



# Webinar on the report of the informal Co-Chairs' Advisory Group on Digital Sequence Information on genetic resources (DSI IAG)

Global Webinar

14th December 2021, 13:00-15:00 CET

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Federal Ministry  
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# Welcome

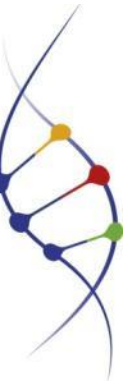


- **Lactitia Tshitwamulomoni**  
Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, South Africa
- **Gaute Voigt-Hanssen**  
Ministry of Climate and Environment, Norway
- **Andreas Gettkant**  
ABS Capacity Development Initiative, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

# Background



2020 UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE  
COP 15 - CP/MOP10 - NP/MOP4  
Ecological Civilization-Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth  
KUNMING · CHINA



- **COP 14** acknowledged the divergence of views among Parties on benefit-sharing from the use of DSI, and Parties committed to working towards resolving this divergence through a science- and policy-based process and further consultations.
- ABS Initiative to continue activities on DSI in the context of the Norwegian – South African Environmental Cooperation Program.
- So far: webinars, Global Dialogue on DSI brought together govt' experts / negotiators, stakeholders from various sectors, IPLC representatives.
- Objective: support for an informed exchange on DSI during OEWG 3 in the context of the future post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework
- **Formal intersessional process** preparing for OEWG 3: informed by submissions on DSI; further analyses of the policy approaches, options and modalities; Co-Chairs Informal Advisory Group on DSI, report by Co-Leads.
- As contribution to the **informal intersessional process**, the ABS Initiative will focus on informing / discussing key documents, topics and processes related to DSI discussion – guided by Co-Leads of the contact group on DSI of the OEWG 3.1.
- <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/WG2020-03>

# Agenda



Welcome by South Africa & Norway Partnership and ABS Initiative	
Overview of the IAG report	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Background and context</li><li>• Main content and results</li></ul>	Suhel al-Janabi
	Timothy Hodges
Reflection panel with Q&A	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kick-off exchange among panelists</li><li>• Q&amp;A and discussion between floor and panel</li></ul>	Timothy Hodges Margo Bagley Christopher Lyal
	Facilitation: ABS Initiative
Closing remarks, take home messages (ABS Initiative)	



forestry, fisheries  
& the environment  
Department:  
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



THE ABS  
CAPACITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
INITIATIVE



L'INITIATIVE DE  
RENFORCEMENT  
DES CAPACITES  
POUR L'APA

# CO-LEADS' REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE INFORMAL CO-CHAIRS' ADVISORY GROUP ON DIGITAL SEQUENCE INFORMATION ON GENETIC RESOURCES

## OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

### Third meeting (Resumed); Item 5 of the provisional agenda

*Suhel al-Janabi*  
*Timothy Hodges*

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Convention on  
Biological Diversity

CBD

Distr.  
GENERAL

CBD/WG.2020/3/INF/8

18 November 2021

ENGLISH ONLY

OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP  
ON THE POST-2020 GLOBAL  
BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK  
Third meeting (resumed)  
Venue and dates to be determined  
Agenda item 5

CO-LEADS' REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE INFORMAL CO-CHAIRS' ADVISORY  
GROUP ON DIGITAL SEQUENCE INFORMATION ON GENETIC RESOURCES

Note by the co-leads of the Informal Co-Chairs' Advisory Group on digital sequence information on  
genetic resources

#### I. INTRODUCTION

##### A. Background

1. At the first part of the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, held virtually from 23 August to 3 September 2021, the Co-chairs, Mr. Basile van Herre (Canada) and Mr. Francis Ogora (Uganda), reported that the Co-Chairs and the Executive Secretary, Mr. Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, would establish an informal Co-Chairs' advisory group on digital sequence information on genetic resources (advisory group). The advisory group would be led by the co-leads of the contact group that had considered this matter during the third meeting of the Working Group, namely Mr. Lachlan Tiliakos (South Africa) and Mr. Gaste Vogt-Hansen (Norway) and would assist the Co-Chairs in conducting informal consultations on the matter during the intersessional period.

2. As stated in its terms of reference,<sup>1</sup> the advisory group was established to provide advice and feedback to the Co-Chairs and the Executive Secretary on the following elements in advance of the second part of the third meeting of the Working Group:

(a) The understanding of an assessment of consequences of possible policy approaches, options or modalities for benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of digital sequence information on genetic resources (DSI), based on the report of the first part of the third meeting of the Working Group, including CBD/WG.2020/3/CRP.1, annexes II and III of document CBD/WG.2020/3/4, and submissions received by 30 September 2021;

(b) Areas of potential convergence and areas of divergence based on the summary prepared by the co-leads, annexed to the report on the first part of the third meeting of the Working Group;

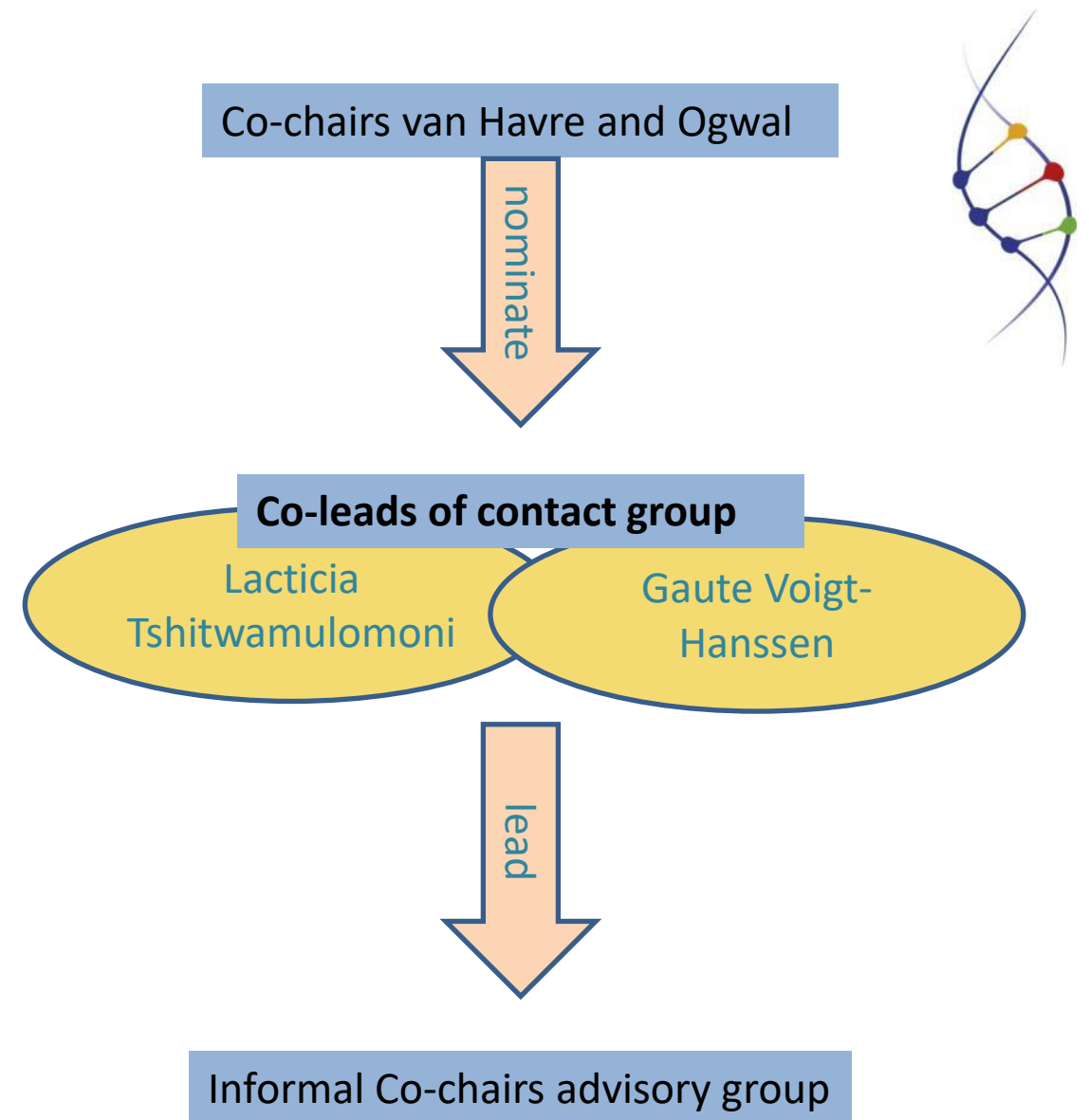
(c) Areas of additional work on DSI that may be required in the period between the third meeting of the Working Group and the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Parties.

<sup>1</sup> See the Appendix to annex V of the report of the meeting CBD/WG.2020/3/5.

# Background

Status of DSI-related process:  
*where are we after virtual OEWG 3?*

- During part one of the third meeting of the OEWG and post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (23rd August to 3rd September 2021) the **Co-Chairs** Mr Basil van Havre and Mr Francis Ogwal established an **informal Co-chairs advisory group** on digital sequence information (DSI) on genetic resources
- Led by the **co-leads** of the contact group: **Lacticia Tshitwamulomoni** (South Africa) and **Gaute Voigt-Hanssen** (Norway)

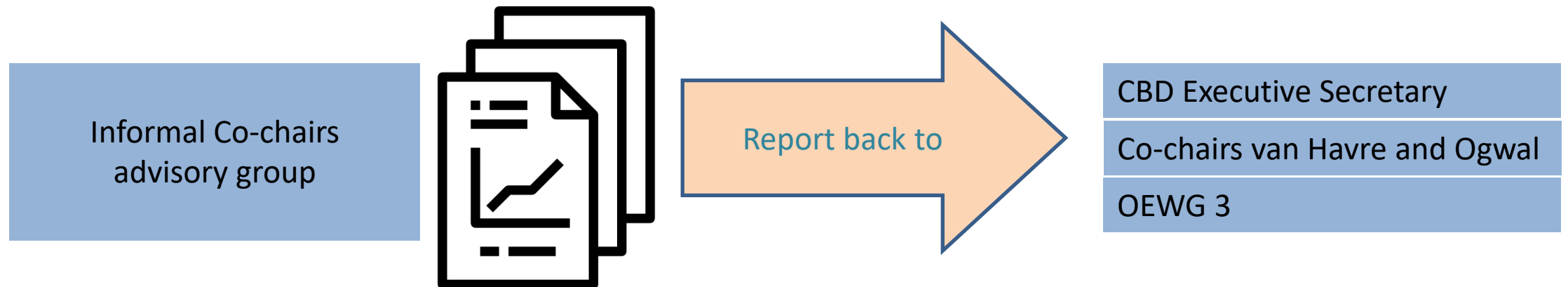


# Background



## Purpose of the advisory group

- The purpose of the group is to **provide advice and feedback** to the **Co-chairs** and the **Executive secretary** on DSI in preparation for the second part of the meeting of the OEWG that was planned to take place in January 2022 in Geneva – now March 2022



# Background



## The advisory group should consider

- the undertaking of an **assessment** or consequences, policy approaches, options and modalities for benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of DSI
- areas of **potential convergence** and areas of **divergence** based on the summary made by the co-leads
- **areas of additional work** on DSI that may be required in the period between the third meeting of the OEWG and COP15
- **existing and potential forthcoming** inputs such as studies, dialogues, views, etc. from formal and informal activities related to DSI

# Composition

## 26 govt' and 6 IPLC reps

Africa - Ms. Mphatso Kalemba, Malawi  
Africa - Mr. Pierre du Plessis, Namibia  
Africa - Mr. Samson Gwali, Uganda  
Africa - Mr. Benson Mburu Kinyagia, Kenya  
Africa - Mr. Ben Durham, South Africa

Asia and the Pacific - Mr. Hitoshi Kozaki, Japan  
Asia and the Pacific - Mr. Fu Wei Zhao, China  
Asia and the Pacific - Mr. Won Seog Park, Republic of Korea

CEE - Ms. Zlata, Grabovac Bosnia and Herzegovina  
CEE - Ms. Elzbieta Martyniuk, Poland  
CEE - Ms. Dasa Majcen, Slovenia  
CEE - Ms. Galina Mozgova, Belarus  
CEE - Ms. Eliška Rolfová, Czech Republic

WEOG - Mr. Hugo-Maria Schally, European Union  
WEOG - Mr. Thomas Greiber, Germany  
WEOG - Mr. Guillaume Faure, France  
WEOG - Ms. Katie Beckett United, Kingdom  
WEOG - Mr. Min Hahn, Switzerland  
WEOG - Ms. Kathlyn Scholl, United States of America

GRULAC - Ms. Melania Muñoz, Costa Rica  
GRULAC - Mr. Esteban Neira, Colombia  
GRULAC - Mr. Diego Pacheco, Bolivia  
GRULAC - Ms. Aide Jimenez, Mexico  
GRULAC - Ms. Patricia Gadaleta, Argentina  
GRULAC - Mr. Carlos Rollemberg, Brazil

IPLC - Ms. Faith Nataya, Africa  
IPLC - Mr. John Locke, Pacific  
IPLC - Ms. Polina Shulbaeva Central and Eastern, Europe  
IPLC - Ms. María Yolanda Terán Maigua, Central, South America, Caribbean  
IPLC - Mr. Preston Dana Hardison, North America  
IPLC - Ms. Jennifer Corpuz, Asia

*as per CBD notification of 29.Oct 2021*



# Organization of Work

## 1 + 4 meetings



*Annex*

### ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE ADVISORY GROUP

Date and time (Montreal time)	Agenda
<i>Kick-off meeting: Wednesday 22 September 2021</i>	
7.30-9.00 am	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome from co-leads and Co-Chairs</li> <li>2. Introductions</li> <li>3. Terms of Reference of the Group</li> <li>4. Logistics and administrative items</li> <li>5. Presentation of the work plan for the upcoming sessions</li> </ol>
<i>1<sup>st</sup> working meeting: Wednesday 6 October 2021</i>	
7.30-10.30am	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Presentation of key new elements arising from the compilation of submissions</li> <li>2. Presentation on multi-criteria decision-making frameworks</li> <li>3. Presentation and discussion on updated policy options and criteria framework (matrix)</li> </ol>
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> working meeting: Wednesday 20 October 2021</i>	
7.30-10.30am	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Feedback on revised assessment framework document</li> <li>2. Expert presentation on key issues of divergence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• open access: Professor Sabina Leonelli</li> <li>• traditional knowledge: Professor Maui Hudson</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Discussion on areas of convergence/divergence</li> </ol>
<i>Additional working meeting: Wednesday 27 October 2021</i>	
7.30-10.30am	<p>Discussions on areas of convergence and divergence:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Open data</li> <li>2. Traditional knowledge</li> <li>3. Other areas of potential convergence and apparent divergence</li> <li>4. Planning of the report to be presented to the working group</li> </ol>
<i>3<sup>rd</sup> working meeting: Wednesday 3 November 2021</i>	
7.30-10.30am	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Comments on updated framework and criteria</li> <li>2. Comments on updated summary of areas of convergence and divergence</li> <li>3. Discussion of recommendations for areas of further work</li> <li>4. Planning: Co-leads' report on the Informal Co-Chairs' Advisory Group</li> </ol>

# Organization of the Report



## Section I: Introduction

I A: Background

I B: Organizational Matters

## Section II: Outcomes of the Informal Co-chairs Advisory Group

II A: Framework for the assessment of policy options related to the access and benefit-sharing in respect of digital sequence information on genetic resources

II B: Co-leads' summary of the discussion on potential convergence and apparent divergence of the IAG

## Section III: Co-leads' Conclusions and Recommendations from the Discussions of the IAG

III A: Potential elements of recommendation

III B: Areas for further consideration towards convergence

III C: Mandate to advance work on the multi-criteria analysis and for continuing the IAG's work

# PERFORMANCE MATRIX

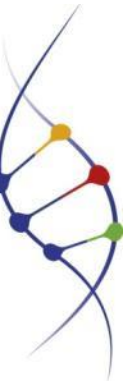


6. Performance matrix

Criteria and sub-criteria	Scoring 10=high-performing; 0=non-performing; 1=low-performing; N/A=do not know /not applicable. OR pass/fail	Option 0	Option 1	Option 2		Option 3		Option 4	Option 5	Option 6
		Status Quo	DSI treated as GR	Country MAT	Global MAT	Payment for access to DSI	Other contributions	Enhanced TSC and CB	No benefit sharing from DSI	1% levy on retail sales of GR
<b>A. Effective in achieving policy goals</b>										
1. Potential to deliver predictable monetary benefits										
2. Potential to deliver predictable non-monetary benefits										
3. Access to public databases remains open										
4. Does not hinder research and innovation										
5. Potential to contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity										
<b>B. Efficient and feasible to implement</b>										
6. Technically feasible										
7. Legally feasible										
8. Legally clear and certain to implement										
9. Administratively simple										
10. Implementable in an efficient and timely manner										
11. Enables distinction between commercial and non-commercial use of DSI										
12. Cost of set-up and implementation										
<b>C. Enables good governance</b>										
13. Easy to understand by providers and users										
14. Easily enforceable by providers										
15. Ease of compliance for users										
16. Does result in jurisdiction shopping										
17. Facilitates the sharing of benefits with IPLCs										
<b>D. Coherent and adaptable</b>										
18. Coherence with other forums considering DSI										
19. Agile and adaptable to future technological and scientific development										

From: CBD/WG2020/3/INF/8, 18 November 2021. *Co-leads' Report on the Work of the Informal Co-chairs' Advisory Group on Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources*

# Panel Exchange



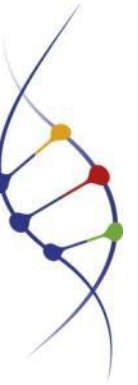
- **Timothy Hodges**  
*Strategic Global Affairs, Institute for the Study of International Development,  
Mc Gill University, Montreal*
- **Margo Bagley**  
*Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Law,  
Emory University School of Law, Atlanta*
- **Christopher Lyal**  
*Department of Life Science,  
The Natural History Museum, London*

# Questions and Answers



- Please type your comments and questions in the chat
- Colleagues from the ABS Initiative will screen the chat and compile aggregated questions and comments
- ABS Initiative will present questions and comments to the panelists, who will endeavor to address them
- (Remaining) questions and comments will inform topics and orientations of future webinars and dialogues

# Thank you!



*Further information can be found on our website:*  
[www.abs-biotrade.info](http://www.abs-biotrade.info)

ABS Capacity Development Initiative  
Division Climate Change, Environment & Infrastructure  
GloBe - Department Sector and Global Programmes

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