



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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NOTE

from: General Secretariat
to: Delegations

Subject: Outcomes of the First meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity (ICNP-1) (Montreal, Canada, 6 to 10 June 2011)
- Information note by the Presidency and the Commission

Delegations will find annexed an information note from the Presidency and the Commission on the above topic, which will be dealt with under "other business" at the meeting of the Council (Environment) on 21 June 2011.

Outcomes of the First meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity (ICNP-1) (Montreal, Canada, 6 to 10 June 2011)

- Information note by the Presidency and the Commission -

General evaluation of the meeting

ICNP-1 was preceded by a one-day meeting to elect its Bureau and agree on other organisational matters. The meeting was attended by over 300 participants, representing governments, intergovernmental organisations and NGOs, local authorities, indigenous and local communities, the research community and the private sector.

Following the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol, the international community now needs to shift its attention from negotiating a legally binding instrument to agreeing on its implementation. This meeting was the first step in this direction.

Its main objective was to launch preparatory work to advance the preparations for the Protocol's entry into force and for the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP 1) that may take place in India in October 2012.

The Presidency, the Commission and the Member States cooperated closely to ensure a positive outcome in line with the agreed EU and its Member States positions.

ICNP-1 adopted recommendations on further work towards establishing ¹:

- Modalities of operation of the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House;
- Measures to assist in capacity-building and development, and the strengthening of human resources and institutional capacities in developing countries and Parties with economies in transition;

¹ They are published on the webpage of the Convention on Biological Diversity (<http://www.cbd.int/absicnp1/insession/>)

- Measures to raise awareness of the importance of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge;
- Cooperative procedures and institutional mechanisms to promote compliance with the Protocol and to address cases of non-compliance.

Outcomes of first meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee (ICNP-1)

The most significant outcome was that, as part of the phased implementation of the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House (ABS-CH), its pilot phase would be implemented as soon as possible after ICNP-1, in accordance with the recommended guidance. The modalities and operation of the ABS-CH would be developed, taking into account experience acquired during the pilot phase as well as experience from the Biosafety Clearing-House which is already in operation.

The meeting also recommended the development of a strategic framework for capacity-building and development under the Nagoya Protocol on the basis of domestic needs and priorities identified by Parties and the proposed elements of a strategic framework.

Regarding measures to raise awareness of the importance of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, Parties have the possibility of submitting their views on the Proposed Elements of an Awareness-raising Strategy for the Nagoya Protocol.

With regard to compliance by Parties with the obligations under the Nagoya Protocol, Parties are invited to communicate their views on elements and options for cooperative procedures and institutional mechanisms to promote compliance, on the basis of which a synthesis report will be prepared. Subject to the availability of funds, an expert meeting might also be convened to review the synthesis report and further refine the draft elements and options for the second meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee.

Next steps

The Intergovernmental Committee will hold its second meeting in Delhi, India, from 23 to 27 April 2012 to consider the budget for the biennium following the entry into force of the Protocol, guidance for the financial mechanism and for resource mobilisation for the implementation of the protocol, and other issues endorsed in its work plan, as well as issues that need further consideration from its first meeting.

