

B-12: Convention on Biological Diversity

Name of the Convention: Convention on Biological Diversity

Acronym or short name: CBD Convention

International organisation in charge of it: United Nations Environment Programme(UNEP)

Summary description (in plain language):

The Convention is aimed to ensure 1) the conservation of biological diversity, 2) the sustainable use of its components and 3) the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.

For achieving its aims, the Convention advocates 1) appropriate access to genetic resources, 2) appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, 3) appropriate funding.

Each contracting State is required to develop national strategy for the conservation of biological diversity in its territory.

The Convention recognized the authority of States to determine access to genetic resources in their territories. On the other hand, each contracting State is required to facilitate access for and transfer to other contracting Parties of relevant technologies.

Each contracting State undertakes to provide financial support and incentives in respect of those national activities intended to achieve the objectives of the Convention.

In order to implement the convention smoothly in its contracting parties, the conference of the parties(COP) meetings were held every two years since 1994.

Date of signature: adopted on May 22, 1992 in Nairobi, Kenya

Date of coming into force: Dec. 29, 1993

Dates of revision: -

Reasons of revisions: -

Applicability (condition for entry into force): It will enter into force on the ninetieth(90) day after the date of deposit of the thirtieth(30) instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

Situation of Ratification: (as at June 2010) 192 States and EU ratified

Stakes for ports:

Most serious threats to marine and coastal biological diversity are alteration and loss of habitat arising from chemical pollution, climate change, invasion of alien species etc.

In this connection, ballast water management is advocated for conserving diversity of biology in coastal areas.

On the other hand, the Convention will not affect the rights and obligations of any contracting party deriving from any existing international agreements as far as they would not cause serious damage to biological diversity including freedom of navigation and right to innocent passage in oceans and seas ensured by UNCLOS.

Links with other conventions: -

Key-words: Biological Diversity, Clearing-House Mechanism(CHM), Bio-safety Clearing-House

Internet hyperlink with other website:

(full text) <http://www.cbd.int/convention/text/>