

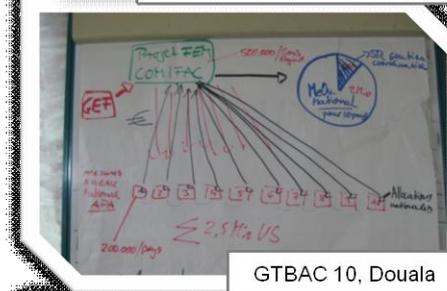
Progress Report 2010



Pan African WS, Marrakech



ABS value chain, Namibia



GTBAC 10, Douala



Business Dialogue, Copenhagen



Ministerial Meeting, Windhoek



Cell Cultures at DSMZ, Germany



WG ABS 9, Cali



Minister - Community Dialogue, Gobabeb

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1. Formation of the ABS Initiative

2005-2008: The Dutch-German ABS Capacity-Building Initiative for Africa

Conscious of the capacity development needs associated with negotiating and implementing an international regime on ABS, and in line with the draft elements for an Action Plan for capacity-building for ABS adopted by COP-6 in 2002, the Directorate-General for International Cooperation (DGIS) of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and GTZ came together in 2005 to discuss the joint promotion of capacity development on ABS in Eastern and Southern Africa. As a result, DGIS co-funded GTZ's supra-regional programme "Implementing the Biodiversity Convention" in order to organize a regional ABS capacity development workshop. This multi-stakeholder workshop was held in October 2005 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. 50 participants from 15 different countries took stock of bioprospecting in Africa and assessed ABS capacity development needs. Participants in particular noted the following challenges:

- lack of awareness of the potential of ABS at the political level;
- insufficient functioning national ABS regulations;
- inadequate implementation of existing regulations;
- insufficient awareness and exchange among relevant stakeholder groups;
- insufficient regional harmonisation;
- unavailability of inventories and information on the value of genetic resources;
- inadequately developed negotiation skills.

The workshop's results were presented at the 4th meeting of the CBD Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on ABS.

Based on the substantive workshop results, participants' encouraging feedback and the overwhelming interest of stakeholders from all over Africa, DGIS and GTZ agreed to continue their cooperation until 2008 under the framework of the **Dutch-German ABS Capacity-Building Initiative for Africa**. Africa was retained as the priority region since by international comparison this is where the need for capacity development is greatest. The Initiative was launched at CBD COP-8 in March 2006 in Curitiba, Brazil, with a view to offer strategic capacity development to African countries regarding both, the implementation of ABS measures at national and sub-regional level as well as the negotiation of the international ABS regime "on eye level" with other negotiation parties. Main instruments at that time were consultative meetings to support necessary Africa-wide multi-stakeholder processes, as well as ABS relevant thematically specific and/or regionally focused studies, workshops and trainings.

2008-2011: The ABS Capacity Development Initiative for Africa

The initiative has besides kicking off initial national and regional ABS implementation processes in several African countries significantly contributed to the increased preparedness of African delegates in the ongoing negotiation of an international regime on ABS. Already at COP-9 in Bonn in May 2008, the African Group officially expressed its gratitude to the Initiative's assistance to the region, underlining the necessity for continuous support for ABS capacity development in Africa. Taking into account this request, the Initiative was prolonged until 2011 with increased assistance from additional donors and partners. The *Institut de l'énergie et de l'environnement de la Francophonie* (IEPF), for example, joined the Initiative that same year to advance the integration of Francophone African countries into the Initiative's activities by contributing 100.000 Euro per year for interpretation in pan-African meetings and workshops and translation of relevant documents and studies. With the commitment of IEPF – recently prolonged until 2014 – a first step was undertaken to develop the initially Dutch-German partnership into a multi-donor initiative for concerted ABS capacity development for Africa. As such, the Initiative was renamed into the **ABS Capacity Development Initiative for Africa** and based on a core contribution of BMZ amounting to 500.000 to 850.000 Euro per since 2008.

In 2009, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs joined the Initiative committing 20 Mio NOK (~2.4 Mio Euro) to the budget of the Initiative for the period 2009 to 2011. As integral part of this contribution the renowned Norwegian think-tank Fridtjof-Nansen-Institute (FNI) is funded with 150.000 Euro per year to provide its expertise to the Initiative on ABS and related issues such as intellectual property rights, forest laws and linkages to relevant international instruments. Besides FNI the ABS Initiative co-operates closely with a further think-tank, the Montreal based Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL) which is kindly offering analytical legal elaborations and backstopping activities at special partnership rates.

Also in 2009, Denmark and the European Commission expressed their interest to become permanent members of the Initiative. To that effect the EuropeAid Co-operation Office (AIDCO) started to develop a project proposal which includes a contribution of 5 Mio Euro in five years to the Initiative. The proposal was finally approved by the European Commission in December 2010 as part of the Annual Action Programme 2010 in favour of Intra-ACP¹ Cooperation under the 10th European Development Fund. The corresponding financing agreement between the EU and the ACP Secretariat was signed in February 2011.

The Danish Government contributed in a first step 3 Mio DKK (~450.000 Euro) to the Initiative for organising a pan-African Minister Conference on ABS in 2010 in partnership with the Namibian Government. With an additional 360.000 Euro contribution in 2010 and flagging a contribution of 650,000 Euro for 2011 and 2012 each Denmark became acknowledged as full member of the ABS Initiative in 2010.

Being a multi-donor initiative, the ABS Capacity Development Initiative for Africa contributes to the implementation of some key aspects of the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action, notably to improved donor harmonization and aid effectiveness, and consequently to better valorising the potential for poverty alleviation at the interface of natural resources management, trade and governance. The Initiative is linked to relevant global biodiversity related environmental processes through established cooperation with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Montreal and the United Nations Environmental Programme in Nairobi.

The importance of this regional capacity development initiative has officially been recognized at several occasions such as

- statements of the African Group at relevant CBD meetings since 2006 (WGABS 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and COP 9, 10),
- letter of acknowledgement of the Executive Director of UNEP (see Annex A),
- letter of gratitude of the African chief negotiator (see Annex B), and
- COP 10 decision on the Integration of Biodiversity into Poverty Eradication and Development (COP decision X/6, para. 12).

2. Finances: Budget and Expenditure in 2010 (see Annex D)

The funding in 2010 included untied core-funding to the Initiative and funds allocated to specific activities. All budget allocations for activities were managed by the Secretariat in accordance with the work plan 2010 endorsed by the Steering Committee during its meeting at 5 December 2008 in Cairo, Egypt and as amended due to the unforeseen creation of the Interregional Negotiation Group (ING) during the 9th meeting of the ABS Working Group in Cali, Colombia, its later meetings in Montreal and in Nagoya in the run-up to COP-10 – and along with that the necessary support to the African Group in adequately preparing and attending this final rounds of negotiations.

¹ African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States

The projected budget for planned activities in 2010 amounted to 3.45 Mio Euro whereas the available financial budget amounted to a total of 2.48 Mio Euro, composed of the

- core funding contributions of BMZ (827.049 Euro) and Norway,
- earmarked funding contribution of IEPF,
- earmarked and core funding contribution of Denmark, and
- monetarised in-kind contributions of BMZ and other organisations.

The actual expenditure in 2010 totalled 2.47 Mio Euro. This expenditure signifies an increase of 40% to the previous year.

The Government of Norway kindly agreed in May 2010 to use up to 250,000 Euro of its 2011 contribution already in 2010 to be able to cover for the unforeseen costs caused by the additional meetings to finalize the Nagoya Protocol by COP 10 in October 2010. In November 2010 the Government of Denmark amended the financing agreement of 2009, contributing an additional amount of 2.5 Mio DKK (~335,000 Euro) core funding to the Initiative.

As in previous years, the SCBD contributed in-kind to the Initiative by actively participating in and contributing to a number of workshops, with logistical support in the context of the different negotiation rounds and providing substantive advice on technical documents being developed by the ABS Capacity Development Initiative for Africa.

3. Implementation of the Work Plan 2010

This part of the report provides an overview on the activities and highlights either key outcomes or the role of the activity in the capacity development process. All relevant details about the different activities are documented on the recently re-launched Initiative's website <http://www.abs-africa.info>.

APPROACH 1: Capacity development of relevant stakeholders

Capacity development of relevant African stakeholders on ABS is the core activity of the Initiative with a view to implement ABS as an instrument contributing to good governance, conservation and poverty alleviation. The workshops and trainings organised in 2010 were focused **to build and strengthen African capacities to implement ABS at the national level** with the intended spin-off to integrate articulated stakeholder views in the African Position and therewith the process of the negotiation of the international ABS regime.

Technical & legal trainings

A **legal & technical skills training course** which was developed by the Environmental Evaluation Unit at the University of Cape Town (UCT), under the direction of Dr Rachel Wynberg in close cooperation with and support by the Initiative was held in January 2010 with 40 participants at the UCT Graduate School of Business. Specific objectives were to strengthen the knowledge base and to provide participants with a suite of tools that they can use *inter alia* to develop and implement ABS policies and laws in their respective countries. The encouraging feedback from participants and their superiors in their home countries confirmed that the training concept addresses the increasing needs of professionals in government institutions and NGOs challenged to implement ABS. Therefore, a second training course is being planned for 2011 in Eastern Africa.

A training course to **improve the facilitation skills of professional African workshop facilitators** was developed and held Bonn, Germany, in April (Anglophone) and May (Francophone) 2010. The objective of the trainings was to improve the methodological skills of the trainees (12 Anglophone and 15 Francophone) to conceptualize and facilitate multi-stakeholder workshops in the ABS arena with a view to have local facilitators ready to support the national processes – starting in the six countries under the UNEP/GEF ABS project, which was to start implementation towards the end of 2010.

Regular Multi-Stakeholder Workshops

Taking into account existing sub-regional structures, processes and legal existing legal systems (common law and civil law) ABS capacity development at **sub-regional level** is at the heart of the activities of the ABS Initiative. Due to the unforeseen creation of the Interregional Negotiation Group (ING) during the 9th meeting of the ABS Working Group March 2010 in Cali, Colombia and its later meetings in Montreal in the run-up to COP-10 it was decided to call off the planned sub-regional workshops for Eastern and Southern Africa as well as for West Africa and the Maghreb taking into account that the capacity of the participants in the negotiations to attend international meetings is limited.

ABS capacity development in **Central Africa** is formally linked to the Biodiversity Working Group of Central Africa (GTBAC, *Groupe de travail sur la biodiversité en Afrique Centrale*), the advisory body of the Central African Commission on Forests (COMIFAC) where the elaboration of a co-operative and harmonized ABS implementation approach for all ten countries of the COMIFAC region is among the key tasks. One regular and two extra-ordinary meetings took place in 2010: At GTBAC 10 in Douala (January 2010) the working group continued elaborating the sub-regional ABS implementation strategy for the COMIFAC region. Building on the draft regional ABS implementation strategy, GTBAC 10 also prepared Central African elements for the negotiation position of the African Group for WGABS 9. From 25 to 26 July 2010 the steering committee and advisors to the working group met in Douala to analyse the GTBAC governance structure and to develop possible funding models towards the GEF in order to finance a regional ABS implementation process. As a next step the National Focal Points of the COMIFAC countries gathered at the margins of the African High Level Meeting on Biodiversity for Development and Poverty alleviation (Libreville, September 2010) for a last scrutiny of the draft sub-regional ABS strategy before submitting it to their ministers. Eventually the COMIFAC Strategy on ABS was endorsed by the 2010 Council of Central African Ministers for Forests and Environment (10 to 11 November 2010, Kinshasa, DRC).

The **2nd Business Dialogue Forum on ABS** was organized in September 2010 in Copenhagen in partnership with the Danish Ministry for the Environment. The forum provided an opportunity for some African negotiators, a number of representatives of European business and European development agencies to discuss what – beyond legal certainty of an ABS protocol and national regulations – would be necessary to foster bioprospecting and value addition to biological and genetic resources in African countries. Recommendations with regard to the creation of an “enabling environment” for ABS business were elaborated and sent to COP 10.

The **5th Pan-African ABS Workshop** was postponed upon request of the African negotiators due to the many international meetings in 2010 and took place from 31 January to 4 February 2010 in Marrakech, Morocco. It offered an opportunity for the African negotiators to inform other stakeholders about the outcomes of COP-10 and specifically the Nagoya Protocol on ABS. Against this background the workshop identified activities to take in order to implement the Nagoya Protocol, assessed existing capacities of countries – and prioritised activities for which immediate support and capacity development will be required. In that regard a fieldtrip to the *Arganeraie Biosphere Reserve* organized together with the Moroccan partners provided an ideal “real life” example of ABS implementation challenges exposing participants to the question of how to address the transformation of trade with biological resources and subsequent utilisation as a genetic resource.

Biocultural Community Protocols

Back-to-back with the ILC preparatory meeting (see below) a meeting of African ILC and NGO representatives was organized by Natural Justice in Cape Town, South Africa, with the support of the ABS Initiative to discuss the relationship and relevance of the BCP concept with other community rights based approaches. Participants agreed that BCPs have a strong potential to be used as community developed interface to bridge the gap between ILCs and the national and international law

and policy processes Participants requested Natural Justice to take the lead in Africa on the further development and establishment of BCPs.

ABS and CEPA

Supporting Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) on ABS is a centrepiece of the ABS Initiative from its beginning. Particularly in Africa, where formal and informal sectors, traditional and modern media, colonial and ethnic languages exist in parallel special efforts have to be undertaken to communicate and embed a cross-societal and cross-sectoral development instrument such as ABS. Hence at all events of the ABS initiative the entirety of African stakeholder groups identified CEPA activities on ABS a key element of success for both finalizing the international regime and sustainable national implementation and demanded greater intutional support for target oriented **CEPA** to address this **horizontal capacity building need**. Based on these insights the African Group aimed at institutionalizing CEPA in ABS implementation processes and negotiated successfully to reflect the ABS-CEPA link in the **Nagoya Protocol** and the related **COP decisions**.

- COP decision X/1: “Recognizing the importance of communication, education and public awareness for the successful implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity” (African Proposal).
- Nagoya Protocol Article 21: “Each Party shall take measures to raise awareness of the importance of genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and related access and benefit-sharing issues. Such measures may include, inter alia ...” (entire article based on African input).
- COP decision X/18: “Acknowledging the importance of communication, education and public awareness in informing stakeholders on the importance of implementing the third objective of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization and to ensure their effective participation” (African Proposal).

As concrete CEPA implementing activities the ABS Initiative followed **outcomes of the 2009 ABS CEPA** experts group meeting and organized *inter alia* a high-level awareness raising meeting in March 2010 in Windhoek, Namibia, for gaining the necessary ministerial backing in the run up to the COP and an ABS business meeting in September 2010 in Copenhagen, Denmark, to enter into a dialogue with the main constituency of the provider country negotiators.

As a technical CEPA activity the Initiative supported the compilation of a compendium of the ABS legislation in six African countries. i.e. Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, South Africa and Uganda. The **ABS compendium** seeks to provide an experience-sharing platform and to provide a practical tool for countries who have to date no national ABS legislations and who may benefit from the approaches and practical experience that other countries have taken. The compendium was launched during a side-event at COP 10 and is available online at <http://www.abs-africa.info/compendium.html>.

For the production of **an ABS awareness raising film** – to support National Focal points and ABS implementers in Africa in kicking off their national multistakeholder processes – footage has been collected to illustrate case studies of bioprospecting and utilization of genetic African resources. A film team has been contracted to film in South Africa (Bushbuckridge Biocultural Community Protocol) and based on a media partnership with the Initiative the second German TV (ZDF) provides audiovisual material on Ethiopia (Teff cereal case) and from Morocco (Argan Oil). It is planned to have zero version of an approx. 15 min ABS film including an explanatory element on the core “mechanics of ABS” ready by mid 2011.

ABS, Traditional Knowledge and Intellectual Property Rights

In light of the revived negotiations on intellectual property rights relating to traditional knowledge and genetic resources under the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) the ABS Initiative contributed significantly to the concept and production of a reader entitled “**Triggering the Synergies between Intellectual Property Rights and Biodiversity**”. This is a joint publication of the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, the ABS Initiative and the GIZ which compiles a number of think pieces resulting from projects of German development cooperation (e.g. regional dialogue on IP and Biodiversity) and IP related activities supported by the ABS Initiative. The reader highlights the need for an integrated approach for capacity development and technical assistance to support the integration of intellectual property, biodiversity and food security. The reader was launched during a side-event at CBD COP 10 as well as during a side event at the 17th meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (IGC) of WIPO, 6 to 10 December 2010 in Geneva, Switzerland, and can be downloaded from <http://www.gtz.de/en/dokumente/gtz2010-en-ips-and-biodiversity-reader.pdf>. Due to the great interest in the reader a second volume is under consideration.

APPROACH 2: Preparation and follow-up of CBD meetings on ABS

In preparation for WGABS-9 in Cali, Colombia, the Initiative with the financial support of the Government of Denmark organized in March 2010 an **African Regional Consultation** followed by the **African Minister Conference on ABS** in Windhoek, Namibia. The latter included also an exchange session with European high-level decision makers at ministerial level from Denmark, Norway and Germany in preparation for the Nagoya high-level segments as well as an on-site presentation of a Namibian genetic resource valorisation case (Marula) in order to “ground” the political ABS discussions with real life experiences.

Initial inputs to the 2010 regional consultations were an update on the revived negotiation process in the WIPO on intellectual property rights on traditional knowledge and genetic resources and a FNI study on “International Agreements and Processes Affecting an International Regime on Access and Benefit Sharing under the Convention on Biological Diversity: Implications for its Scope and Possibilities of a Sectoral Approach”², which clarifies the main interfaces with other international agreements and processes relevant for ABS, with a view to address the challenges of ensuring mutual supportiveness.

Further briefings for African delegates were supported by the Initiative directly prior to WGABS-9 in Cali and prior to the subsequent meetings of the ING in Montreal, Canada. The FNI study “Functionality of an ABS Protocol”³, which examines a range of contentious issues where disagreement has prevailed among negotiating parties and regional groups, with a view to providing a legal analysis of the state of play of the negotiations was presented as food for thought to the African negotiators at the delegates briefing prior to ING 1 in June 2010. The study was made available to all Parties as UNEP/CBD/WG-ABS/9/INF/20.

The **African ILC Preparatory Meeting**, held late August/early September in Cape Town, South Africa, provided a forum for a broad exchange of African indigenous and local communities (ILC) on the integration of traditional knowledge in the draft Nagoya Protocol on ABS and to prepare their position on the ABS negotiations for COP-10 in October as well as on the draft COP decision on Article 8(j).

Anticipating the close link between the ABS negotiations and the revived negotiation process of the *Intergovernmental Committee (IGC) of the WIPO* and the fact that all issues related to **intellectual property** were left by COP 10 decisions under the mandate of WIPO, the ABS Initiative supported upon request of the African ABS and WIPO negotiators the participation of two African

² See <http://www.fni.no/ABS/publication-41.html>

³ See <http://www.fni.no/ABS/publication-43.html>

advisors/resource persons at IGC 17 from 6 to 10 December in Geneva, Switzerland. Such support was envisaged to ensure a coordinated approach of the African Group for the protection of intellectual property rights and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources.

APPROACH 3: Support to national implementation

Development of national ABS regulations

Benin: In collaboration with the Ministry for Environment and Nature Protection (MEPN) and the national GTZ resource conservation and management programme (Pro-CGRN) the ABS Initiative organized the first national ABS workshop in Benin from 12 to 16 April in Cotonou. It brought together around 60 stakeholders from various ministries, civil society, research institutions and traditional healer associations in order to build their capacity and to launch a national consultation process in view of developing an ABS framework and supporting the work of the Inter-ministerial Committee on ABS.

Liberia: A financing agreement with the *Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)* of Liberia was concluded in 2009 to support the development of national ABS regulations. Based on the outcome of the initial survey in 2009 and the national consultative workshop in September 2009 the international African consultants drafted national ABS regulations and produced a detailed explanatory document providing background and reasoning on the sections and individual articles in the draft regulations. The draft text will undergo regional and national consultations during 2011 with a view to present the draft to cabinet before the presidential election in September 2011.

The **UNEP/GEF ABS Capacity-Building Project for Africa** provides support to the Governments of Cameroon, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Senegal and South Africa for the development and implementation of national ABS regulations. In 2010 the GTZ hosted Secretariat of the ABS Initiative has been commissioned by UNEP as Lead Executing Agency for the project. The GEF Council finally approved the project in May 2010. As this was the first contract of this kind to be established between UNEP and GTZ as executing agency, it took until October 2010 to agree on the modalities and have the Project Cooperation Agreement signed by both sides. Immediately after that the Initiative started to develop the Financing Agreements with the partner institutions in the six countries, which are expected to be signed early 2011.

Implementing ABS agreements & regulations

With the financial support of the ABS Initiative the Cape Town based NGO *Natural Justice* continued its work on **developing and establishing biocultural community protocols (BCPs)** as a tool to link informal customary law and traditional decision making procedures with formal national law and administrative procedures when implementing the free and prior informed consent (FPIC) at the local level. Bridging the gap between these two levels was identified in many of the Initiative's workshops as one of the key challenges for implementing ABS in Africa – especially if communities are meant to adequately participate in negotiating ABS agreements and if those agreements should also impact on alleviating poverty at the local level. Therefore the African group negotiated effectively to reflect the innovative and farsighted tool of community protocols in the Nagoya Protocol⁴.

A meeting dedicated on BCPs was organized by Natural Justice and the ABS Initiative and held in Cape Town from 2 to 3 September 2010. It brought together ILC representatives, CBOs and legal experts to evaluate the potential of BCPs in augmenting existing rights-based approaches to securing the ways of life and FPIC of ILCs and to discuss the way forward. Resulting from this meeting, an **African BCP Initiative**, led by Natural Justice and ETC-COMPAS and supported by the ABS Initiative, will support further development of BCPs in Africa and work towards their legal recognition, starting in 2011. Side-events presenting the concept and case studies of BCPs were held in collaboration with

⁴ See Nagoya Protocol Article 12.1 and 12.3(a)

Natural Justice and other partners at the WGABS meetings in 2010, SBSTTA 14 in Nairobi, and COP 10 in Nagoya. A DVD, collecting cases, materials and laws supporting BCPs was developed and distributed at COP 10, and film footage was shot in South Africa for a future educational video on BCPs.

After the conclusion of the Nagoya Protocol in October 2010, the Secretariat of the Initiative intensified its efforts **to engage the private sector in ABS implementation**. Based on approaches which were developed in the wealth of exchanges with business representatives and African stakeholders during the negotiation process of the Nagoya Protocol and the business dialogue fora of the ABS Initiative it is foreseen that in 2011 at least two concrete public-private-partnership projects on ABS will be launched. In the increasing co-operation with both, corporate private sector and business associations the Secretariat is aiming at attaining the following strategic goals:

- communicating and advising the private sector on ABS requirements for **improved compliance** with emerging local, national, international ABS regulations (e.g. WELEDA, Pierre Fabre, International Chamber of Commerce, German Biotech Association)
- examining current business and sourcing models to **identify elements** which may require specific types **of regulation at national level** in order to accomplish improved practicality, legal certainty and feasible benefit-sharing schemes (e.g. Cognis, Treecrops Africa)
- monitoring and analysing existing value chains based genetic material / resources with a view to transform **transform Biotrade into ABS schemes** where appropriate (e.g. Union for Ethical Biotrade, Treecrops Africa)
- identifying potential “marketable” genetic resources and derivatives in order **to establish new ABS agreements and equitable value chains** – taking into consideration sector specific technology transfer and human resources training needs (e.g. Phytotrade Africa, Treecrops Africa)

4. Annual Meeting of the Steering Committee

The annual meeting of the Steering Committee (SC) took place 5 February 2011 in Marrakech back-to-back with the 5th Pan-African ABS Workshop. As in previous years donor representatives used the opportunity to participate for at least a few days in the 5th Pan-African ABS Workshop and to intensify their exchange with different African stakeholders and to get first hand impression and feedback on the capacity development needs.

The SC engaged in a first discussion on the challenge to shift the focus of the Initiative from supporting the African Group in the international negotiations of the international ABS regime to supporting national and regional implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS and making ABS a reality on the ground for the benefit of people and biodiversity. It was agreed that the Secretariat will **develop a draft programme document for 2012 to 2015** for discussion at the extended meeting of the SC back-to-back with the 1st meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of the Nagoya Protocol (ICNP) 6 to 10 June in Montreal, Canada.

Furthermore, the SC approved the presented **work plan and budget for 2011** and invited the African Union Commission as a partner to the ABS Initiative.

5. Assessment of Impacts

Project impacts achieved until the end of 2010 are reported against the outcome indicators as listed in the Programme Document 2009-2011.

Outcome	Indicator	Means of verification
1. ABS is on the agenda of African, national, sub-regional and international policy.	1.1. A common African ABS position is formulated.	Submission(s) of the African Group included in the official negotiation documents; Decisions of relevant ministerial meetings;
	1.2. At least one African sub-regional organization develops ABS related policy recommendations.	Policy documents
	1.3. Stakeholder views are reflected in the African position and ABS related policies.	Interviews with stakeholder representatives (e.g. ILC, private sector, academia, negotiators, legislators)
	1.4. High African level decision makers (Ministers, Sec. of State, etc.) are acquainted with the topic and support the development of national and international ABS schemes.	Declarations / reports of Ministerial meetings; Interviews

Indicator 1.1. *achieved* – In preparation for the 7th and 8th meeting of the ABS Working Group in Paris (April 2009) and Montreal (November 2009) respectively the African Group prepared a coordinated submission on the relevant topics under negotiation at the specific meetings. The **submission of Namibia on behalf of the African Group** is contained in documents UNEP/CBD/WG-ABS/7/4 and UNEP/CBD/WG-ABS/8/3. Preparing for the final phase of the ABS negotiations a regional coordination meeting was held in March 2010 in Windhoek, Namibia to reflect the African Group's positions against the progress achieved so far and discuss the open issues for WGABS 9 (March 2010) and COP 10 (October 2010). Ministers and high government officials of 38 African countries discussed and endorsed the African position during the African Minister Conference on ABS, which was held back-to-back with the regional coordination meeting in Windhoek⁵. Against the outcome of WGABS 9 the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) re-endorsed the African position during its 13th session in June 2010 in Bamako, Mali (Decision 13/8 African common position on the international regime on access and benefit-sharing⁶).

Indicator 1.2. *achieved* – For the Central African Forest Commission (**COMIFAC**) approaches for harmonized regional ABS policies have been the focus during a couple of GTBAC meetings. A study on possible elements for a common COMIFAC ABS strategy for all ten member countries was presented in October 2009 to the National Focal Points of the region as well as to the COMIFAC Executive Secretariat. Based on this study a sub-regional ABS strategy serving as a binding framework for the development of national rules and regulations was developed with a couple of technical feedback loops and finally approved by the Central African Minister's Council in November 2010 (see Annex C). Besides providing the framework for developing national ABS regulations the strategy emphasizes the role of local and indigenous communities in the ABS context as well as the necessity to develop structures for enhanced research and development on valorising genetic resources in the region.

At the Economic Community of West African States (**ECOWAS**) ABS is receiving more attention requiring at least discussions at the level of sub-regional organisations. A representative of the ECOWAS Secretariat attended the ABS Workshop for West Africa and the Maghreb in September 2009. In 2010 the ECOWAS Secretariat requested the ABS Initiative to co-operate in a regional process to develop an ABS Strategy for West Africa after the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol.

Indicator 1.3. *achieved* – Views of African ILC are well reflected in the submissions of the African Group. Instrumental for that was the participation of ILC representatives in most of the workshops

⁵ See http://www.abs-africa.info/windhoek_min_03-10_04.html

⁶ See http://www.unep.org/roa/Amcen/Amcen_Events/13th_Session/Docs/Compilation_decisions.pdf

under the ABS Initiative as well as the African ILC preparatory meetings in September 2009 in Nairobi, Kenya, and in August 2010 in Cape Town, South Africa, where recommendations were developed and forwarded to the African negotiators for consideration during their final preparation for WGABS 8 (UNEP/CBD/WG-ABS/8/INF/5) and COP 10 respectively.

Indicator 1.4. *achieved* – The technical briefings during the ministerial segment of the special session on climate change of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) at 28th May 2009 in Nairobi included an input by Dr Balakrishna Pisupati, Division for Environmental Law and Conventions of UNEP, on behalf of the ABS Initiative highlighting the importance of biodiversity in the context of adaptation and the need for fair and equitable benefit-sharing from the utilization of biological and genetic resources (see Annex V, para 14 of the Report of the ministerial segment of the special session on climate change of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment⁷).

ABS was on the agenda of the ministerial segment of the 13th AMCEN session in June 2010 in Bamako, Mali and a number of statements highlight the importance of ABS for African countries⁸. This is also reflected by the increasing number of requests for support in implementing ABS at the national level as well as the development of a regional ABS strategy for the COMIFAC.

Outcome	Indicator	Means of verification
2. African positions are as much as possible reflected in the international ABS regime.	2.1. African negotiators participate substantively in the international ABS negotiations.	Attendance in preparatory meetings and negotiations; Interviews with negotiators
	2.2. African policy makers are supporting the African position(s) in the High Level Sections of negotiations / elsewhere.	Statements and reports

Indicator 2.1. *achieved* – Attendance of African negotiators in all preparatory meetings which were organized by the Initiative and the negotiations itself was high and significant, i.e. key negotiators were present. The high recognition of the substantive preparedness of the African Group is also reflected in the fact that two of six contact group co-chairs were appointed from the African Group at WGABS 7.

Indicator 2.2. *achieved* – In the run-up to COP 10 the African negotiation position on the ABS protocol was the core working document at African preparatory ministerial meetings, (Windhoek, March 2010 Windhoek and in Bamako, June 2010). At both meetings the position has been endorsed by the African Ministers accompanied with guidance to the negotiators which elements of the position can be further negotiated technically and which elements have to be dealt with deal at the political level. Based on this African Ministers took up at the Nagoya High Level Section the remaining open issues of the African Position which required a political solution (e.g. scope and compliance related positions) and negotiated them successfully in close exchange with the African key negotiators in parallel to the technical Interregional Negotiation Group (ING).

Outcome	Indicator	Means of verification
3. African countries develop ABS regulations at the national level.	3.1. At least 15 countries have ABS related draft policies formulated.	Published policy
	3.2. At least 10 countries have ABS regulations enacted.	Gazetted ABS regulations
	3.3. At least 5 countries implement ABS regulations.	Commercial and non-commercial bioprospecting agreements under negotiation and/or signed

Development and implementation of national ABS regulation is still at the beginning in Africa. Only few countries so far have either begun to draft relevant policies or to develop or even enact legislation.

⁷ See http://www.unep.org/roa/Amcen/Amcen_Events/3rd_ss/Docs/MinisterialSegmentReport.pdf

⁸ See http://www.unep.org/roa/amcen/Amcen_Events/13th_Session/Docs/AMCEN-13-10_ENG.pdf

Considering the length of such policy development and legislation processes it is too early for a significant quantification of the three indicators under this outcome. Currently based on the momentum created by the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol we are observing an increasing interest and demand for support to national processes.

Indicator 3.1 – The approved COMIFAC sub-regional ABS strategy covers the ten countries of the Central African Forest Commission and is thus formulating the ABS policy cornerstones for Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, DR Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda and Sao Tomé & Principe. Together with the provisions of the international regime on ABS this strategy will provide the framework for national regulations in the countries of the region. Further activities to support the development of ABS policies are taking place with the ECOWAS and SADC at sub regional and with Morocco and Namibia at national level.

Indicator 3.2 – The Initiative provided or is still providing support to developing / implementing national regulations to

- **Benin** for launching a consultative process by organising a national multi-stakeholder workshop in April 2010 with the aim to raise awareness for the need to formulate a national policy and regulations on ABS. Further support is requested to continue the process in 2011.
- **Cameroon** to improve coordination of ABS and forest related policies through a series of analytical studies which the Fridtjof Nansen Institute (FNI) conducted in 2010⁹.
- the **Ivory Coast** for drafting national ABS regulations: the process is stalled due to the political situation after the presidential elections in November 2010.
- **Kenya** for launching a revision process of existing but dysfunctional ABS regulations by organizing a stakeholder workshop in January 2009 in partnership with the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) and the Research Centre for European Environmental Law (FEU) of the University of Bremen.
- **Liberia** for drafting national ABS regulations: drafting ABS regulations and an explanatory document was finalized after COP 10. The draft will undergo regional (March 2011) and national consultations (May 2011) with a view to pass the (revised) draft through cabinet before the next presidential elections in September 2011.
- **Madagascar** for drafting national ABS regulations: further support at the government level was cancelled after the coup d'état in March 2009.

In a number of other countries (e.g. Benin, Madagascar, Morocco) the interest in regulating ABS was stimulated at the political level by actively involving relevant national institutions in the organisation of regional ABS workshops and trainings. Further requests for support or even concrete proposals have been tabled by Botswana, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria and Togo.

Outcome	Indicator	Means of verification
4. African stakeholders enter into equitable ABS partnerships with the private sector.	4.1. Resource providers receive monetary and/or non-monetary benefits.	Commercial and non-commercial bioprospecting agreements
	4.2. Dialogue processes at the national sub-regional and international level are taking place.	Workshop reports; joint recommendations

Indicator 4.1 and 4.2. – The readiness of African negotiators to actively engage in discussions with representatives of different business sector increased over time. Building on a brief initial exchange during WGABS 7 in Paris the Initiative organized in cooperation with the *Union of Ethical BioTrade (UEBT)*, *PhytoTrade Africa* and the *International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)* a Business Dialogue Forum on ABS in September 2009 providing an opportunity for some African negotiators and a small group of business and commercial research representatives to enter into a moderated dialogue about

⁹ See <http://www.fni.no/ABS/publications.html>

the interests behind the different negotiation positions. The open and constructive atmosphere of the dialogue forum set a solid foundation for further exchange meetings which took place at the margins of the different negotiation meetings in 2009 and 2010.

In partnership with the Danish Ministry of Environment the Initiative organized in September 2010 in Copenhagen, Denmark, a 2nd Business Dialogue Forum to discuss with some African key negotiators and representatives European business and development agencies about the challenges of and which role public-private-partnerships could take in creating enabling environments for successful partnerships in sourcing of genetic resources and product development in provider countries.

Building on the established trust the Secretariat of the Initiative engaged in intensive discussion with private sector partners such as PhytoTrade Africa and UEFT to develop qualified project proposals addressing some of the identified challenges with a view to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on the ground. It is expected that at least two of these proposal will be approved and start implementation in 201 (see 3.1).

Annex A: Letter of acknowledgement of Achim Steiner, Executive
Director of UNEP



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programme da la Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente
البرنامج االأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



Our Ref: DELC/GTZ//BP/nm

Date: 6 May 2009

Dear Mr. Drews,

I wish to inform you that we are entering a critical and crucial phase of negotiations related to finalizing the International Regime on Access and Benefit Sharing (IR-ABS) under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

National and regional capacities need to be strengthened where available and be built where needed to ensure that there is equitable participation of all regions and stakeholders in the negotiation processes. It is heartening to note substantive changes in the preparatory processes in Africa due to the multi-donor "ABS Capacity Development Initiative for Africa" which obviously has positive impact, not just in the way Africa is preparing for the negotiations, but also providing the needed capacities for governments and stakeholders in formalizing inputs into ABS discussions and processes as well as drafting and implementing ABS regulations at the national and regional level.

In light of the need to support such a process and initiative for Africa as well as other regions, UNEP is partnering with the multi-donor initiative and calls upon the Initiative, its donors and partners to continue with these efforts and look at ways and means of expanding to other regions for which the Initiative will require additional support from other donors.

UNEP is keen to continue its engagement with this Initiative and looks forward to further strengthening the programme and its reach.

Yours sincerely

Achim Steiner
Executive Director

Mr. Andreas Drews
Co-ordinator of the ABS Capacity Development Initiative for Africa
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH
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65760 Eschborn
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Annex B: Letter of gratitude of Sem T. Shikongo, African
Intersessional Coordinator and Chief Negotiator



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM

Directorate of Tourism
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sts@met.na/s_shikongo@hotmail.com
Our ref: N 24 /

Enquiries: S. T. Shikongo

10/11/10

Dear Andreas, Suhel and Colleagues,

SUBJECT: THANK YOU

I hope that by now you have all settled back into the normal life without the ABS negotiations. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of myself and my country, Namibia for the support that you have provided not only to me as African Chief Negotiator but to the entire African continent through the Initiative. I have been involved in numerous negotiating processes both within the CBD and other related Convention and I am happy to testify that the Initiative indeed did change the way African Negotiators prepare and engage in negotiations. This change was in a positive direction and made the African Group a formidable negotiation block.

As I mentioned during the side event on the Initiative in Nagoya the Initiative had numerous positive impacts on the African negotiating team I would like to re-state some of those positive interventions here again as follows:

- The preparatory meetings contributed to African team building as well as ensuring that all negotiators are brought quickly and efficiently to the same level of understanding of the negotiating position of Africa
- Simultaneous interpretation bridges gap between Francophone and Anglophone countries it also enhanced the inter-regional consultation process and minimised time spend on interpretation.
- Technical inputs of international experts provided background information and contribute to informed discussions.
- Allowed for consultation and internal coordination of the African Group prior to the official CBD meetings

- Allow refinement and update of the official African Group's position in the negotiations on ABS

The significance of the work carried out by the Initiative became very clear to me in Nagoya when a limited number of ABS negotiators could participate in the COP thanks to the support of the Initiative. Despite the fact that some ABS negotiators had to follow the COP proper the small team that remained focused on the ABS negotiation continued to negotiate effectively until the end of the negotiations.

In no small way the Initiative have made the above possible. We are also grateful for the support provided to Mr. Rukondo and Mr. Bavikate who become a crucial part of the African Group Negotiating team.

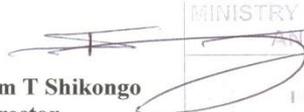
I hope the Initiative will continue its support to Africa especially now when many African countries will embark on the process of implementing the ABS Protocol as well as developing their own national ABS legislative instruments.

I, as the Chief Negotiator for Africa, am indebted to the Initiative and to all the donor countries that have made the Initiative possible, and hereby would also like to extend my appreciation and thanks to them through you on behalf of the African Group.

I cannot but also especially thank you, Andreas and Suhel, for your dedication, commitment and guidance to the Initiative. Without your contribution it would not have been possible to achieve so much. I know that it came at a sacrifice. Many times you were away from your families in order for you to be with us and assist us. For this we are grateful.

It has been an honor and privilege to work with both of you and your team and I can now walk away knowing that together we made a difference not only for Africa but also for the rest of the developing world.

I salute you on behalf of Africa!


Sem T Shikongo
Director

Former African ABS Intersessional Coordinator and Chief Negotiator



Annex C: Endorsement of the Regional ABS Strategy for Central Africa
by the acting President of the COMIFAC Minister's council



Commission des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale
COMIFAC

DECISION N° 004/COMIFAC/Pr/CM/CO.ORD/VI/11

Portant adoption de la Stratégie des pays de l'espace COMIFAC relative à l'Accès aux ressources biologiques/génétiques et au Partage juste et équitable des Avantages découlant de leur utilisation (APA)

LE PRESIDENT EN EXERCICE DE LA COMIFAC ;

Vu la Déclaration des Chefs d'Etat d'Afrique Centrale du 17 mars 1999 sur la conservation et la gestion durable des forêts tropicales, dite « Déclaration de Yaoundé » ;

Vu le Traité du 05 février 2005 relatif à la Conservation et à la gestion durable des écosystèmes forestiers et instituant la Commission des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale, notamment ses articles 9 et 10 ;

Vu le Plan de Convergence de la Commission des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale relatif à la conservation et à la gestion durable des écosystèmes forestiers d'Afrique Centrale adopté le 05 février 2005 par les Chefs d'Etat d'Afrique Centrale ;

Vu le Plan d'Opérations triennal 2009-2011 du Plan de Convergence de la COMIFAC validé en juillet 2009 par les Ministres en charge des forêts et de l'environnement des pays d'Afrique Centrale ;

Vu les décisions et recommandations adoptées par la 6^{ème} Session ordinaire du Conseil des Ministres en charge des Forêts et de l'Environnement des pays d'Afrique Centrale tenue à Kinshasa les 10 et 11 novembre 2010 ;

DECIDE

ARTICLE 1^{ER} :

Est adoptée la Stratégie des pays de l'espace COMIFAC relative à l'Accès aux ressources biologiques/génétiques et au Partage juste et équitable des Avantages découlant de leur utilisation (APA) ;

ARTICLE 2 :

1. Le Secrétariat Général de la CEEAC est invité à appuyer la mise en œuvre de la stratégie dans les pays à travers un programme régional de valorisation des ressources biologiques/génétiques.
2. Le Secrétariat Exécutif de la COMIFAC est chargé d'élaborer un projet de cadre d'appui légal en matière d'APA en vue d'appuyer les pays membres de la COMIFAC à se doter de législations harmonisées sur APA.

ARTICLE 3 :

La présente décision prend effet à compter de la date de sa signature et sera communiquée partout où besoin sera.

Fait à Kinshasa, le

12 5 JAN 2011

Le Président en Exercice,

Jose E. B. ENDUNDO

Ministre de l'Environnement, Conservation
de la Nature et Tourisme de la
République Démocratique du Congo

Annex D: Budget and actual expenditure for the implementation of the ABS Capacity Development Initiative for Africa in 2010

	Budgeted costs (€)	Actual expenditure in 2010 (€)					Difference to budget
		BMZ	IEPF	Norway	Denmark	Total	
0 Secretariat and co-ordination							
0.1 Staff costs:							
0.1.1 Co-ordinator (80%)	72.000	76.070				76.070	-4.070
0.1.3 ABS specialists (100% + 50%)	126.000	75.633		55.754		131.387	-5.387
0.1.4 Travel and Workshop Manager (2 x 100%)	108.000			104.145		104.145	3.855
0.1.5 Finance administrator (50%)	27.000	25.628				25.628	1.372
Sub-totals	333.000	177.331	0	159.898	0	337.230	-4.230
0.2 Consultants							
0.2.1 Supporting co-ordination	120.000			157.246		157.246	-37.246
0.2.2 Advice to African Group, reporting, translations etc.	0			118.620		118.620	-118.620
Sub-totals	120.000	0	0	275.866	0	275.866	-155.866
0.3 Running costs:							
0.3.1 Office rent, communication, ...	12.000	13.284		636		13.919	-1.919
Sub-totals	12.000	13.284	0	636	0	13.919	-1.919
0.4 Travel secretariat:							
0.4.1 Tickets secretariat staff	15.000	11.448		1.868		13.316	1.684
0.4.2 Travel secretariat-staff (days)	7.500	4.407		3.772		8.179	-679
Sub-totals	22.500	15.855	0	5.640	0	21.495	1.005
0.5 Procurement:							
0.5.1 Office equipment (server, computer...)	10.000	2.737				2.737	7.263
Sub-totals	10.000	2.737	0	0	0	2.737	7.263
0 Sub total (I) Secretariat and co-ordination	497.500	209.207	0	442.040	0	651.247	-153.747
1 APPROACH 1: Capacity development of relevant stakeholders							
1.1 Technical & legal trainings							
1.1.1 Legal & technical skills training: University of Cape Town	40.000			1.898		1.898	38.102
1.1.2 Facilitating multistakeholder WS: train-the-trainer	40.000			73.077		73.077	-33.077
1.1.3 BCP implementation: train-the-trainer	0	4.400		25.000		29.400	-29.400
1.1.4 ABS and forest governance / sust. use	30.000			20.070		20.070	9.930
1.1.5 TK and IPR WS	100.000					0	100.000
1.1.6 Technical and political studies and papers	180.000			134.056		134.056	45.944
Sub-totals	390.000	0	4.400	254.101	0	258.501	131.499
1.2 Multi-stakeholder WS							
Africa-wide annual WS (12/2009)			23.572	31.121		54.693	-54.693
Subregional annual WS (09/2009)				66.655		66.655	-66.655
1.2.1 Subregional annual WS	90.000					0	90.000
Dialogue forum private sector (10/2009)	0			10.950		10.950	-10.950
1.2.2 Dialogue forum private sector	40.000				14.077	14.077	25.923
1.2.3 Africa-wide annual WS	160.000				42.189	42.189	117.811
Sub-totals	290.000	0	23.572	108.726	56.267	188.565	101.435
1.3 CEPA							
CEPA Expert Meeting (06/2009)				5.909		5.909	-5.909
1.3.1 Production of awareness raising film	55.000				5.784	5.784	49.216
1.3.2 Publications & brochures	30.000			8.138		8.138	21.862
1.3.3 Documentation of ABS cases	0					0	0
1.3.4 ABS compendium & tool	10.000					0	10.000
1.3.5 Web site maintenance & update	30.000		3.887	1.886	1.786	7.558	22.442
Sub-totals	125.000	0	3.887	15.932	7.570	27.389	97.611
Sub total (II) Approach 1	805.000	0	31.859	378.759	63.836	474.455	330.545
2 APPROACH 2: Preparation and follow-up of CBD meetings on ABS							
2.1 Delegates preparation							
African consultation prior WGABS 8 (09/2009)			14.752	9.676		24.428	-24.428
2.1.1 African consultation prior WGABS 9	60.000				42.293	42.293	17.707
2.1.2 African Ministerial Conference	300.000				286.052	286.052	13.948
2.1.3 African consultation prior COP 10	60.000				31.415	31.415	28.585
ILC coordination prior WGABS 8 (09/2009)	0			19.025		19.025	-19.025
2.1.4 ILC coordination prior to COP 10	80.000		23.425	94.132		117.557	-37.557
2.1.5 African briefing WGABS 9	20.000		9.392	20.867		30.259	-10.259
2.1.6 African briefing COP 10	20.000	1.292				1.292	18.708
Sub-totals	540.000	1.292	47.569	143.700	359.760	552.321	-12.321
Sub-total (III) Approach 2	540.000	1.292	47.569	143.700	359.760	552.321	-12.321
3 APPROACH 3: Support to national implementation							
3.1 Development of national ABS regulations							
3.1.1 Benin	30.000	5.000		5.892		10.892	19.108
3.1.2 Ivory Coast	50.000					0	50.000
3.1.3 Liberia	50.000			14.083		14.083	35.917
3.1.4 Madagascar	20.000					0	20.000
Sub-totals	150.000	5.000	0	19.975	0	24.975	125.025
3.2 Implementing ABS agreements & regulations							
3.2.1 Development of BCPs (Natural Justice)	90.000	118.413				118.413	-28.413
3.2.2 COMIFAC (10 countries)	100.000	108.000				108.000	-8.000
Sub-totals	190.000	226.413	0	0	0	226.413	-36.413
Sub-total (IV) Approach 3	340.000	231.413	0	19.975	0	251.389	88.611

Annex E: List of workshops, trainings and conferences organized and attended by the ABS Initiative

Events not organized by the Initiative are listed in blue italics.

25.-29.01.10	ABS and TK Training Course, Cape Town
26.-29.01.10	<i>10th meeting of the Central African Working Group on Biodiversity (GTBAC). Douala, Cameroon</i>
04.-06.03.10	African Regional Consultations for WGABS-9, Windhoek
08.-10.03.10	African Minister Conference on ABS, Windhoek
16.-18.03.10	<i>Inter-Regional Informal ABS Consultations, Cali</i>
20.-21.03.10	African Regional Consultations prior to WGABS-9, Cali
22.-28.03.10	<i>WGABS 9, Cali</i>
12.-16.04.10	Anglophone Facilitator Training, Bonn
13.-17.04.10	1 st National ABS Workshop Benin, Cotonou
03.-07.05.10	Francophone Facilitator Training, Bonn
08.-10.05.10	<i>African WIPO-ABS Coordination, Geneva</i>
17.-21.05.10	<i>SBSTTA 14, Nairobi</i>
24.-28.05.10	<i>WGRI 3, Nairobi</i>
15.-16.06.10	<i>SusCon 2010 - International Conference on Sustainable Business and Consumption, Nürnberg</i>
21.-25.06.10	<i>13th African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, Bamako</i>
25.-26.07.10	<i>GTBAC Steering Committee meeting on governance and GEF financing for ABS</i>
06.-07.07.10	Preparatory Meeting of African Negotiators, Montreal
08.-09.07.10	<i>African Regional Consultations, Montreal</i>
10.-16.07.10	<i>WGABS 9bis / Interregional Negotiation Group (ING), Montreal</i>
20.-23.07.10	<i>IEPF Summer School, Bamako</i>
30.08.-01.09.10	African ILC Preparatory Meeting prior to COP 10, Cape Town
02.-03.09.10	African BCP Network Meeting, Cape Town
02.-03.09.10	<i>Extraordinary GTBAC validation meeting of the sub-regional ABS strategy</i>
17.09.10	<i>Inter-regional Consultations prior to ING 2, Montreal</i>
18.-21.09.10	<i>ING 2, Montreal</i>
28.-29.09.10	Business Dialogue, Copenhagen
13.-15.10.10	<i>ING 3, Nagoya</i>
16.10.10	<i>WGABS 9ter, Nagoya</i>
18.-29.10.10	<i>ING / COP 10, Nagoya</i>
06.-10.12-10	<i>WIPO IGC 17, Geneva</i>