

AU GUIDELINES FOR A COORDINATED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL ON ABS

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Basis/Initiation

- OAU Model Law-developed in the absence of current legally binding international regimes (NP, ITPGRFA) and regional initiatives (ARIPO, OAPI) governing ABS issues; gaps and variances exist
- Adoption of Nagoya Protocol on ABS in Oct 2010
- Lack of clear coordination in matters of biodiversity and ABS at the continental level
- AU Assembly decision of Jan 2011 to include biodiversity in the priorities of the AU
- Existing partnership between the AU and BMZ in matters of Biosafety since 2006
- ABS Capacity Development Initiative for Africa also being implemented since 2006

Basis/Initiation

- Agreement to develop a gap analysis report- Model Law still useful as it mainstreams the priority needs of African countries
- NP focuses largely on national implementation whilst some elements still remain in the international arena
- Need to develop guidelines to be annexed to the Model Law to assist MS in domestication and implementation of the NP on ABS

The Synopsis

- I. Executive Summary
- II. Introduction
- III. Manual
- IV. Available policy options (NP, Continental and sub-regional)
- V. Stakeholder analysis and interests
- VI. Key elements
- VII. Annexes

Move from technical to political

- September 2012: AMCEN adopted a decision on the establishment of a coordination mechanism for negotiations on Biodiversity (Model of the UNFCCC)
- AMCEN further endorsed the ongoing work on the development of the AU Implementation Guidelines
- January 2013: AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government adopted AMCEN report also taking note with appreciation the on going work on the ABS draft guidelines