

**ERFP Assembly Meeting in Stavanger, Norway
27th – 28th August 2011**

ABS Task Force

Elżbieta Martyniuk, NC Poland

Composition of the ABS Task Force

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| ▶ Germany | Bianca Lind |
| ▶ Montenegro | Milan Markovic |
| ▶ Norway | Nina Sæther |
| ▶ Slovenia | Metka Žan-Lotric |
| ▶ Switzerland | Francois Pythoud |
| ▶ The Netherlands | Sipke-Joost Hiemstra |

France	Didier Bouchel
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Informal Meeting in Wageningen in June

Participants:

Milan Markovic

Nina Sæther

Drago Kompan (for Metka Žan-Lotric)

Catherine Marguerat (for Francois Pythoud)

Sipke-Joost Hiemstra

Informal Meeting in Wageningen in June

Key objectives:

- ▶ Sharing information on the state of ABS discussion and steps towards implementation of the Nagoya Protocol
- ▶ Preparation for the ABS discussion at the CGRFA I3
- ▶ Follow-up letter to the Members of the Task Force with relevant documentation

Informal Meeting in Wageningen in June

AGENDA

- ▶ Opening of the meeting
- ▶ Briefing on the outcomes of Wageningen ABS workshop, if required
- ▶ Briefing on the Multi-Stakeholder Expert Dialogue on Access and Benefit-Sharing for Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Montpellier, 31 March – 1 April 2011)
- ▶ Briefing on the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol (Montreal, 6-10 June)
- ▶ Preparation for the 13th session of the CGRFA: a process
- ▶ Discussion on working documents for the Agenda Item 2.3: Policies and arrangements for access and benefit-sharing for genetic resources for food and agriculture, if available
- ▶ **Discussion on the objectives and the work plan of the Task Force on ABS**
- ▶ Other business

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Next steps in preparation for the ABS discussion at CGRFA 13

- ▶ Expert meeting on preparation for the Commission in Warsaw, 21st - 22nd June
- ▶ EU coordination in Brussels, 8th July
- ▶ EU and ERG coordination in Rome, 17th – 22nd July
with involvement of some members
of the Task Force



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ABS at CGRFA 13: documentation

- ▶ **CGRFA-13/II/5:** *Access and benefit-sharing for genetic resources for food and agriculture*
- ▶ **BSP No. 58:** *Trends in intellectual property rights relating to GRFA,*
- ▶ **BSP No. 59:** *Access and benefit-sharing for GRFA – Current use and exchange practices, commonalities, differences and user community needs*
- ▶ **CGRFA-13/II/Circ. I:** *Report of an international expert workshop: Exploring the need for specific measures for access and benefit-sharing of AnGR.*

Set of background study papers on ABS in sectors for CGRFA 12



ABS at CGRFA 13: decisions

The Commission :

- ▶ noted the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol;
- ▶ noted with appreciation that the Protocol **recognizes the special nature of agricultural biodiversity**, its distinctive features and problems needing distinctive solutions;
- ▶ also noted with appreciation that the Protocol **recognizes the interdependence** of all countries with regard to genetic resources for food and agriculture, as well as their **special nature and importance for achieving food security** worldwide and for sustainable development of agriculture in the context of poverty alleviation and climate change, and acknowledges the fundamental role of the International Treaty and the Commission in this regard.

ABS at CGRFA 13: decisions

The Commission:

- ▶ invited countries **to consider** in the development and implementation of legislative, administrative or policy measures on ABS, **the importance of GRFA** and their special role for food security;
- ▶ further invited countries to explore and assess in the development of legislative, administrative or policy measures on ABS, sectoral approaches **that allow for differential treatment of different sectors** or sub-sectors of GRFA, and different genetic resources **or different activities or purposes** for which activities are carried out.

ABS at CGRFA 13: decisions

- ▶ The Commission decided to establish, in accordance with Article 5 of its Statutes, an **Ad Hoc Technical Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing for Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture** with the terms of reference given in the Appendix E to this report.
- ▶ It elected the Members of the Working Group
- ▶ The Commission requested the Director-General to convene a **3-day meeting** of the Working Group, subject to the availability of the necessary financial resources, during the first half of 2012.

ABS at CGRFA 13: decisions

- ▶ The Commission agreed to consider **the need for and modalities of ABS arrangements for GRFA**, at its Fourteenth Regular Session, taking into account the outcomes of the meeting of the Working Group, as well as any recommendations submitted by the Intergovernmental Technical Working Groups.
- ▶ The Commission requested its Secretariat **to continue to follow the developments with regard to the Nagoya Protocol** and to engage in cooperation with the Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Treaty in the on-going capacity-building and development activities, and to report to its next regular session.



Very good news

Ad Hoc Technical Working Group on
Access and Benefit-sharing for
Genetic Resources for Food and
Agriculture

- ▶ to be held in Norway in Svalbard
- ▶ will be supported by Norway and Switzerland



Task Force on the ABS: future work

- ▶ Preparation for the meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Technical Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing for GRFA
 - ▶ Possible focus on AnGR (Canada's request)
 - ▶ Not so much information on other remaining sectors
- ▶ Need to compile existing relevant information on current practices and arrangements for the ABS on AnGR
- ▶ Direct involvement in the work of the Working Group by some members of the ABS Task Force

Task Force on the ABS: future work

**Your ideas
and further proposals?**