

Issuance of Documents Concerning the Acquisition of Genetic Resources in Japan

September 28, 2017

With a view to ensuring the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, Japan established *The Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization as a Public Notice of the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and Ministry of the Environment No. 1 of 2017* (hereinafter referred to as the “Guidelines”), which entered into force on August 20, 2017, the day Japan became a Party to the Nagoya Protocol.

Japan determined that the prior informed consent of the Government of Japan as provided for in Article 6 (1) of the Nagoya Protocol is not to be required for the provision of access to genetic resources existing in Japan*¹. However, a document to show the fact that the genetic resources have been acquired in Japan may be necessary for the export, etc. of the said genetic resources to another country. To address the aforementioned situation, an incorporated administrative agency or other agency that the competent ministers deem appropriate is to issue such document*².

As of September 7, 2017, the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry authorized the following agency to issue the “document to show that the genetic resources have been acquired in Japan” as provided for in Chapter 5 of the Guidelines.

Authorized Agency

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND EVALUATION

2-49-10 Nishihara, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, 151-0066, Japan

*¹ Chapter 4 of the Guidelines: Provision of Access to Genetic Resources Existing in Japan

In accordance with Article 6, the provision of paragraph 1 of the Protocol, which allows for exceptional determination to be made by the Parties with regard to adoption of the prior informed consent, the prior informed consent of the Government of Japan as provided for in paragraph 1 of the said Article is not to be required for the provision of access to genetic resources existing in Japan.

*² Chapter 5 of the Guidelines: Issuance of Documents Concerning the Acquisition of Genetic Resources in Japan

When an incorporated administrative agency or other agency that the competent ministers deem appropriate is to issue a document to show that the genetic resources have been acquired in Japan so as to ensure appropriate and smooth implementation of the provision of access to genetic resources existing in Japan and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization, the competent ministers are encouraged to provide the said agency with technical advice or information, to carry out coordination and liaison with relevant ministries and agencies, and to take other necessary measures.

Bio-Industry Division,
Commerce and Service Industry Policy Group,
Commerce and Information Policy Bureau,
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry