OPSS Update on Compliance with the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) in the UK

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Who we are

DEFRA

- Policy lead
- National Focal Point (NFP)

BEIS – Office for Product Safety and Standards

- Competent National Authority (CNA)
- Implementation and enforcement
- Technical and product based regulations with environmental focus

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Scope

Users should exercise due diligence and assess whether they are in scope of UK ABS compliance measures.

- Place of access
- Date of access
- Type of material
- Intended use
Our Evolving Approach

Awareness raising → Enforcement projects
ABS Compliance Audits

- Publicly available info used to identify potentially in scope projects
- Require a list of projects involving genetic resources
- Require evidence to demonstrate due diligence
- Currently focussing on organisations receiving grants, future projects aimed at other sectors
ABS Compliance Audits – Frequent Challenges

1. A central list of projects involving genetic resources
   a) Internal guidance / procedures for identifying in-scope projects
   b) Centralized system / database to store relevant info

2. Awareness of what may be considered as in scope

3. ‘Due diligence’
   a) Evidence to prove compliance with the regulations, or
   b) Evidence to prove work is out of scope of the regulations
Updates to online material – join the LinkedIn group for notifications: Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing: Compliance Forum

Check our website: www.gov.uk/abs

OPSS enquiries email: OPSS.enquiries@beis.gov.uk

Recording of previous ABS webinar: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4FfR-QkHMWI
Thank you!

Any Questions?

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