

Protection of genomic data

Rabat, April 19, 2022

The genome is a very sensitive personal data. New generation sequencing techniques (NGS), which are increasingly used, produce digital information known as genomic data, the manipulation and exploitation of which must allow and promote research efforts aimed at gaining a better understanding of human beings with the objective of improving their living conditions, while preserving the terms of their private lives.

In recent years, genomic information has become one of the key levers for improving health care systems. Managed on a large scale, outside of any regulatory framework, it can have an impact on the safety of populations.

In order to better understand the management rules of this very sensitive personal data, and to bring it up to the international standards currently being developed, the CNDP (Commission Nationale de contrôle de la protection des Données à caractère Personnel) is initiating a consultation with the authorities concerned: Ministry of Health and Social Protection, Ministry of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Innovation, Ordinal Councils, scholarly societies, professional associations, national and international experts, etc.

To this end, auditions will be scheduled.

In addition, will be organized:

- On the national level, a day of reflection, on May 27th, 2022.
- At the international level, a seminar on July 5th and 6th, 2022.

The consultations will end on September 30th, 2022, and recommendations will be made public by December 31st, 2022.

An Ad-Hoc committee on personal medical data will be established to accompany these consultations.