



Paris, France | 24-25 November 2014 | ICC Conference and Workshops

WORKING OUT ABS

Under the auspices of the ICC Commission on Intellectual Property

Preparing to comply
with the new EU Rules on
Access and Benefit-sharing

Dates 24-25 November 2014

Language English

Venue

Salons Hoche

9 avenue Hoche
75008, Paris, France

Presentations, interactive panel discussions and workshops on how to implement the new ABS Regulation. Companies and organizations accessing and utilizing genetic resources in their R&D cannot afford to miss this event.

The new EU Regulation on Access and Benefit-sharing (ABS) enabling ratification of the Nagoya Protocol will come into force on 12 October 2014. This will impose significant new obligations on companies and organizations, affecting their internal operations and supply chains and ultimately bottom-lines. However, to date, it has received surprisingly little attention.

Objective

Building on ICC's coordinating role for different industry sectors in the area of ABS, this conference aims to help participants understand how the new Regulation will be implemented in the EU, what they will need to do to comply, as well as the legal and financial consequences of non-compliance.

Working with ABS experts from the European Commission, companies, and trade associations, participants will get:

- an authoritative overview of the EU ABS rules including scope, user obligations, due diligence and sanctions
- a high-level platform from which to share best practices, challenges and experiences of handling R&D activities with genetic resources (GRs)
- a unique opportunity to simulate implementation during learning-by-doing workshops.

Who should attend?

All professionals affected by the new EU ABS rules, particularly executives working in R&D, compliance, legal practice, supply chains, and sourcing for companies or organizations which manufacture, develop and/or distribute products based on GRs. The sectors concerned include: agricultural, biotech, cosmetics, food and beverage, fragrance, industrial enzymes, nutritional supplements and pharmaceutical, among others.





PROGRAMME

MONDAY	24 NOVEMBER
<i>Registration</i>	<i>(13.30-14.00)</i>
Afternoon	(14.00-19.00)
Welcome address and introduction	
Overview of the new EU ABS Regulation	
Participants will gain insight into the main features of the new EU ABS Regulation. European Commission speakers will explore topics such as: (a) definition and requirements – what is the new EU ABS Regulation and its provisions? (b) international context, background and rationale, and (c) future steps - implementing the regulation, systems for trusted collections.	
Discussion	
Roundtable on the scope of the EU ABS Regulation	
Panelists in this session will explore the scope of the new EU ABS Regulation and elaborate on what falls under the access and benefit sharing requirements. Topics to be discussed include: (a) common misconceptions, (b) the activities, genetic resource (GR) types, and actors concerned by the Regulation, (c) how the Regulation's requirements should be implemented along the supply chain, and (d) exclusions and special cases.	
Discussion	
User obligations and due diligence	
This panel will focus on user obligations under the EU ABS Regulation and how the use of genetic resources will be monitored and verified along the supply chain. Topics to be discussed include: (a) user obligations and (b) the International Certificate of Compliance – a status report and how it works in practice.	
Discussion	
Concurrent technical workshops: applying ABS to sourcing and R&D	
Participants will choose to attend one of four workshops:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ ABS in the R&D context when GRs are used as a main/active ingredient/component of a product■ ABS in the R&D context when GRs are used as a subsidiary ingredient/component of a product■ ABS in the sourcing context when GRs are used as a main/active ingredient/component of a product■ ABS in the sourcing context when GRs are used as a subsidiary ingredient/component of a product.	
During these working sessions, they will learn how to apply ABS obligations to a specific R&D or sourcing scenario. In order to devise policy for a hypothetical company, they will explore, amongst other things: (a) PIC & MAT, (b) document requirements, and (c) transmission obligations. Their conclusions will be shared with the larger group.	
<i>Cocktail reception</i>	<i>(19.00-20.30)</i>

TUESDAY	25 NOVEMBER
Morning	(09.00-12.30)
Tools to facilitate compliance: best practices and trusted collections under Regulation	
European Commission speakers will explain, amongst other things, (a) due diligence requirements, (b) recognition of best practices and trusted collections, and (c) monitoring measures.	
Discussion	
Concurrent technical workshops: commercialization, client transactions and internal collections	
Participants will choose to attend one of three workshops:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Commercialization and transactions with customers and licensees – inside the EU■ Commercialization and transactions with customers and licensees – outside the EU■ Managing internal collections.	
During these working sessions, they will learn how to apply ABS obligations in a specific company scenario, by developing policy for a hypothetical company. Each workshop will have a discussant who will feed back their findings to the larger group.	
<i>Lunch</i>	<i>(12.30-13.45)</i>
Afternoon	(13.45 – 18.00)
Roundtable on insights, challenges and industry best practices	
During this roundtable, panelists will describe their sectorial challenges and share best practices with the aim of helping other sectors and companies understand how best to implement the new Regulation.	
Discussion	
National implementation: challenges and opportunities	
Panelists from government and business will discuss national implementation of the Regulation in their country. Topics to be discussed include: (a) competent authorities, (b) monitoring measures, and (c) sanctions.	
Discussion	
National access regimes	
In this panel, government and business representatives will describe the status of their country's national access regulations.	
Discussion	
Conclusions and closing remarks	



SPEAKERS

Axel Braun

Head, International Developments, F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG, Switzerland

Szonja Csörgö

Director IP & Legal Affairs, European Seed Association (ESA), Brussels

Bruno David

Directeur d'approvisionnement en plantes et botanique du service recherche et développement, Laboratoires Pierre Fabre, France

Virginie D'Enfert

Vice-President, Economic, Environmental and International Affairs, Fédération des Entreprises de la Beauté (FEBEA), France

Philippe Desmeth

WFCC President, Belgian Science Policy Office (Belspo), Belgium

Kathryn Garforth

Programme Officer, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, United States

Ricardo Gent

Executive Director, German Association of Biotechnology Industries (DIB), Germany

Anke van den Hurk

Deputy Director, Biotechnology, Biodiversity and Organics, Plantum NL, The Netherlands; Chair, ICC Task Force on Access and Benefit Sharing

Julian Jackson

ABS and Agricultural Plant Genetic Resources, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), United Kingdom

Eva Juul Jensen*

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Director of International Trade Policy, Personal Care Products Council, United States

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Former Head of Unit, Global Sustainability, Trade and Multilateral Agreements, European Commission, Brussels

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Daphne Yong d'Hervé

Chief Intellectual Property Officer, International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Paris



LOGISTICAL NOTE

Registration fees

590€*

**VAT is not applicable for this event, pursuant to Article 206-1bis of the French Tax Code (CGI)*

The registration fee includes all conference documentation, coffee breaks, a cocktail reception on Monday 24 November and lunch on Tuesday 25 November. Travel and hotel expenses are not included.

How to register

Easier and faster: register online only (secured payment by credit card) at www.iccevents.org

Xing AG, on behalf of the International Chamber of Commerce, is in charge of invoicing and payment handling and will charge the invoice amount from your credit card account.

Registration will be confirmed upon receipt of the registration fees.

If you have any questions about payment, please contact Xing Events at support@xing-events.com or 0800-2642636 (toll free)

For all other questions, please contact Jennie Irving at policyevents@iccwbo.org

Travel and accommodation

Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements and hotel reservations. A **list of hotels** in Paris, with which ICC has negotiated preferential room rates, will be sent to you upon receipt of payment.

We are able to dispatch **visa invitation letters** to support your visa application only after receipt of the full payment of your registration fees. Please send an e-mail to: policyevents@iccwbo.org with a copy of your registration confirmation.

Working language

English

Partnership opportunities

Sponsoring this conference will maximize your visibility to business professionals, practicing lawyers, corporate counsel and academics. Contact Ms. Luz Rodriguez, Global Partnerships Manager (luz.rodriquez@iccwbo.org) to discuss your plan for this conference.

Cancellation policy

50% of the registration fee will be refunded if notice of cancellation is received in writing **before 4 November 2014**. Cancellations after this date are not refundable. Subject to agreement from ICC prior to the event, the registration may be transferred to another person from the same company or organization at no extra charge. Updated registration information will be required.

Please note that ICC reserves the right to cancel this event or to make minor alterations to the content and timing of the programme or to the identity of the speakers. In the unlikely event of cancellation, delegates will be offered a full refund. ICC will not, however, be held responsible for any related expense incurred by the participant.

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