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Secretary General of the French specialty food ingredients association (Synpa)



Abstract

Ocean is full of genetic resources: from microalgae to deep-sea animals.

Academic, university, non-commercial researchers and companies use genetic resources for research, development and commercialization purposes.

Since 2014, they have to deal with the International Nagoya Protocol on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity. It applies also to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources.

In 2014, the European Union adopted a regulation to be in line with its international obligations. Countries have sovereign rights over the genetic resources found on their territory. In the EU, a few numbers of Member States have decided to establish additional national rules to protect their genetic resources. France is one of them. A law on biodiversity was adopted in 2016. Procedures have been established. There is a declaration system for research on a French genetic resource. Authorization is needed for commercialization. Business operators will have to agree with the French Authorities on the benefits sharing. A specific system will apply for domesticated or cultivated genetic resources, questioning what domestication means, especially when it comes to microorganisms.

There are still some questions to be solved, at international, European and national levels.

Trade associations are key stakeholders to dialogue with the Authorities.

Will the Nagoya Protocol have impact on research and innovation?

Keynote's short bio

She is a food processing engineer with a background in food law and food public policies. On October 2007 she took the position of Secretary General of the French specialty food ingredients association: the Synpa (www.synpa.org) which represents the interest of the French producers of specialty food ingredients. What is at stake: clear and predictable regulations to access the market and for R&D and also fair communication to rebuild trust in food products.

References

Presentations at the 6th Congress of the International Society for Applied Psychology (ISAP2017), the European Food Law Association, the French scientific network Adebitech, French competitiveness clusters: Pôle Mer Bretagne Atlantique and Valorial.

Lecture at French Universities (AgroSupDijon, AgroParisTech, University of Lorraine).