Exercise 1. Making Decisions about Access to Genetic Resources

(group work)

This exercise seeks to familiarize participants with the operational and practical implications of the provisions of the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (‘the Treaty’). It provides a set of hypothetical cases that address issues such as the status of collections of genetic resources in scenarios that are set both before and after the CBD and the Treaty, as well as rules applicable to private and public institutions and to potential commercial and non-commercial uses of genetic resources. The exercise should allow participants to understand the wide range of options and alternatives (and complexities) that arise when assessing actual, practical implementation of the provisions of the CBD and the Treaty.

Phase 1. Group work (60 minutes)

1. Form three groups of participants. Each group elects a rapporteur. (5 minutes)

2. Each group works on the case study assigned to it as follows: (50 minutes)
   - **Group A**: Hypothetical Case 1 (Handout 12)
   - **Group B**: Hypothetical Case 2 (Handout 13a)
   - **Group C**: Hypothetical Case 3 (Handout 13b)

3. The rapporteurs compile their group’s input on the worksheet (Handout 11). (5 minutes)

Phase 2. Reporting and discussion (40 minutes)

4. The rapporteurs present the results to the audience. Six minutes are available for each presentation, followed by another 7 minutes for discussion after the presentations. (25 minutes)

5. The trainer distributes Handout 14 to the participants, analyses practical considerations for this exercise, provides feedback on the context of the presentations and closes the session. (15 minutes)