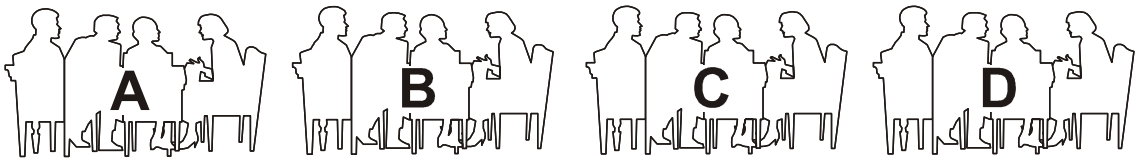
Exercise 10. Transferring genetic materials from a health and safety perspective

(group work)

The aim of this exercise is to identify the main policies, provisions and articles in international agreements that are specifically relevant to conservation and overall management of plant genetic resources. Participants should also be in the position to verify and compare how these relate to national measures and efforts to implement an institutional and legal framework regarding phytosanitary measures and biosafety.

1. Form four groups of participants. (5 minutes)



2. Each group elects a rapporteur.

Phase 1. Group work (45 minutes)

3. Your task is to browse and briefly discuss handout 4.10.2 to identify the requirements of the principal international agreements in the areas that are relevant for genetic resource managers, research directors, and national policymakers. Then, (35 minutes)

   Give two accounts of: one successful and one unsuccessful experience of applying phytosanitary and biosafety measures.

4. Remember to include the following in your accounts:
   - a title
   - identification of the case (country[ies]/region, when important, dates, type of activity, important contextual factors, etc.)
   - the setting (what was the situation, major elements, etc.)
   - the legal and policy environment involved (international agreements)
   - the outcomes
   - the lessons learned
   - recommendations for tackling similar situations

5. The rapporteurs summarize the stories on handout 4.10.4. (10 minutes)

Phase 2. Exchanging the accounts (30 minutes)

6. The trainer invites the rapporteurs to exchange the summaries of two accounts. The rapporteur of Group A exchanges with Group C and the rapporteur of Group C exchanges with Group D. (5 minutes)
7. The trainer invites the groups to read and analyze the accounts based on the following questions. Use handout 4.10.5 to record the discussion. (20 minutes)
   a. Can you relate this case to a situation in your environment? Could you describe it in a few sentences?
   b. What are the similarities and differences between the case that you read and the case that you are identifying in your own environment? Could you describe the major elements that make them similar and/or different?
   c. Based on this exercise, what would you recommend to those who face similar situations in their countries? List these recommendations step by step to facilitate the understanding and application of these recommendations.
   d. What major lesson did you learned from this exercise?
8. The rapporteurs summarize the groups' results on a flipchart and report to the audience during the next phase. (5 minutes)

Phase 3. Reporting and discussion (50 minutes)

9. The rapporteurs present their groups' results to the audience, using overheads or flipcharts. They begin their reports by summarizing the account in question. Each rapporteur has five minutes to present the report. (20 minutes)
10. After each presentation, the audience has five minutes to discuss the case-study. (20 minutes)
11. At the end of the exercise, the trainer distributes handout 4.10.6 (practical considerations for exercise 10), facilitates a discussion on the content of the presentations and asks and provides feedback on the exercise. (10 minutes)

Exercise 10. Worksheet – 4.10.4 Group:_____

SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCE	UNSUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCE

Exercise 10. Worksheet

SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCE	UNSUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCE
a) Describe a situation:	a) Describe a situation:
b) Similarities: Major elements:	b) Similarities: Differences Major elements:
c) Recommendations:	(c) Recommendations:
d) Major lessons:	(d) Major lessons:

Practical Considerations for Exercise 10

(to be distributed after the exercise has been completed)

After doing this exercise, participants are able to describe phytosanitary measures and biosafety principles.

General approach:

Consider the positive and negative environmental, social and economics impacts that may occur in the process of implementing phytosanitary measures and biosafety principles. Think about your own country's agricultural system and its specific needs in terms of research and seed supply and distribution.

Specific observations:

Consider the impacts that very stringent and restrictive phytosanitary and biosafety measures may have on national agricultural research systems. Also assess whether your country may be in a position to effectively apply the Cartagena Protocol and WTO phytosanitary agreements. This requires looking at your national institutional capacity.