

ABSTRACT

The free exploration of natural resources and the fight between the environment and the technological society cause worries. One of these worries is the loss of biological diversity, local communities and traditional knowledge.

The Biodiversity Convention, part of International Environmental Order, declares the sovereign Right of the countries about biodiversity. It is the main international instrument to recognize the importance and the necessity to protect the knowledge and traditional practices linked to genetic resources. Its comprehension goes beyond the conservation and the biodiversity sustainable appliance, which permits the access to genetic resources and to fair sharing of the benefits through its usage.

In this debate, Bolivia can be inserted which owns an important source of the planet genetical patrimony. The country adds to biological diversity a big ethnic and cultural biodiversity based on the variety of genetic resources from nature, which offers the survival of local communities and their ecosystems.

Our main objective is to make an analysis of the incorporation of the principles of the Convention about Biodiversity in the Bolivia legislation and its effects in the country local communities.

For this reason, we analyzed the International Environmental Order, the Biodiversity Convention and the traditional knowledge regulation produced by the local communities from Bolivia. The Rights from the local communities and the conduct of the country genetic resources can be seen through regional and national rules related to protection and distribution of the benefits to the same communities.

We could check that Bolivia biodiversity and the traditional knowledge can be incorporated to national legislation and to public politics. The great challenge to be faced through Bolivia is the implementation of rules that shows the interests of different sections from a country extremely heterogeneous.

This work intends to collaborate to the interpretation of the International Environmental Order. This way it is expected to contribute to the development of the geographical knowledge and its local implications to global treaties.

KEY WORDS: Bolivia - Biodiversity Convention - Local community - Genetic resources - Traditional knowledge