A major snag of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is a shift in focus from the ecologically and scientifically valuable biodiversity to its commercial value. Articles 3 and 15 of the CBD recognize the sovereignty of nations over their biodiversity resources and the right of nations to determine access to genetic resources through national legislation. Several countries have developed legal regimes and implementing mechanisms to regulate access to genetic resources. Such mechanisms globally recognize the right of indigenous and local communities and farmers to keep a part of their breeding material. The CBD, though not yet adopted by the US, is an effort to recognize the sovereignty of nations over genetic resources that was historically treated as common heritage. The CBD recognizes the sovereignty of nations over their biodiversity resources and the right of nations to determine access to genetic resources through national legislation. Several countries have developed legal regimes and implementing mechanisms to regulate access to genetic resources. Such mechanisms globally recognize the right of indigenous and local communities and farmers to keep a part of their breeding material. The CBD, though not yet adopted by the US, is an effort to recognize the sovereignty of nations over genetic resources that was historically treated as common heritage.

Common Heritage Strategy

No country ever possessed all the genetic resources of a species. Every country in the world uses exotic genetic materials to enhance the productivity of its crops and livestock. The Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) 22nd Conference adopted a resolution (Resolution 8/83) that plant genetic resources are a heritage of mankind to be preserved and to be freely available for use, for the benefit of present and future generations. Developing countries en masse adopted the resolution, while Canada, France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States officially reserved their position with respect to the FAO undertaking a specific policy on plant
The historic shift in position of the South that led to the loss of biodiversity from the common heritage of humanity was chronicled by Kloppenburg (1987) and Rosendal (2003, 2006).
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The demand of the developing countries in the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity was that the exchange of genetic resources should not affect its availability. The scientific input has been pointed out that the scientific board of the CBD is dominated by politicians and professional negotiators who are not equipped to share scientific evidence. Among the three pillars of food security, land and water are limited and the least sustainable for the production of staple crops. The Ug99 strain of wheat reduced crop productivity, dominated by politicians, and the most populated with a genetic resource of the world's interdependence. This bond is growing ever stronger, especially in the wake of climate change and unprecedented loss of agrobiodiversity. No region can afford to isolate itself, or to be isolated from access to plant germplasm in other regions of diversity, in spite of the variation in regional relationships. The general global rule is that a system of royalties for use of genetic resources through multiple arrangements would be more efficient than the current corporate pate, lowest in genetic stocks in the absence of national and international exchange of genetic resources to cope with the climate change. The nationalisation of genetic royalty is the year 2008 witnessed the transition of genetic materials (Kloppenberg and Kleinman 1987).

Benefit-Sharing

It is high time the developing nations realise that a system of royalties for the use of genetic resources through multiple arrangements would be more efficient than the current corporate pate, lowest in genetic stocks in the absence of national and international exchange of genetic resources to cope with the climate change. The nationalisation of genetic royalty is the year 2008 witnessed the transition of genetic materials (Kloppenberg and Kleinman 1987).

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should be treated as a common heritage in the best interest of humanity (Rajanna and Prathapan 2009). The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, adopted after eleven years of negotiation at the FAO in November 2009, addresses the commercial regime, rather than restricting access to plant genetic resources, as all countries depend on realising that the commercial biodiversity that can be derived through sharing of biodiversity and its sustainable development, rather than food and food security challenge.

**Postscript**

The Tenth CoP, which was held in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2010, adopted the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS). However, the idea of ABS itself remains a pipe dream. It is time the South

as all countries depend on realising that the commercial biodiversity that can be derived through sharing of biodiversity and its sustainable development, rather than food and food security challenge.

**Notes**
