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Issues"""; "The accelerating loss of biological diversity"; "Erosion of cultural diversity"; "On-farm conservation and use of plant genetic resources"; "Global climate change and biodiversity"; "The changing roles of public and private sector agricultural research"; "Consolidation in the life sciences industry"; "Transgenic crops commercialized"; "Restrictions on the right of farmers to save seed"; "Biopiracy: fact or fiction?"; "Human biodiversity"; "Bioethics and societal choices: who will decide?"; "Changes in Molecular Bioscience: What Impact on Society and Biodiversity?"; "Introduction"; "Mammalian cloning: Dolly debuts"; "DNA sequencing accelerates"; "Human Genome Project"; "Human gene patenting"; "Artificial human chromosomes"; "On the horizon: pharmacogenomics"; "Advances in drug research and discovery"; "Crop genomics research accelerates"; "Genetic use restriction technologies"; "Clonal plant reproduction by apomixis"; "Part Two: Outstanding issues. Access and exchange, knowledge, and innovation"; "Access and Exchange"; "The pivotal position of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)"; "The agricultural biodiversity mission of the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA)"; "The unique role of the CGIAR in facilitating access and exchange"; "Knowledge"; "Human rights and indigenous knowledge: potential role for the UN Human Rights Commission"; "The participation of indigenous and local societies in knowledge policy-making"; "Intellectual property and indigenous/local communities"; "Innovation"; "At the heart of many issues a€? the World Trade Organization (WTO)"; "Other developments"; "European Parliament approves patent directive"; "Concluding remarks"; "Abbreviations"; "Notes"

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#### Sommario/riassunto

Volume 1 offers policymakers a clear description of the facts, the fights, and the fora relevant to the ownership, conservation, and exchange of genetic resources. Readers new to these issues will learn from this book why germplasm is important and how it relates to trade negotiations, intellectual property disputes, and food and health security, both nationally and internationally. Volume 2 discusses legal mechanisms to address three key issues: (1) the need to conserve and exchange germplasm for the benefit of present and future generations; (2) the need to encourage innovation in the conservation and enhancement of germplasm; and (3) new options for securing and strengthening the rights and interests of indigenous and rural peoples in their role as creators and conservers of biological diversity.

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