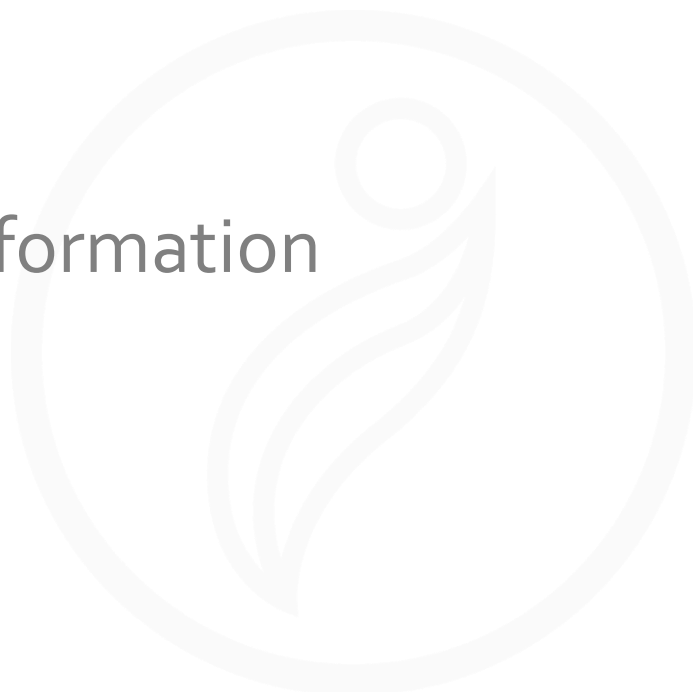


Digital Sequence Information

JUNE 2018

A POSITION PAPER PREPARED BY THE
International Seed Federation



POSITION

ISF is strongly opposed to creating any regulatory rules relating to the access and utilization of digital/genetic sequence information (DSI) in the context of the ongoing access and benefit sharing (ABS) negotiations.

Furthermore, ISF strongly discourages national and regional governments from including DSI within the scope of their ABS implementing frameworks.

Regulating the access and utilization of DSI would have far-reaching negative effects on basic and applied research and breeding that supports the conservation of biodiversity and food security. In addition, regulation of DSI is inconsistent with the spirit of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), is not supported by the legal definition of a genetic resource and is unnecessary to ensuring the fair and equitable benefit sharing related to the utilization of genetic resources.

