



A Conservative Measure of
**RAFI's Impact:
1995**

RAFI Publications, Media Coverage, and Presentations

It is impossible to calculate the qualitative impact of RAFI publications and outreach. Quantitative measures are grossly inadequate, and can be deceptive. But they do provide an insight into the effect of RAFI publications and staff contacts. Below are several summaries which together give an indication of RAFI's reach. They begin with lists of RAFI Communiques, Occasional Papers, Press Releases, and other publications issued in 1995. These are followed by summaries of known media coverage and published articles North and South, which were either produced by RAFI staff or cite RAFI. Next is a calendar of speaking engagements and other activities with a multiplier effect, where RAFI's message was (or will be) disseminated. Finally, there is an analysis of RAFI's new, electronic (Internet) information service, which was introduced in August 1995.

RAFI Communiques 1995:

- January/February 1995: *Microbial Genetic Resources*
- March/April 1995: *Genetically Engineered High-Lauric Rapeseed (Canola): What Threat to Tropical Lauric Oil Producers?*
- May/June 1995: *Gene Hunters in Search of "Disease Genes" Collect Human DNA from Remote Island Populations*
- July/August 1995: *Utility Plant Patents: A Review of the U.S. Experience (1985-July 1995)*
- September/October 1995: *Biopiracy update: A Global Pandemic*
- November/December 1995: *The US Plant Patent Act - 1930-1995*



RAFI Occasional Papers 1995:

- April 1995: Vol. 1, no. 2 Update: *Microbial Genetic Resources* (6 country tables added)
- April 1995: Vol. 2, no. 1: *The Commodification of Life: A Chronology of Life Patenting* (update and revision of 1988 table in *The Laws of Life*, Development Dialogue 1988, vol 1-2)
- August 1995: Vol. 2, no. 2: *The Hidden "Hot Zone" - An Epidemic in Two Parts*
- October 1995: Vol. 2, no. 3: *Indigenous Peoples' Knowledge - The South's Strategic Advantage* (draft)

RAFI News Releases 1995:

- February 7: *The Green Revolution in the Red - Summit for "Noah's IARCs" May Be Lonely in Lucerne*
- March 30: *Missing the Boat? There's Something Fishy in the Canada-Spain Turbot War*
- June 6: *Broad Coalition Challenges Patents on Life*
- October 5: *Indigenous Person from Papua New Guinea Claimed in US Government Patent*

Other RAFI Publications 1995:

- *Intellectual Property: Fora and Focus for the Evolving Debate - An Overview*
- *Bioprospecting and Indigenous Peoples Knowledge - An Overview*
- *An Overview of Biopiracy*
(three papers prepared for the Asian Regional Consultation on the Conservation and Protection of Indigenous Knowledge in Sabah East Malaysia, February 24-27 - revised and updated for the South Pacific Consultation on Indigenous Peoples' Knowledge and Intellectual Property Rights in Suva Fiji, April 24-27)
- *NGOs and Biodiversity: Moving from Basic Agreements to Concrete Action and Justice*, paper prepared for the FAO, and presented to a seminar organized by the Dag Hammarskjold Foundation, Uppsala, Sweden, Feb. 1995
- *Effects of Intellectual Property Rights on Agriculture in Developing Countries*, paper presented by Hope Shand to a Seminar on "The Impact of Plant Breeders' Rights", organized by the Interamerican Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture; Bogota, Colombia, March 1995



- *Biodiversity and Intellectual Property Rights: Implications for Indigenous Peoples*, paper presented by Jean Christie to Ecopolitics IX - Perspectives on Indigenous Peoples' Management of Environmental Resources, Darwin, Australia; September 1995
- *The Crucible, no. 1*; October 1995; (Newsletter of the Crucible Group, written by RAFI under the direction of the Crucible Group editorial Committee, October 1995)
- *A History of Multilateral Agricultural Institutions* (in progress, to be jointly published by RAFI and GRAIN in early 1996)
- *Intellectual Property: Rights or Ripoff? A Resource Kit on Intellectual Property Rights*, (in progress; a RAFI contribution to the Community Biodiversity Development and Conservation Programme)
- *Farmer-led Food Security - Community Genius and the Integration of Food, Health, Environment and Knowledge Security*, draft chapter for a forthcoming issue of *Development Dialogue*, presented to the Global Food Assembly, Quebec City, October 1995 (in progress, for publication in 1996)



RAFI Media Coverage in the North - 1995:

Note: *interviews recorded in italics* are known to have been aired or to have been used in print on the dates indicated. Those in normal type are interviews that were conducted on the date indicated, the results of which we are not yet known to RAFI.

- January; NHK-TV Japan; documentary on biotechnology and patenting completed and aired; *interview with Hope Shand*
- January; Channel 4, UK, documentary on Human Genome Diversity Project and life patenting; *interviews with RAFI staff*
- January; The Bulletin (publication of the Centre for Our Common Future); *Bioprospecting: Linking Biodiversity and IPR; by Hope Shand*
- January; Genetic Technology News (USA); *Activists Have Challenged Agracetus's European Soybean Patent*
- January; Alternatives (Canada), vol 21, no. 1; *Broad patents on basic crops cause alarm; transgenic crop patents*
- January; Genetic Technology News (USA); *Activists Have Challenged Agracetus's European Soybean Patent*
- January; The Humanist (USA), vol 55, no. 1; *Who owns indigenous peoples' DNA?*
- January; NNC-TV (USA); *interview with Pat Mooney*
- January 1, 1995; Tropic; *Blood Feud: Are Scientists Stealing the Blood of the America's Indians?*
- January 2; Chemistry and Industry (USA), no. 1; *UN should protect victims of "bio-piracy"*
- January 7; New Scientist; *Whatever Happened to the Gene Revolution?*
- January 17; BBC radio "Topical Tapes" (UK) (for international broadcast); *interview on the impact of biotechnology on the Third World, Hope Shand*
- January 22; BBC TV "The Money Show" (UK); *feature interview with Pat Mooney*
- January 29; New Straits Times (USA); 2 articles: *Tackling question of ethics and fears of being exploited; Gene bank of indigenous peoples comes under scrutiny;*
- February; Frontline (Melbourne, Australia); *Now they want blood*
- February 6; Dutch film producer; interview for film documentary on biopiracy; Hope Shand



- February 9; Greenwire/Focus; *Biodiversity: Jury Still Out on Prospecting Efforts*
- February 18; CFRO Community Radio (Vancouver, Canada); *interview on "species patents" and intellectual property in agriculture*, Hope Shand
- March; The Law Works (USA) - magazine serving the patent, copyright, trademark and litigation community; excerpts from RAFI UNDP study, entitled *Issues and Trends in Biodiversity*
- April; Cornerstones (Right Livelihood Foundation, Sweden); *European MPs reject privatisation of life*
- Spring; Bulletin of the Working Group on Traditional Resource Rights (UK); *Intellectual Property Rights and Biodiversity and Structure and goals of CGIAR need redefining*
- April; BBC TV, UK; *The Gene Hunters*
- April 11; SBS TV, Australia; *The Gene Hunters*, aired nationally on *The Cutting Edge*
- May/June; CERES (FAO Review) no. 153; *Patented People?*
- May; The Law Works (U.S.A.); *serialization of excerpts from RAFI's UNDP study - Conserving Indigenous Knowledge: integrating two systems of innovation*
- May; Corporate Legal Times (USA); *W.R. Grace's Cotton, Soybean Patents Spur Controversy -Worldwide Control Draws Technical and Moral Objections*
- May; Intellectual Property (USA); *W.R. Grace's Cotton, Soybean Patents Spur Controversy -Worldwide Control Draws Technical and Moral Objections*
- May 1; Agence France Presse; *Pacific nations warned of "biopiracy"*
- May 5; Public News Radio, Melbourne, Australia (for dissemination to 80 stations); *interview on biopiracy and indigenous peoples' knowledge* with Jean Christie
- May 5; Science; *Sweeping Patents Put Biotech Companies on the Warpath*
- May 19; The Weekend Independent, Brisbane, Australia; *Scientists Collect Pacific DNA; Indigenous peoples protest gene patents*
- May 20-21; The Weekend Australian (Sydney); *Thieves at Large in the Garden of Eden*
- May 22; The Australian newspaper, Los Angeles correspondent; *interview with Hope Shand*



- May 22; BBC World Service; interview with Pat Mooney
- May 24; Inter Press Service (Sydney, Australia); *Region moves to protect indigenous wisdom*
- May 25; The Christian Science Monitor (USA); *Agribusiness in the Heartland Goes Hog-Wild Over Pigs*
- May 27; The Ottawa Citizen; *Brave New Vegetables* (full page feature)
- June; Australian Council for Overseas Aid Agenda 21; *Consultation on Indigenous Peoples' Knowledge and Intellectual Property Rights, Final Statement*
- June 4; Sunday Times (London, UK); *Gene Pirates Bleed Indians for AIDS Cure*
- June 6; The Australian (Sydney); *Indians Rebel on 'vampire' AIDS project* (reprint from Sunday Times)
- June 6; CBS News/60 Minutes (USA); interview with Hope Shand
- June 6; BBC TV (UK); research interview with Hope Shand
- June 8; Now Magazine, Toronto, Canada; research interviews with Hope Shand and Jean Christie
- June 11; Montreal Gazette (Canada); *Seeds Change*
- June 29; Inter Press Service (Rome); *New agreement planned to assure food for the many*
- July; BioScience (USA); *Who owns rice and beans? patents on plant germplasm* (includes sidebar)
- July; The Law Works (USA); *third serialization of excerpts from RAFI's UNDP study -Indigenous Knowledge of Biodiversity*
- July 16; ABC Radio National (Australia) The Food Programme; interview with Jean Christie
- July 28; BBC; interview with Hope Shand
- July/August; Australasian Biotechnology; *Indigenous Peoples, Biodiversity and Intellectual Property Rights*, by Jean Christie
- August; The Big Picture, Aotearoa/New Zealand (published by GATT Watchdog); *Genetic Goldrush*
- August; The Law Works (USA); fourth serialization of excerpts from RAFI's UNDP study; *Indigenous Knowledge of Biodiversity (part 2) and Alternatives to Intellectual Property Rights*



- August 20; The Seattle Times Sunday edition (USA); *Body and Soul: the price of biotech -- The Blue Mountain Declaration: Groups state their views on patenting life forms*
- August 27; The Seattle Times (USA); *Patent Nonsense -- Patent Pending: the race to own DNA -- Guaymi tribe was surprised to discover they were invented*
- September; Overview (CORSO, Aotearoa/New Zealand); *Bioprospecting - Another Wave of Colonialism*
- September; Seed Savers (USA) Harvest Edition; *People, Plants Technology and Trade: Issues of Justice and Sustainability* and *GATT, Intellectual Property and Biological Diversity* - by Pat Mooney
- September; Public Radio News, Melbourne, Australia; *interview with Jean Christie*
- September 3; Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (USA); *Genes Commercialized; Seeking patents for living things -- a new, controversial gold rush*
- September 7; Chemicals Business News Base (USA); *Worries about recombinant lauric oil from rapeseed*
- September 13; ABC Radio National "Late Night Live", Australia; *feature on human patenting and indigenous peoples' knowledge*
- September 15; The New York Times (late edition); *Tradition in India vs. Patent in the U.S.*
- September 16; The Los Angeles Times (USA); *UN: Drug Firms Exploit Third World*
- September 17; Austin American-Statesman (USA); *Folk remedies that work have drug firms on spot*
- September 17; The Houston Chronicle (USA); *Report accuses drug firms of bilking world's poor by using curative plants*
- September 18; Italian RIA film crew; *interview on plant genetic resources with Pat Mooney*
- September 19; Inter Press Service (Washington); *Prospectors defy Peruvian Amazon natives*
- September 22; SBS Television, Australia; *briefing on human patenting, human genetic research and indigenous peoples by Jean Christie*
- October; Cornerstones (Right Livelihood Award Foundation, Sweden); *Grants to 16 projects from RLA Fund*
- October; Seedling (Quarterly Newsletter of GRAIN); *The Potato Blight is Back* (abridged version of RAFI *Occasional Paper*) and *Sprouting up: towards new institutions for agriculture?*



- October 5; Time Magazine (Australian office); interview with Jean Christie
- October 14; ABC Radio National (Australia) "Indian Pacific"; *interview with Jean Christie*
- October 16; The Ecologist; *US Patents Indigenous Man's Genes*
- October 19; New Zealand Plains FM "Sounds Subversive"; *interview with Jean Christie*
- October 27; The Independent (New Zealand); *Legal row over attempts to patent lost tribe's blood*
- October 29; ABC Television - Four Corners, Australia; interview for feature documentary on bioprospecting; Jean Christie
- October 31; Associated Press, New York; interview on genetic diversity; Jean Christie
- November; PBS Frontline (USA)/CBC Fifth Estate (Canada); several research interviews for feature documentary on human patenting; Jean Christie
- November; 21-C: Scanning the Future (USA); interviews on human patenting; Edward Hammond and Jean Christie
- November; The Big Picture, Aotearoa/New Zealand; *Indigenous person from Papua New Guinea claimed in US Government patent*
- November 8; Inter Press Service (Washington); *New patents on people and fish stir up a storm*
- November 10; The Australian (Sydney); *The Selling of Cells*
- November 13; Scientific American; interview on human patenting; Jean Christie
- November 13-15; Gemini Wire Service (from Biodiversity Convention); *"Bio-Pirates" face challenge in Pacific over blood feud*
- November 16; German Public Television; interview (in Jakarta); Pat Mooney
- November 17; Science, vol. 270; *Scientists Attacked for "Patenting" Pacific Tribe*
- November 17; SBS Television, Australia; research assistance on human patenting
- November 19; The Independent on Sunday (London, UK); *US government slaps patent on tribesman's DNA*
- November 20; The Independent (London, UK); *Another View: whose property is life?*



- November 20; Vaartland (Oslo, Norway); interview on human patenting with Jean Christie
- November 20; Scientific American; interview on bioprospecting with Jean Christie
- November 20; Esquire (USA); interview on human patenting with Jean Christie
- November 21; Expressen (Sweden); *Ar blad-mogel pa potatis en nyhet?* (story on potato blight)
- November 21; The Independent (London, UK); *The Re-making of mice and men*
- November 25; The Economist; *Patent blather*
- November 27; The New York Times; *Patents - A recent patent on a Papua New Guinea tribe's cell line prompts outrage and charges of "biopiracy"*
- November 27; London Daily Mail (UK); *The tribesman worth millions*
- November 28; The Observer (UK); interview on Biodiversity Convention and human patenting; Jean Christie, Pat Mooney
- November 29; Biotechnology Newswatch (USA); interview on human patenting; Jean Christie
- November 30; Congressional Quarterly (USA); interview with Edward Hammond
- December; Global Pesticide Campaigner; *The Hidden Hot Zone - An Epidemic in Two Parts* (abridged reprint of *RAFI Communique*); by Pat Mooney
- December; Pacific Islands Interest (Pacific Studies Monograph Series) Sydney Australia; reprints of RAFI material
- December; ABC Radio Open Learning (Australia); national university credit course by radio; *panel discussion on the Green Revolution*, research support from RAFI; interview with and panel participation by Erna Bennett (RAFI Board member)
- December 2; The Daily Mail (London, UK); *I meet the prehistoric tribe that could hold the cure for cancer...*
- December 11; Scientific American; interviews with Edward Hammond and Jean Christie on bioprospecting agreements and intellectual property rights
- December 15; Associated Press (New York); interview with Jean Christie on human patenting and bioprospecting



- December 19; Christchurch Press (New Zealand); *Blood patents under attack*
- December 29; independent Canadian film maker; provided information on potato blight and human patenting
- December 23-January 5; The Economist; *Patenting genes* (letter from Pat Mooney)

RAFI Media Coverage in the South - 1995:

- January 29; New Sunday Times, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; 3 articles - *Gene bank of endangered peoples comes under scrutiny; Tackling question of ethics and fears of being exploited; Patenting to scare off copycats*
- winter/spring 1995; South Letter; *The Invisible IARCy - Who Will Control the South's Agricultural Biodiversity Now?* by Pat Mooney
- February; Boletin Mensual de Accion Ecologica (Ecuador): *Derechos de Propiedad Intelectual: Un Acuerdo Desigual*
- February; African Diversity, vol 11; attached full text of *RAFI Occasional Papers no. 1, 2 and 3*
- April 25; The Fiji Times; *Vakatale stresses the importance of culture*
- April 25; The Daily Post (Fiji); *Women are the main custodians of indigenous knowledge: Vakatale*
- April 29; The Daily Post (Fiji); *Declare region patent-free zone: seminar*
- May; Pacific News Bulletin, Vol. 10, No. 5; *Bioprospecting: another wave of colonialism* (4 page feature, including final statement of *Consultation on Indigenous Peoples' Knowledge and Intellectual Property Rights*)
- May 1; Agence France Presse (Suva, Fiji); *Pacific nations warned of threat of "biopiracy"*
- May 1; The Fiji Times; *Indigenous group condemns bid to undervalue tradition*
- May 3; The Fiji Times; *Chiefs to help protect indigenous resources*
- May 6; The Daily Post (Fiji); *Guess who's coming to steal your plants?* (full page feature)
- May 23; Fiji Times/Agence France Presse; *Herbal healers want heritage safeguarded*
- May 25; Inter Press Service (South Pacific); *Region Moves to Protect Indigenous Wisdom*



- June 14; Inter Press Service (Fiji); *Potential Cancer Cure May Spell Doom for Marine Life*
- July 22; The Nation (Bangkok, Thailand); *Whiskey Seller to withdraw from herbal research project*
- July 25; The Nation (Bangkok); *Biodiversity studies: boon or threat to minorities?*
- August; The Kanak (Kanak/New Caledonia); *research assistance for article on bioprospecting*
- August; African Diversity, no. 12; *Genetically Engineered Crop Plants: Threat to Third World Farmers Builds up*
- August 7; The Nation (Bangkok); *Who should control the fruits of local wisdom?* and *An Ethical Crusade*
- August 18; Third World Network Features; *Privatizing Humans and Human Genes?* (reports extensively on May/June *RAFI Communique*)
- August 20; Correio Brasiliense (Brasilia, Brazil); *Pode-se patentar o Universo?*
- September 28; The National (Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea); *Battle Over Blood* (cover story)
- September 29; The National (Port Moresby); *PNG indigenous heritage open to exploitation* (editorial) and *Scientist blasts US over blood-patent claim*
- October; Semillas en la economia campesina (Colombia); *Debate legal - Conocimiento tradicional y prospeccion biologica*
- October 2; The National (Port Moresby, PNG)
- October 4; The Solomon Star (Honiara, Solomon Islands); *Local human cell line claim by US*
- October 6; The Solomon Star; *Warning to custom doctors*
- October 15; The Sunday Times of India (New Delhi); *Patenting: A threat to global food security* (reprinted in 8 centres, circulation 4 million)
- October 15; The Sunday Times of India (New Delhi); *Patenting: a threat to global food security*
- October 20; The National (Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea); *Battle Over the Patent*
- October 21; O Estado de Sao Paulo (Brazil); *ONGs Portestam Contra Patente DNA*
- October 25; Inter Press Service (Port Moresby, PNG); *Tribe caught in tug-of-war*



- October 28; The Saturday Independent (Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea); *The Facts of the "Hagahai blood case"*
- October 29; The Sunday Times of India (New Delhi); *"Biopirates" eye \$147-bn stake in forests*
- November 5; The Sunday Times of India (New Delhi); *Drug giants join genes gold rush*
- November 6; Biotalk vol. 1, no. 1; Jakarta, Indonesia; (publication of the Coalition Against Biopiracy, circulated to delegates, journalists and NGOs at the Conference of the Parties to the Biodiversity Convention; major contribution to all issues by RAFI)
- November 8, 10, 11, 13; Biotalk vol. 1, nos. 2, 3, 4, 5
- November 15; Far Eastern Economic Review; interviews with Edward Hammond and Pat Mooney
- November 16; Biotalk vol. 1, no. 6
- November 21; The Financial Express (Dhaka, Bangladesh); *HYV seeds cause degradation of bio-diversity, genetic resources*
- December; Pesticide Monitor (Pesticide Action Network, Asia); book review of *Conserving Indigenous Knowledge: Integrating Two systems of Innovation*
- December; The Review (Fiji); *The gene collectors*
- December 29; Frontline (India); *From basmati to 'Texmati' - pernicious patents on genetic resources*



RAFI Speaking Engagements, Consultancies, Presentations, Workshops and Briefings - 1995:

- January 12; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA - Department of Biology *Seminar on Curriculum and Ecology*, speech by Hope Shand
- February 7; Australian Council for Overseas Aid; analysis of biotechnology chapter in Australian government report to UN Commission on Sustainable Development; Jean Christie
- February 7-12; OECD Workshop "Biotechnology For the Third World"; Paris, France; presentation by Hope Shand
- February 15-17; Dag Hammarskjold Foundation Seminar "NGOs and Biodiversity: Moving from Basic Agreements to Concrete Action and Justice"; Uppsala, Sweden; resource person Pat Mooney
- February 24-27; Asian Consultation Workshop on the Protection and Conservation of Indigenous Knowledge; Tambunan, Sabah, East Malaysia; international consultants to the conference; Pat Mooney and Jean Christie
- March 7-8; Interamerican Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture - Seminar on the Impact of Plant Breeders' Rights on Developing Countries; Bogota, Colombia; panel presentation titled *Effects of Intellectual Property Rights on Agriculture in Developing Countries* by Hope Shand
- March 9, 1994; Crucible Group seminar on sui generis IPR alternatives for plants; Bogota, Colombia; resource person Hope Shand
- March 10; Forum on Bio-Piracy and Intellectual Property Rights; Institute of Social Order, Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines; *presentation on bio-piracy and intellectual property rights*, Pat Mooney
- March 16-18; University of Western Ontario (Canada) art exhibition by Ron Benner, entitled "All That Has Value"; presentation at the opening by Pat Mooney
- March 23; Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation 20th Anniversary; Regina, Canada; keynote speaker Pat Mooney
- April 24 - 27; South Pacific Consultation on Indigenous Peoples' Knowledge and Intellectual Property Rights; Suva, Fiji; international consultant Jean Christie
- May 1; Australian Human Rights Commission - Aboriginal Commissioner and staff; *briefing on Fiji conference, biodiversity, indigenous knowledge and intellectual property*, Jean Christie



- May 2; Australian Council For Overseas Aid; Canberra; seminar on biodiversity, indigenous peoples' knowledge and intellectual property; Jean Christie
- May 3; Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies; Canberra; *Seminar: Biodiversity, Intellectual Property Rights and their Implications for Indigenous Peoples*; Jean Christie
- May 4; Department of Environment, Sport and Territories; Canberra, Australia; *briefing and policy discussion on indigenous knowledge, biodiversity, and intellectual property*; Jean Christie
- May 5, Australian Conservation Foundation/Australian Genethics Network; Melbourne; *seminar and strategy workshop on biodiversity, indigenous knowledge and intellectual property*; Jean Christie
- May 13-16; Agricultural Missions Seminar on Plant Genetic Resources; Decorah, Iowa, USA; Pat Mooney and Hope Shand, resource people
- June - September: advisor to Bukal Consultants, on contract to the Department of Environment, Sport and Territories, Australia; study on the *Role of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Bioregional Planning*; Jean Christie
- July 25; North Carolina Council of Churches, USA (Rural Crisis committee); *presentation on life patenting*; Hope Shand
- June 23; National Consultation on Biosafety, Canberra, Australia; *Submission to the Commonwealth Interdepartmental Committee on International Environment Issues - Biosafety Subgroup*; RAFI in cooperation with Richard Hindmarsh, Bioassessment Unit, Griffith University
- September 1-3; Ecopolitics IX - Perspectives on Indigenous Peoples' Management of Environmental Resources; Darwin, Australia; presentation of paper entitled *Biodiversity and Intellectual Property Rights: Implications for Indigenous Peoples*; Jean Christie
- September 25, 26, October 3; Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea; *briefings for senior academics and Papua New Guinea officials from Ministries of Health, Environment and Conservation, and Foreign Affairs* - on bioprospecting, intellectual property rights, human patenting, and possible actions in multilateral fora; similar *briefings of NGO representatives*; Jean Christie
- September 27 - October 2; Honiara, Solomon Islands; *briefings for Solomon Islands officials including the Attorney General, Director of the National Museum, and senior representatives from the ministries of Health and Foreign Affairs*, on bioprospecting, intellectual property rights, human patenting, and possible actions in multilateral fora; similar briefings for NGOs; Jean Christie



- October 4; Geneva, Switzerland; meetings with Indigenous Peoples Biodiversity Network, UNDP and potential donors, about \$3M programme on biodiversity, intellectual property and indigenous people's knowledge
- October 6; The Hague, Netherlands; meetings at Secretariat of International Court of Justice, to discuss life patenting; Pat Mooney
- October 8-10; Global Assembly on Food Security, Quebec City, Canada; Edward Hammond, Pat Mooney
- October 10-13; FAO Food Symposium, Quebec City, Canada
- November 4-5; Indigenous Peoples' Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights, Jakarta, Indonesia; resource person and speaker; Pat Mooney
- November 6-17; Conference of the Parties to the Biodiversity Convention, Jakarta, Indonesia; work with delegates on human patenting issues; work with NGOs to produce "Biotalk"
- November 10; Crucible Discussion/Debate on Intellectual Property Rights, Jakarta, Indonesia; panel presentation for delegates to the Biodiversity Convention meeting; panelist Pat Mooney
- November 18-19; Dhaka and Tangail, Bangladesh; meetings with agricultural and policy NGOs, and scientists; coordinated by UBINIG; Pat Mooney
- November 20; Dhaka, Bangladesh; meeting with NGOs and selected scientists; Pat Mooney
- November 21; Dhaka, Bangladesh; UBINIG Seminar with Pat Mooney; *Critical Issues of Seeds and Genetic Resources: National and International Perspectives*, attended by 250 agricultural scientists, academics and government officials, on plant genetic resources, intellectual property rights, GATT and the Biodiversity Convention



RAFI Materials on the Internet

In August 1995, RAFI publications were made available electronically on the World Wide Web, or Internet, thanks to RAFI researcher, Edward Hammond. The following materials are now freely available: the 1992-94 RAFI Biennial Report; a list of all *RAFI Communiques* dating back to 1986; the full text of all issues of the *RAFI Communiques* from mid-1993, many *RAFI Occasional*

Papers, most published papers, translated editions of the *RAFI Communiqué* in Spanish, and up-to-date summaries of RAFI work in progress. New publications are posted as they appear.

Within two weeks of posting this material, over 1000 copies of RAFI documents had been provided to Internet users in 25 countries: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, former Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, former Soviet Union, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, Uruguay, USA. The total has since risen to 41 countries, and now also includes Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Taiwan and Venezuela. RAFI's WWW materials are accessed by an average of nearly 40 users per day, about half of them new users, and half of them visitors returning for more information and updates. RAFI's publications have been linked to the Biotechnology Information Center WWW server at the US National Agricultural Library, and have been indexed by Lycos and Yahoo - freely accessible search facilities that refer researchers to a vast array of internet data on the basis of keywords.

It is time-consuming to monitor, and impossible to know the identity of all the internet users who request RAFI materials electronically. From electronic addresses, however, it is possible to identify many media houses, government departments, corporations, the World Bank, non-governmental organizations, international agricultural research centres, academics, and university students. In addition to extending RAFI's outreach many times over, this Internet access has greatly reduced the cost and staff time needed to disseminate RAFI's information, and has increased the speed with which it can be done. For those wishing to use this service, RAFI's Internet address is:

<http://www.charm.net/~rafi/rafihome.html>