



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF
THE ENVIRONMENT

Update on ABS policies laws and regulations in Norway

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Environment, 4th ABS- Business Dialogue,
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The Nature Diversity Act

Starting point

- Ownership to genetic material – common resource that belongs to the community in Norway
- The State has management responsibility
- The utilization should benefit the environment and people, both nationally and internationally
- User country measures in section 60
- Work on check-points to support compliance
- Work on two sets of regulations



Fungus (*Tolypocladium inflatum*) basis for Cyclosporin A. Found on Hardangervidda.

Regulation 1: Access and Benefit-sharing requirements in Norway

- Access is free until otherwise determined by the King
- The King has wide competence to regulate on access requirements both at land and in the sea
- Ministry of Climate- and Environment and Ministry of Trade, Industries and Fisheries are working on regulations
- Regulations will have to provide legal certainty, be clear, fair and non arbitrary, transparent, cost-effective and not place unnecessary burdens on the business community
- Main question - What benefits should accrue to the state, when, how and why?

Regulation 2: Traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources

- The Parliament amended the Nature Diversity Act 10. June 2013
- Fulfill the obligations in the Nagoya Protocol art 5(5), 7 and 16(Prior and informed consent)
- The King may issue a regulation stipulating that access to and utilisation of Traditional knowledge associated with Genetic Resources requires prior informed consent from the indigenous peoples or local community
- Process: Interministerial working group assisted by an expert-panel and involvement of ILCs and other stakeholders
- Schedule: Proposal on public hearing first half of 2015

Summing up - Remaining work on implementation of the Nagoya Protocol:

- Fullfill work on check points- The Patents Office, Norwegian Research Council, Plant Breeders Office
- Decide on access and benefit-sharing requirements
- Fullfill regulation on traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources

END