288 6588 or by email as a scanned attachment to secretariat@cbd.int