

Nagoya protocol in Belgium: need for a flexible and realistic approach at federal and regional levels



bio.be/essenscia Belgian Life Sciences industry association

The mission of bio.be/essenscia is to foster a supportive environment and a stable legal framework in line with the trend for innovation, an essential factor for :

- the economic sustainability and employment growth in the sector
- the capability of this sector to answer major societal challenges

- interdisciplinary approach -



Nagoya Protocol – Scope of impact in Belgium

- Research & Development
- Genetic resources from animals, plants, micro-organisms
- ⇒ pharma, biopharma (vaccines), health biotech
- \Rightarrow agrobiotech
- \Rightarrow cosmetics





The biopharmaceutical industry, a growing sector in Belgium

Over the past 10 years, the biopharmaceutical industry has become a key pillar of the Belgian economy





Source:

Employment: National Social Security Office - decentralised statistics (number of jobs on 30th June); 2016 = estimate based on centralised statistics :

Export: National Bank of Belgium according to the Communautarian concept (including distribution centers & transit activities)

R&D: based on data from essenscia R&D survey among its members

Belgium – green biotech

- Prof Marc Von Montagu
- VIB
- Ghent Technology Park: 900 workers
- Syngenta, Bayer Crop, SES VanderHave, Monsanto, ...
- Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech





Need for a flexible and realistic approach at federal and regional levels (1)

Access:

- Keep it simple,
- No conditions for access in other countries, certain Regions
- Similar in the 3 Regions

Benefit sharing:

- FRAND





Need for a flexible and realistic approach at federal and regional levels (2)

Control:

- Risk-based approach
- Consistent application of due diligence obligations, including due diligence declarations

Penalties:

- Reasonable; no penal sanctions
- Progressive (mediation, arbritation, sanctions)





Also to be considered!

- ✓ The USA is not party to the protocol!
- ✓ Avoid Gold Plating in Belgium
- ✓ Avoid high burden on clinical trials
- ✓ Control on the last chain link.... Quid upstream R&D contractors?
- √ Need for education





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