

**INTERIM NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAGOYA  
PROTOCOL  
IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS**

**Institutional structures for the implementation of the Protocol**

**1. Has your country taken legislative, administrative and policy measures on ABS?**

Yes. The Republic of Belarus has taken the following administrative measures:

By Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus of May 22, 2014 No. 235, the Republic of Belarus acceded to the Nagoya Protocol and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection was designated as the State body responsible for compliance with the Protocol commitments.

In accordance with Article 33 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus “On International Treaties of the Republic of Belarus”, prior to the development of a national legal and administrative framework ensuring access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, the Nagoya Protocol has the force of a Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the country and must be observed by all legal entities and individuals.

**2. Has your country designated a national focal point as provided in Article 13?**

Yes. The National Coordination Centre on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing was established by the Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus of October 1, 2014 No. 933 at the State Scientific Institution “The Institute of Genetics and Cytology, the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus.”

**3. Has your country designated one or more competent national authorities as provided in Article 13?**

Yes. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Belarus (the Clearing-House **ID: ABSCH-CNA-BY-201855-2**) has been designated as the Competent National Authority in the Republic of Belarus that will be responsible, after the development of the national legal and administrative framework for ensuring access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, for providing access or issuance, as applicable, of written confirmation that requirements regulating access are complied with; it will provide counselling services on matters related to current procedures and requirements for obtaining prior informed consent and concluding mutually agreed benefit-sharing terms in line with paragraph 2 of Article 13 of the Nagoya Protocol.

**4. Has your country made available to the ABS Clearing-House permits or their equivalent issued at the time of access as evidence of the decision to grant prior informed consent (PIC) and of the establishment of mutually agreed terms (MAT)?**

No. In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol’s provisions have not been developed yet.

At the same time, Belarus is taking part in the global UNEP-GEF project “Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol” (2017-2019), and the national legal and administrative framework for access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, including traditional knowledge associated with them, is to be developed as part of it.

**5. Has your country made available to the ABS Clearing-House permits or their equivalent for the constitution of an internationally recognized certificate of compliance in accordance with Article 17.2?**

No. In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol’s provisions

have not been developed yet.

At the same time, Belarus is taking part in the global UNEP-GEF project “Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol” (2017-2019), and the national legal and administrative framework for access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, including traditional knowledge associated with them, is to be developed as part of it.

#### **6. Has your country designated one or more checkpoints as provided in Article 17?**

Yes. In accordance with the Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus of October 1, 2014, No. 933, the National Coordination Centre on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing (ABS NCC) at the State Scientific Institution “Institute of Genetics and Cytology of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus” was designated as the Checkpoint to monitor the utilization of genetic resources as provided for in Article 17 of the Nagoya Protocol.

#### **7. Summary of the main difficulties and challenges:**

In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol’s provisions have not been developed yet.

At the same time, Belarus is taking part in the global UNEP-GEF project “Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol” (2017-2019), and the national legal and administrative framework for access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, including traditional knowledge associated with them, is to be developed as part of it.

### **Legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing (ABS measures)**

#### **Access to genetic resources (Article 6)**

#### **8. Is access to genetic resources subject to PIC as provided in Article 6.1?**

No. In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol’s provisions have not been developed yet, but in accordance with Article 33 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus “On International Treaties of the Republic of Belarus”, the Nagoya Protocol has the force of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the country and should to be observed by all legal persons and individuals.

At the same time, Belarus is taking part in the global UNEP-GEF project “Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol” (2017-2019), and the national legal and administrative framework for access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, including traditional knowledge associated with them, is to be developed as part of it.

#### **9. Does your country have fair and non-arbitrary rules and procedures on accessing genetic resources as provided in Article 6.3 (b)?**

No. In Belarus, National ABS administrative mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol provisions have not been developed yet, but in accordance with Article 33 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus “On International Treaties of the Republic of Belarus”, the Nagoya Protocol has the force of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the country and should to be observed by all legal persons and individuals.

In the course of the UNEP-GEF project implementation “Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol” (2017-2019), the national legal and

administrative framework for access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, including traditional knowledge associated with them, is to be developed as part of it.

**10. Does your country provide information on how to apply for PIC as provided in Article 6.3(c)?**

Yes. In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol's provisions have not been developed yet. At the same time, in accordance with the Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus of October 1, 2014, No. 933, the National Coordination Centre on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing (NCC-ABS) provides information to stakeholders on access to the genetic resources of the Republic of Belarus and terms of their use, including benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of those resources.

**11. Does your country provide for a clear and transparent written decision by a competent national authority as provided in Article 6.3 (d)?**

No. In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol's provisions have not been developed yet. In the course of the UNEP-GEF project implementation "Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol" (2017-2019), the national legal and administrative framework for access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, including traditional knowledge associated with them, is to be developed as part of it.

**12. Does your country provide for the issuance at the time of access of a permit or its equivalent as provided in Article 6.3 (e)?**

No. In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol's provisions have not been developed yet. In the course of the UNEP-GEF project implementation "Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol" (2017-2019), the national legal and administrative framework for access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, including traditional knowledge associated with them, is to be developed as part of it.

**13. Does your country have rules and procedures for requiring and establishing MAT as provided in Article 6.3 (g)?**

No. In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol's provisions have not been developed yet. In the course of the UNEP-GEF project implementation "Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol" (2017-2019), the national legal and administrative framework for access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, including traditional knowledge associated with them, is to be developed as part of it.

**14. Benefits received since entry into force of the Protocol for your country from the utilization of:**

The country has reaped no benefits since the Nagoya Protocol entered into force in the Republic of Belarus.

**15. Summary of the main difficulties and challenges:**

In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol's provisions have not been developed yet. In the course of the UNEP-GEF project implementation "Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol" (2017-2019), the national legal and administrative framework for access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, including traditional knowledge associated with them, is to be developed as part of it.

**Fair and equitable benefit-sharing (Article 5)**

**16. Has your country taken legislative, administrative or policy measures to implement Article 5.1 that provides that benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources as well as subsequent applications and commercialization are shared with the Party providing such resources that is the country of origin of such resources or a Party that has acquired the genetic resources in accordance with the Convention as provided in Article 5.3?**

No. The development of legal and administrative measures to implement Article 5.1 is stipulated under the Global UNEP-GEF project “Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol” (2017-2019); the Republic of Belarus is an eligible country to it.

**17. Has your country taken legislative, administrative or policy measures with the aim of ensuring that the benefits from the utilization of genetic resources held by indigenous and local communities, in accordance with domestic legislation regarding the established rights of these indigenous and local communities over these genetic resources, are shared with the indigenous and local communities concerned as provided in Article 5.2?**

No. Legal, administrative and policy measures to implement Article 5.2 at the country level have not been adopted yet. Under the Global UNEP-GEF project “Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol” (2017-2019), it is planned to study this issue taking into account the specifics of political, economic and social structure of Belarus and to develop, based on the results obtained, measures to protect traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources and regulate relations between the holders/keepers of traditional knowledge and their users.

**18. Has your country taken legislative, administrative or policy measures in order that benefits arising from the utilization of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources are shared with indigenous and local communities holding such knowledge as provided in Article 5.5?**

No. Legal, administrative and policy measures to implement Article 5.5 at the country level have not been adopted yet. Under the global UNEP-GEF project “Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol” (2017-2019), it is planned to study this issue taking into account the specifics of political, economic and social structure of Belarus and to develop based on the results obtained measures to protect traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources and to regulate relations between holders/keepers of traditional knowledge and their users.

**Compliance with domestic legislation or regulatory requirements on ABS (Article 15 and Article 16) and monitoring the utilization of genetic resources (Article 17)**

**19. Has your country taken appropriate, effective and proportionate legislative, administrative or policy measures to provide that genetic resources utilized within your jurisdiction have been accessed in accordance with PIC and that MAT have been established as required by the domestic ABS legislation or regulatory requirements of the other Party as provided in Article 15.1?**

In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol’s provisions have not been developed yet, but in accordance with Article 33 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus “On International Treaties of the Republic of Belarus”, the Nagoya Protocol has the force of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the country and should to be observed by all legal persons and individuals.

In accordance with the Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus of October 1, 2014, No. 933, the National Coordination Centre on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing (ABS NCC) provides information to stakeholders on issues related to access to genetic resources of the Republic of Belarus and terms of their use, including benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of those resources.

**20. Has your country taken appropriate, effective and proportionate legislative, administrative or policy measures to provide that traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources utilized within your jurisdiction has been accessed in accordance with PIC or approval and involvement of indigenous and local communities and that MAT have been established as required by the domestic ABS legislation or regulatory requirements of the other Party where such indigenous and local communities are located as provided in Article 16.1?**

No. In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol's provisions have not been developed yet, but in accordance with Article 33 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On International Treaties of the Republic of Belarus", the Nagoya Protocol has the force of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the country and should to be observed by all legal persons and individuals.

In accordance with the Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus of October 1, 2014, No. 933, the National Coordination Centre on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing (ABS NCC) provides information to stakeholders on issues related to access to genetic resources of the Republic of Belarus and terms of their use, including benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of those resources.

**21. Does your country require users of genetic resources to provide information related to PIC, to the source of the genetic resource, to the establishment of MAT and/or utilization of genetic resources at a designated checkpoint, as appropriate, as provided in Article 17.1 (a), (i) and (ii)?**

Yes. In accordance with the Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus of October 1, 2014, No. 933, the Checkpoint to monitor the utilization of genetic resources was designated in line with Article 17 of the Nagoya Protocol. The Checkpoint requires that the users of genetic resources provide information on terms of their utilization and comply with the Nagoya Protocol's provisions as provided in Article 17.1 (a), (i) and (ii).

**22. Is your country encouraging the use of cost-effective communication tools and systems as provided in Article 17.1 (c)?**

No. In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol's provisions have not been developed yet, but in accordance with Article 33 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On International Treaties of the Republic of Belarus", the Nagoya Protocol has the force of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the country and should to be observed by all legal persons and individuals.

After the development of the national legal and administrative ABS framework, the use of cost-effective and communication tools will be encouraged as provided in Article 17.1 (c).

#### **Compliance with mutually agreed terms (Article 18)**

**23. Is your country encouraging the inclusion of provisions in MAT to cover dispute resolution as provided in Article 18.1 (a) (b) and (c)?**

Not applicable, since no access requirements are in place.

After the development of the national legal and administrative ABS framework, the inclusion of provisions on the settlement of disputes based on mutually agreed terms will be encouraged as provided in Article 18.1(a), (b), and (c).

**24. Does your country ensure that opportunity to seek recourse is available under your legal systems in cases of disputes arising from MAT as provided in Article 18.2?**

Yes. The national legislation provides for administrative and legal mechanisms that ensure the settlement of disputes arising out or in connection with mutually agreed terms as provided in Article 18.2.

**25. Has your country taken measures regarding the following points as provided in Article 18.3?**

- *Access to justice?*

Yes. The national legislation provides for administrative and legal mechanisms that ensure access to justice and taking of measures in line with Article 18.3 (a) of the Nagoya Protocol.

- *Utilization mechanisms regarding mutual recognition and enforcement of foreign judgements and arbitral awards?*

Yes. The national legislation provides for administrative and legal mechanisms that ensure mutual recognition and enforcement of decisions delivered by a foreign court, as well as arbitration decisions, in line with Article 18.3 of the Nagoya Protocol.

**Special considerations (Article 8)**

**26. In the development and implementation of ABS legislation or regulatory requirements has your country:**

- *Created conditions to promote and encourage research, which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including through simplified measures for access for non-commercial research purposes, taking into account the need to address a change of intent for such research as provided in Article 8(a)?*

No. In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol's provisions have not been developed yet, but in accordance with Article 33 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On International Treaties of the Republic of Belarus", the Nagoya Protocol has the force of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the country and should to be observed by all legal persons and individuals.

In the course of the national legal and administrative ABS framework development, the terms and conditions pursuant to Article 8 (a) shall be provided.

- *Paid due regard to cases of present or imminent emergencies that threaten or damage human, animal or plant health as provided in Article 8(b)?*

Yes. In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol's provisions have not been developed yet, but in accordance with Article 33 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On International Treaties of the Republic of Belarus", the Nagoya Protocol has the force of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the country and should to be observed by all legal persons and individuals.

In the course of the national legal and administrative ABS framework development, mechanisms for existing and emerging emergencies shall be provided for and response measures shall be developed pursuant to Article 8.(b).

- *Taken into consideration the need for expeditious access to genetic resources and expeditious fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of such genetic resources, including access to affordable treatments by those in need, especially, in developing countries as provided in Article 8(b)?*

No. In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol's provisions have not been developed yet, but in accordance with Article 33 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On International Treaties of the Republic of Belarus", the Nagoya Protocol has the force of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the country and should to be observed by all legal persons and individuals.

In the course of the national legal and administrative ABS framework development, the possibility of fast-track procedures for access to genetic resources pursuant to Article 8 (b) shall be provided.

- *Considered the importance of genetic resources for food and agriculture and their special role for food security as provided in Article 8 (c)?*

Yes. In Belarus, national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol's provisions have not been developed yet, but in accordance with Article 33 of Law of the Republic of Belarus "On International Treaties of the Republic of Belarus", the Nagoya Protocol has the force of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the country and should to be observed by all legal persons and individuals.

In the course of the national legal and administrative ABS framework development, the importance of genetic resources for food and agriculture and their special role in provision of food security shall be taken into account pursuant to Article 8 (c).

#### **Provisions related to indigenous and local communities (Articles 6, 7 and 12)**

##### **27. Does your country have indigenous and local communities?**

No. In Belarus, there are no ILCs (indigenous and local communities). However, there is traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources and its holders are represented by individuals and legal persons. Unfortunately, up to the present moment, no special research related to the study and systematization of information on such traditional knowledge and its holders has been conducted at the country level. At the same time, measures to fill this gap are envisaged under the global UNEP-GEF project "Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol" (2017-2019); Belarus is an eligible country to it.

##### **28. Has your country established mechanisms to inform potential users of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources about their obligations as provided in Article 12.2?**

No. Mechanisms to raise awareness of potential users of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources will be developed under the UNEP-GEF project "Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol" (2017-2019); Belarus is an eligible country to it.

##### **29. Summary of the main difficulties and challenges for putting measures in place in relation to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources:**

In the country, there are no indigenous and local communities. Traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources has not been purposefully studied, and activities aimed to identify such knowledge holders have not been conducted. The activity is to be conducted in the course of the global project implementation.

#### **Contribution to conservation and sustainable use (Article 9)**

##### **30. Is your country encouraging users and providers to direct benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources towards the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its**

**components as provided in Article 9?**

No. In accordance with Article 33 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus “On International Treaties of the Republic of Belarus”, the Nagoya Protocol has the force of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the country and should to be observed by all legal persons and individuals. However, there is no incentive mechanism to encourage users and providers to direct benefits arising from the genetic resources utilization to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components as provided in Article 9. Those mechanisms will be developed under the Global UNEP-GEF project “Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol” (2017-2019); Belarus is an eligible country to it.

**31. Please indicate how the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol has contributed to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in your country:**

The National Coordination Centre on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing holds, in conjunction with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, offsite workshops in National Parks, natural reserves and sanctuaries, including institutions that have banks (collections) of seeds, cell cultures of living organisms, genetically valuable breeds of animals, plant varieties and strains of microorganisms to clarify the Nagoya Protocol provisions and Belarus commitments on their implementation as a Party to this Protocol. Timely awareness-raising helps prevent genetic resources from being provided to third parties without compliance with the Nagoya Protocol’s provisions that contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in Belarus, including genetic resources for food and agriculture.

**Transboundary cooperation (Article 11)**

**32. Is your country endeavouring to cooperate, with the involvement of indigenous and local communities concerned, with a view to implementing the Protocol in instances where the same genetic resources are found *in situ* within the territory of more than one Party as provided in Article 11.1?**

No. The Republic of Belarus is open for cooperation with neighbouring countries, especially with the countries where similar genetic resources can be found, both *in situ* and *ex situ*. An example of such cooperation is the implementation of joint projects within the framework of the European Neighbourhood and EU Transboundary Cooperation Instrument “The Program for Transboundary Cooperation of Poland-Belarus-Ukraine” for 2014-2020. In 2017, a joint project of the Bialowieza National Park (Poland), the Institute of Genetics and Cytology, NAS of Belarus, and the Republican Nature Conservation Institution “Srednaya Pripyat, Prostyr Nature Reserve” (Belarus) for 2018-2019 was submitted to participate in this program – “Protection of genetic diversity of rare and endangered plant species in Poland and Belarus using the DNA-barcoding technique as a tool to study and protect the transboundary Natural Heritage.”

**Model contractual clauses, codes of conduct, guidelines and best practices and/or standards (Article 19 and 20)**

**33. Is your country encouraging the development, update and use of model contractual clauses for MAT as provided in Article 19?**

No. Up until Belarus has developed national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol’s provisions, the Nagoya Protocol has the force of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the country and should to be observed by all legal persons and individuals in accordance with Article 33 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus “On International Treaties of the Republic of Belarus.” As part of the Global UNEP-GEF project “Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to

implement the Nagoya Protocol” (2017-2019), it is planned to develop and use model contractual clauses for mutually agreed terms in line with Article 19.

**34. Is your country encouraging the development, update and use of codes of conduct, guidelines and best practices or standards as provided in Article 20?**

No. Up until Belarus has developed national administrative ABS mechanisms to comply with the Nagoya Protocol’s provisions, the Nagoya Protocol has the force of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus in the country and should to be observed by all legal persons and individuals in accordance with Article 33 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus “On International Treaties of the Republic of Belarus”. As part of the Global UNEP-GEF project “Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol” (2017-2019), it is planned to develop Codes of Conduct, guidelines and best practices and/or innovative standards as provided in Article 20.

**Awareness-raising and capacity (Article 21 and 22)**

**35. Has your country taken measures to raise awareness of the importance of genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources and related access and benefit-sharing issues as provided in Article 21?**

Yes. ABS NCC actively participates in scientific and practical workshops and other activities aimed to discuss the issues related to the conservation and use of genetic resources, with particular attention to the sovereign rights of the States Parties to the Nagoya Protocol over the genetic resources of those countries and traditional knowledge associated with them, raising awareness of violations of such rights in international practice. ABS mechanisms, stipulated by the Nagoya Protocol and how they can be implemented in Belarus before the development of the national legal and administrative framework for access regulation, are explained. Publications in scientific journals and the mass media also facilitate awareness-raising of the above issues.

**36. Has your country taken measures to build and develop capacity and strengthen human resources and institutional capacities to effectively implement the Protocol as provided in Article 22?**

Yes. One of the measures to build and develop capacity in line with Article 22 of the Nagoya Protocol (to implement commitments and comply with them under the Nagoya Protocol; to hold negotiations for the development of mutually agreed terms; to develop, introduce and enforce national legislative, administrative or policy measures to regulate access to genetic resources) is designation of the National Competent Authority on access and benefit-sharing (the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection) and the National Coordination Centre on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing (the Institute of Genetics and Cytology, NAS of Belarus).

**37. Has your country received external support for building and developing capacity for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol?<sup>1</sup>**

Yes. Belarus received financial support under the UNEP-GEF project “Global Support for the Ratification and Introduction into Force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing” that resulted in the accession of the Republic of Belarus to the Nagoya Protocol.

On 1 October 2017, the UNEP-GEF project “Support to Preparation of the Interim National Report on the Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Belarus” was submitted to the Ministry of Economy of the Republic

<sup>1</sup> The collection of this information could be useful for the evaluation of the effectiveness of the Nagoya Protocol under Article 31 on assessment and review, as well as for measuring progress and identifying difficulties and challenges in implementing the Protocol.

of Belarus for registration and is still at this stage.

The Global UNEP-GEF project “Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol” (2017-2019) has not been launched yet as we have not signed an Agreement with UNDP, the project implementing agency, and have not started the registration process with the Ministry of Economy.

#### **Technology transfer, collaboration and cooperation (Article 23)**

#### **38. Is your country collaborating and cooperating in technical and scientific research and development programmes as a means to achieve the objective of the Protocol as provided in Article 23?**

Yes. ABS NCC participates in the State Programme “High-tech and Technology”, the subprogram “Mobilization and Rational Use of Plant Genetic Resources.”

#### **Optional additional information**

#### **39. Has your country established a mechanism for budgetary allocations of funds for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol?**

The Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus of October 1, 2014, No. 933 on the establishment of the National Coordination Centre provides for its funding from the state budget allocated to the Institute of Genetics and Cytology, NAS of Belarus.

#### **40. (a) Has your country made financial resources available to other Parties or received financial resources from other Parties or financial institutions for the purposes of implementation of the Protocol as provided in Article 25?**

Belarus has received financial support under the UNEP-GEF project “Support to Preparation of the Interim National Report on the Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Belarus” to prepare an Interim National Report and to submit it to the Clearing-House for the Nagoya Protocol to the Convention on Biological Diversity. Now, Belarus is involved in the Global UNEP-GEF project “Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol” (2017-2019).

#### **40. (b) Please provide information on experiences related to the mobilization of resources in support of the implementation of the Protocol.**

The resources received under the project to support ratification of/accession to the Nagoya Protocol were used to carry out expert analysis of legislation on the conservation of biological diversity, including genetic resources, to hold a round table event, workshops and seminars, to discuss the results of the analysis and the feasibility of accession to the Nagoya Protocol. The resources were also used to raise awareness of specialists of state bodies, profile organizations (research institutes, educational institutions etc.) and the public of the Nagoya Protocol’s mission and its objectives and targets.

By the Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus of August 13, 2016, No. 629, the Republican DNA Bank of a human, animals, plants and microorganisms was established at the Institute of Genetics and Cytology. The DNA Bank is the National Heritage and receives financial support from the republican budget.

**40.(c) Please provide information on the status of funds mobilized in support of the implementation of the Protocol.**

The UNEP-GEF project “Global Support for the Ratification and Introduction into Force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing” (2013-2014) was successfully implemented – Belarus acceded to the Nagoya Protocol in 2014.

Belarus has received the financial support under the UNEP-GEF project “Support to Preparation of the Interim National Report on the Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Belarus” (2017-2018) to prepare an Interim National Report and submit it to the Clearing-House for the Nagoya Protocol.

Now, Belarus is elaborating a plan to implement the Global UNEP-GEF project “Strengthening of human resources, legal frameworks and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol” (2017-2019).

**Any other relevant information:<sup>2</sup>**

<http://abs.igc.by>

The National Coordination Centre on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing

**Name of the ABS-CH clearing authority:**

The National Coordination Centre on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing

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<sup>2</sup> Please use this field to provide any other relevant information that may not have been addressed elsewhere in the report.