



# AEGIS

## SAFETY DUPLICATION POLICY

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New AEGIS Final meeting  
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[www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/aegis](http://www.ecpgr.cgiar.org/aegis)

**Endorsed by the ECPGR Steering Committee – 15.02.2013**

## **The AEGIS Safety duplication Policy**

### **Introduction**

Conscious duplication of accessions for their safety in another genebank is an internationally recognized and recommended approach

# FAO Genebank standards (2014)

## 4.9 Standards for safety duplication

### Standards

- 4.9.1 A safety duplicate sample for every original accession should be stored in a geographically distant area, under the same or better conditions than those in the original genebank.
- 4.9.2 Each safety duplicate sample should be accompanied by relevant associated information.



# FAO Field genebank standards – Ch. 5

5.10.4 Every field genebank accession should be safety duplicated at least in one more site and/or backed up by an alternative conservation method/strategy such as *in vitro* or cryopreservation where possible.



# AEGIS – A Policy Guide (2009)

A safety-duplicate of each European Accession will be stored at one or more collaborating and agreed European genebank(s) or institution(s) and/or at the Svalbard Seed Vault



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**for the establishment of**  
**A EUROPEAN GENE BANK INTEGRATED SYSTEM**  
**(AEGIS)**

**Article 8 General Principles applicable to European Accessions under AEGIS**

a) x) Each European Accession will have an identified safety-duplicate stored under the same or better conditions than the original

**Article 9 d) The responsibilities of Associate Members of AEGIS will be the following:**

v) ensuring as soon as possible safety-duplication of their European Accessions in agreed conditions, under black-box arrangements as appropriate, at another Associate Member genebank, possibly in a different country, and/or at the Svalbard Global Seed Vault



# The AEGIS safety duplication policy – Art. 3

The Associate Members of AEGIS will ensure that the European Accessions they maintain on behalf of AEGIS will be safety duplicated under black box arrangement. The safety duplication will be formalized following the inclusion of the accessions in the European Collection:

- a. In case such accessions have already been safety duplicated **at another Associate Member genebank** and/or at **SGSV** or at one of the **CGIAR Centres**, the corresponding information must be included in EURISCO in the appropriate field.
- b. In cases where the accessions still need to be safety duplicated, this will be done as soon as possible after their formal inclusion in the European Collection ...and the required information included accordingly in EURISCO.

# EURISCO Descriptors

## **25. Location of safety duplicates**

**(DUPLSITE)**

FAO WIEWS code of the institute(s) where a safety duplicate of the accession is maintained. Multiple values are separated by a semicolon without space. Follows INSTCODE standard.

### **25.1 Institute maintaining safety duplicates**

**(DUPLINSTNAME)**

Name of the institute where a safety duplicate of the accession is maintained. Multiple values are separated by a semicolon without space.





# The AEGIS safety duplication policy – Art.4

Unless otherwise agreed between the depositor and the genebank in which the material is to be deposited, the safety duplication will be carried out under a so-called black box arrangement in accordance with the following terms and conditions:



# Black-box arrangement

- a. The deposit of the material **will not affect any property or other rights** pertaining to the material
- b. The material deposited will **remain in sealed containers**, unless otherwise agreed with the depositor.
- c. The material deposited will **be maintained by the genebank in which the material is to be deposited**, in accordance with internationally recognized standards.
- d. All **storage costs** pertaining to the material deposited will, unless otherwise agreed between the parties, be borne by the genebank in which the material is to be deposited. **Costs pertaining to the packaging and shipping** of the deposited materials will be borne by the depositor.
- e. Any special terms and conditions governing the deposit of the material will be agreed between the depositor and the genebank in which the material is to be deposited.
- f. The genebank in which the material is to be deposited will take **no action to further transfer the material except back to the original depositor** or the depositor's successor in title, or in accordance with the depositor's instructions.
- g. The safety duplicated **material will not be used, tested or regenerated** by the genebank in which the material is to be deposited.
- h. The genebank storing/maintaining safety duplicated accessions will return specified accessions as soon as possible to the duplicating genebank upon their request.
- i. Computerized passport data and, whenever possible, relevant management data should always accompany the safety duplicated germplasm and/or be safety duplicated in a central database, in order to allow identification of the black box content, in case of emergency.



# The AEGIS safety duplication policy – Art.5

When deemed necessary or otherwise felt beneficial to any of the safety-duplicating partners, the depositing and the receiving genebanks of the safety duplicated accessions **may conclude a formal agreement**.

**Model agreements** (a more formal longer version and a more informal shorter version, to be used at the discretion of the providing and the receiving genebanks) **are available on the AEGIS Web site** (<http://aegis.cgiar.org/home.html>), both reflecting the conditions as set out in this policy.

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# The AEGIS safety duplication policy – Art.6

The genebank maintaining the original sample of the European Accession will be responsible for any reporting on the safety duplication, including keeping the respective records in EURISCO up-to-date.



## *A European Genebank Integrated System*



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## Policies

### Safety duplication

-  [The AEGIS Safety-Duplication Policy \(endorsed by the ECPGR Steering Committee - 15.02.2013\) \(162,3 KB\)](#)

Proposed models (non-mandatory) for a safety-duplication agreement:

-  [AEGIS Safety-Duplication Agreement \(64,5 KB\)](#)
-  [AEGIS Safety-Duplication Agreement \(simplified version\) \(49,0 KB\)](#)

# Technical aspects – see FAO genebank standards

- Preparation of samples
- Sample size
- Packaging material
- Boxes for transport
- Shipment
- Monitoring of seed viability



# AEGIS Safety-duplication – compliance !

<b>AEGIS accessions with an official safety-duplication site registered in EURISCO</b>	<b>64,559</b>	<b>54% of total</b>
Safety-duplicated outside the country of origin	57,578	89% of safety-duplicated
Safety-duplicated in Svalbard	45,471	70% of safety-duplicated
Safety-duplicated only in Svalbard	39,913	61% of safety-duplicated