



Seminar '*Use of biodiversity in research according to the upcoming EU regulation*'.

Tuesday March 4, 2014, 10:00-16:30

Utrecht University Library, room Booth-zaal

On Tuesday March 4, 2014 a seminar will address the changing legal situation in the use of living material (genetic resources) for scientific research. This change may affect ongoing and new research carried out in universities and related research institutes.

In many universities research is carried out using plants or animals, or derivatives thereof. Now, context is changing after the Nagoya Protocol was agreed upon in 2010, and the EU has worked towards regulation of the new requirements. These are to become effective when the Nagoya Protocol comes into force, which is expected to happen after mid-2014. Shortly afterwards, the EU regulation will also become effective. The Council, European Parliament and the European Commission have come to an informal agreement that will shortly be finalised.

The EU regulation will affect the use of all plants and animals and their derivatives acquired from then onwards, for ongoing and new research e.g. in the fields of genetics, microbiology, biochemistry, and bio-prospecting. When the Nagoya Protocol and the EU regulation based upon that come into force, acquisition of plants, animals and derivatives thereof for research will need to be negotiated with the countries providing the resources in order to share the benefits equitably, when required in national legislation. This involves "Prior Informed Consent" (PIC) prior to acquisition, and negotiation of the terms under which the use is agreed, the so-called Mutually Agreed Terms (MAT).

The Nagoya Protocol, which is part of the Convention on Biological Diversity, has mainly been negotiated from the perspective of acquisition of biodiversity from the country providing the particular species. However, many so-called *ex-situ* collections are maintained within Europe, e.g. in botanic gardens and zoo's, universities, or natural history museums. Access to plants and animals for research purposes from these collections is equally affected by the Nagoya Protocol, and its EU regulation.

The seminar *Use of biodiversity in research according to the upcoming EU regulation* aims to introduce the new legislation to the scientific community. The seminar is of relevance to University boards and their legal departments, as well as scientists and managers of collections.

Programme:

9:30 *Coffee/tea*

10:00 Welcome and opening

Morning session chair: Drs L.J.W. van den Wollenberg, Botanic Garden, Delft University of Technology

10:15 ms Léontine J.R. Crisson MA, Ministry of Economic Affairs, DG Agro

11:00 Dr ir L. Visser, Dutch National Focal Point on Access and Benefit-Sharing

11:45 *Transfer on foot to Utrecht University Botanic Gardens*

12:00 *Exhibition & lunch in the Botanic Garden*

13:30 *Return to the lecture room*

Afternoon session chair: Drs J.G.M. Persoon, Dep. Director, Botanic Gardens, Utrecht University

13:45 Dr H.C. Lyal, British Natural History Museum, Dept. of Life Sciences

14:30 Prof dr M. Kiehn, Botanic Garden, Vienna, & Int. Plant Exchange Network

15:15 Dr G.J.M. Verkleij, Microbial Resource Research Infrastructure, CBS-KNAW

16:00 Questions and discussion

16:15 Conclusions, closure

- *Informal reception*

The seminar will be in English, and is free of charge.

Date and venue: March 4, 2014, at the library of Utrecht University, Utrecht Science Park "The Uithof", room Boothzaal. Parking facilities are next to the library building.

All together, 125 places are available, therefore pre-registration is required. A confirmation email will be sent to you upon registration. You can register here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ivyY1gimtMo6Kz6PoRsBI46DcMYMg7lgMr850IkZC4/viewform>

Registration will close on Monday March 3, at 12:00 GMT+1.

The seminar is organised by the botanic gardens of Utrecht University and Delft University of Technology, and the Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development, and is supported by the Ministry of Economic Affairs, DG for Agro.

Kindly distribute this invitation to all relevant research departments and officials within your organisation and elsewhere as appropriate.