Joint briefing for Second Committee mandated by UNGA resolution 67/212

The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture

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Secretary of the International Treaty

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Overview

1. Relationship with the CBD
2. ITPGRFA’s Core ABS Systems
3. Ongoing Collaboration & Framework
Relationship with the CBD
Relationship with the CBD

The Treaty was adopted by the FAO Conference on 3 November 2001 and entered into force on 29 June 2004

The Request for cooperation with the CBD is in the text of the Treaty;

The Multilateral System of Access and Benefit Sharing of the Treaty started to Operate in January 2007 accumulating experience with hundreds of daily operations;

The main infrastructure of the operation of the ABS system of the Treaty required legal and informatics arrangements;

The Treaty has since then accumulated lessons learnt and has been a model for other international instruments and it has provided inputs during the negotiation of the Nagoya protocol;
What are the Treaty’s objectives?

Article 1

- The conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture
- The fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from their use, in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity, for sustainable agriculture and food security
The scope of the Treaty is all plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.
ITPGRFA’s Core ABS Systems
Article 5: Conservation, Exploration, Collection, Characterization, Evaluation and Documentation

Each Contracting party shall ... , in cooperation with other Contracting Parties ... , promote an integrated approach to the exploration, conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.
Article 6: Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources

The Contracting parties shall develop and maintain appropriate policy and legal measures that promote the sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.
Article 9: Farmers’ Rights

- Recognition of the enormous contribution that farmers and their communities have made and continue to make to the conservation and development of plant genetic resources.
- Farmers’ Rights include the protection of traditional knowledge and the right to participate equitably in benefit-sharing and in national decision-making about plant genetic resources.
- Governments are responsible for realizing these rights.
International Treaty Main Operational Systems & Mechanisms

Multilateral System

100,000+ transfers 07
600+ transfer/day

SMTA₁
R₁

SMTA₂
R₂

SMTA₃

Private Sector
Voluntary contributions (eg, NW, IT)

Benefit-sharing fund

Priorities Criteria Operational Procedures

priority: farmers in developing countries who conserve and sustainably utilize PGRFA

On-farm conservation
information exchange & tech.transfer
sustainable use

Others

Int’l org
Natural and legal person

1,1% of net sales

Voluntary contributions (eg, NW, IT)

On-farm conservation
Information exchange & tech.transfer
Sustainable use

Others

CP
MLS: Daily Transfers of PGRFA

• 1.5 million documented samples in the System, from CGIAR alone
• 600 – 800 documented transfers every day
• Information technology tools for managing System operations
More than Museums
Dispute Resolution System

Dispute resolution system is now in place:

- The Third Party Beneficiary Procedures have been completed
- Rules for mediation of a dispute in relation to a standard material transfer agreement
- Administrator of the Mediation Rules has accepted
- The TPB Operational Reserve has been established
The Benefit-sharing Fund

The Treaty’s Benefit-sharing Fund:
- Supports projects aimed at smallholder farmers in developing countries who conserve and sustainably use plant genetic resources for food and agriculture.
- Priorities of the Benefit-sharing Fund:
  - sustainable use;
  - on farm management and conservation;
  - information exchange, technology transfer and capacity building.
- First set of projects were approved by the Governing Body of the Treaty at its Third Session (Tunisia, 2009).
Projects 2009-2011 under the Benefit-sharing Fund

**CUBA**
- Contribution of traditional methods for *in situ* conservation and management of maize (*Zea mays* L.) and bean (*Phaseolus* spp.) to agricultural families in Cuba
- FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON TROPICAL AGRICULTURE
- Maize, bean

**MAROCCO**
- On-farm conservation and mining of local durum and bread wheat landraces of Morocco for biotic stresses and incorporating UG99 resistance
- NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
- Wheat

**EGYPT**
- On-farm conservation and in vitro preservation of citrus local varieties and sustainable utilization in Egypt
- NATIONAL GENE BANK AND GENETIC RESOURCES
- Citrus

**INDIA**
- Conservation, dissemination and popularization of local specific farmer-developed varieties by establishing village level enterprises
- PEERMADE DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY
- Cassava, yam, bean, pea, ash guard, duramstick, pepper, ashwall, cardamom, nutmeg

**NICARAGUA**
- Rescue, conservation and sustainable management of teosint of Nicaragua (*Zea nicaraguensis* Ilis & Benz) in the Apanacura Genetic Reserve
- AGRICULTURAL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
- Wild relative of maize

**COSTA RICA**
- Identification of useful potato germplasm adapted to biotic and abiotic stresses caused by global climate change
- UNIVERSITY OF COSTA RICA, AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTRE (CIA)
- Potato

**KENYA**
- Characterization, genetic enhancement and revitalization of finger millet in western Kenya
- MASENO UNIVERSITY
- Finger millet

**PERU**
- Conservation and sustainable use of native potato diversity in the Potato Park, Cusco
- ASSOCIATION FOR NATURE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ANDES)
- Potato

**URUGUAY**
- Broadening of potato (*Solanum tuberosum*) genetic basis through introgression of local wild species, *Solanum commersonii*
- NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH (INIA)
- Potato

**SENEGAL**
- Conservation of agrobiodiversity of local cultivars: millet, maize and sorghum through improved participation in Senegal
- INSTITUTE FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH (ISRA)
- Millet, Maize, Sorghum

**TANZANIA**
- Strengthening on-farm conservation and use of sorghum, finger millet, lablab beans and yam crop diversities for improved food security and adaptation to climate change in Tanzania
- NATIONAL PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES CENTRE
- Sorghum, finger millet, lablab bean, yam
2010 – Second Call
The Second 2nd High-Level Round Table

- At the UN Rio+20 Summit on 21 June
- organized under the patronship of the High Level Task Force of the Benefit-sharing Fund
- Co-organised by Brazil, Norway and Italy;
- Launched CBD-ITPGRFA Joint Intitiative
- Focus of the discussion
  - interaction between economy, biodiversity and food security;
  - To showcase the Treaty and its Benefit-sharing Fund;
  - Facilitate the high-level discussion on the potential monetary and non-monetary benefits.
FROM RIO+20 - TREATY TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PLATFORM

PILOT 2013 - SOYBEAN TT PARTNERSHIPS
SOUTH-SOUTH TT OR TRIPARTITE
SUPPORT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR
Ongoing collaboration and collaborative framework
Implementation and Cooperation with the CBD

In adopting the Nagoya Protocol, the Conference of Parties, *inter alia*, recognized:

- the International Treaty as one of the complementary instruments that constitute the International Regime;
- that the objectives of the International Treaty are the conservation and sustainable use of PGRFA and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of their use, in harmony with the CBD, for sustainable agriculture and food security.

COP Decision X/1, *Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization.*
Cooperation with the CBD

• The Governing Body of the International Treaty has repeatedly emphasized the necessity for close cooperation and coordination between the two bodies, underlining the need to promote coherence and mutual supportiveness between the two bodies.
Cooperation with CBD, Resolution 8/2011

R8/2011, Part I, the Governing Body:

– **Congratulates** the COP on the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol;
– **Appeals** to Contracting Parties to sign and ratify;
– **Takes note** of the Memorandum of Cooperation;
– **Requests** the Secretary to explore with the SCBD on practical means and activities to give effect to this cooperation;
– **Requests** the Secretary to strengthen collaboration with the SCBD;
– **Calls on** Contracting Parties to ensure mutual supportiveness in the implementation of the Treaty and the Nagoya protocol.
Cooperation with CBD

Memorandum of Cooperation

1. Institutional cooperation
   - Capacity Building Workshops and other events
   - Coordination of technical assistance

2. Exchange of information

3. Reporting and further guidance
Key Policy Challenges

- The concept of the international ABS regime is broader than the Nagoya Protocol or the Treaty individually;
- Recognizing the complementarity of the mandates & the links between the respective agreements;
- Establishing a common understanding of concepts and sectoral dynamics;
- Operational issues:
  - Mutually supportive implementation (national level);
  - Coordination (both horizontal and vertical);
  - Reporting (within and between the two processes);
Cooperation with CBD, Joint Activities 1/2

- A series of joint Capacity Building Workshops on access and benefit-sharing for the harmonious national implementation
- To contribute to the identification of the capacity-building needs and priorities of Parties in the implementation of their obligations under the Nagoya Protocol
- Organized June and October 2011
- New Delhi, India, 7-8 April 2012
Cooperation with CBD, Joint Activities 2/2

- CBD Secretariat:
  
  • Expert inputs into several Working Groups and Technical Expert Groups

  • Collaboration with SCBD and capacity building providers on harmonious implementation of CBD and ITPGRFA
Resolution 5/2013

- Maintain cooperation;
- Entry into force of the NP;
- CPs to ensure legal administrative and policy measures are supportive;
- Focal points to enhance collaboration;
- Welcomed IPBES:
  - Expand collaboration on on-farm and in-situ conservation and sust. use and on the SPB 2011 - 2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
- Welcomed the *modus operandi* of the BLG;
- Secretariats to facilitate interactions and mutual supportiveness and harmonious implementation through workshops and other events
- Future further reporting on cooperation
Thank you!

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