

This Document Contains TPP CONFIDENTIAL Information
MODIFIED HANDLING AUTHORIZED*

Guiding Principles for Moving Forward on Biotechnology Provisions in the TPP Agreement

1. The approach would not require a Party to change its domestic laws and regulations; the focus is on transparency, information exchange and cooperation.
2. The approach is not intended to conflict with other TPP chapters or international agreements.
3. The approach recognizes that Parties are at different stages in developing regulatory frameworks or may have divergence in their approaches. The focus is on facilitating a better understanding of each Party's approaches and requirements in decision-making processes.
4. Recognizing that technologies evolve, the approach is intended to set out a forward-looking process to exchange and cooperate on a voluntary basis and where there is mutual interest on current and future trade-related aspects associated with products of biotechnology.
5. With respect to making information 'publicly available' in the proposed text on Transparency in Decision Making, the approach is intended to allow a Party to provide information on the request of another Party. Additionally, this information does not need to be created, rather it is to be provided if already available. Confidential business information does not need to be shared.

* This document must be protected from unauthorized disclosure, but may be mailed or transmitted over unclassified e-mail or fax, discussed over unsecured phone lines, and stored on unclassified computer systems. It must be stored in a locked or secured building, room, or container.