



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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### COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE UNDER THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

Seventh meeting  
Montreal, 8-10 September 2010  
Item 2 of the provisional agenda\*

### ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

*Note by the Executive Secretary*

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety held its sixth meeting from 4 to 6 November 2009 in Montreal. The Committee reviewed information gathered by the Secretariat on reporting rates under other multilateral environmental agreements. The Committee raised a number of questions and points relevant to the main theme of how to improve the reporting rate under the Biosafety Protocol. It agreed, on a preliminary basis, to several conclusions and recommendations, and decided to finalize them at the present meeting.

2. The Committee also considered “review of general issues of compliance”, an item that it had decided should be taken up as a standing item at all the meetings of the Committee. In that context it reviewed the status of compliance by Parties in fulfilling their obligation to make information identified by the Protocol available through the Biosafety Clearing-House. It agreed, on a preliminary basis to certain recommendations that may be submitted to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol for its consideration. It decided to finalize those recommendations at its present meeting.

3. The provisional agenda for the present meeting has been developed taking into account the agreement reached by the Committee at its sixth meeting, and the work plan agreed upon at the fifth meeting of the Committee.

4. The seventh meeting of the Committee is to be held in Montreal from 8 to 10 September 2010 at the premises of the office of the Secretariat at 413 St-Jacques Street West, Suite 800. It will be held in open session as agreed by members of the Committee at their fourth meeting (UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/4/3, para. 28).

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\* UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/7/1.

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## **ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

5. The meeting will be opened by Mr. Jürg Bally, Chairperson of the Committee at 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 8 September 2010.

## **ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

### ***2.2. Adoption of the agenda***

6. The Committee may wish to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda proposed by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chair of the Committee (UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/7/1).

### ***2.3. Organization of work***

7. The Committee may wish to consider the proposed organization of work as contained in annex I below. The language of the meeting will be English.

8. A list of documents for the meeting is contained in annex II below. The documents will be made available on the Secretariat's website at <http://www.cbd.int>.

9. An information note will also be made available for members of the Compliance Committee containing details of registration and logistical arrangements for the meeting, including information on travel, visa requirements, accommodation and other similar matters.

## **ITEM 3. REVIEW OF INFORMATION ON NATIONAL REPORTING RATES (CONTINUED FROM THE LAST MEETING)**

10. At its sixth meeting, the Committee noted the experience of some multilateral environmental agreements as regards national reporting with a view to draw lessons that could improve the rate of submission of national reports under the Biosafety Protocol, which has been found to be relatively low, so far. By June 2010, 89 national reports had been received by the Secretariat. At the same time the number of Parties to the Protocol has reached 159, while by the time the first national reports were due the Protocol had 141 Parties, indicating that still about one third of the Parties have to submit their first national reports.

11. The Committee after considering the information before it at its last meeting had agreed, on a preliminary basis, on a number of points and recommendations with a view to consolidating and finalizing them at the present meeting. The Committee may wish to continue its deliberations on this matter on the basis of the report of its sixth meeting (UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/6/4), in particular its paragraph 14.

12. The Committee may also wish to consider, for its information, the working document that the Secretariat has prepared for the fifth meeting of the Parties on monitoring and reporting under the Protocol (Article 33)" (UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/5/14/Rev.1), which presents a proposed reporting format for the second national reporting cycle which is due in September 2011. The proposed reporting format takes into account the questions suggested by the Committee at its third and fourth meetings for inclusion in the next reporting format.

**ITEM 4. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS BY THE COMMITTEE AS REGARDS TRIGGERING THE COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES AND MECHANISMS**

13. Following discussion at its sixth meeting on whether to consider the submission received from a non-governmental organization (NGO) alleging non-compliance of a Party with its obligations under the Protocol, the Committee requested the Secretariat to compile the Committee's previous discussions, as noted in the relevant reports of the Committee, regarding the trigger mechanism under the compliance procedures for consideration at this meeting. Accordingly, the Secretariat has prepared a document on the subject (UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/7/2). The Committee has noted that it will review this information and consider the matter in the context of the submissions of views that might be received by the Secretariat from Parties on how the supportive role of the Committee could be improved, as specified in paragraph 6 of decision BS-IV/1 of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol. A compilation of views submitted in this regard is available as a document of the fifth meeting of the Parties (UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/5/2/Add.1).

**ITEM 5. REVIEW OF GENERAL ISSUES OF COMPLIANCE**

14. The Committee agreed at its fifth meeting to have a standing agenda item on "review of general issues of compliance" at its future meetings (UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/5/4, para. 23). In this regard, the Committee had, at its last meeting, considered a document (UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/6/3) prepared by the Secretariat identifying some gaps in the implementation of the Protocol on the basis of a review of records in the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH). At the same meeting, a representative of the Secretariat also made a presentation on the BCH and on monitoring and reporting. The Committee discussed the matter and agreed, on a preliminary basis, on some recommendations to be presented to the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol. It agreed to finalize these recommendations at the current meeting. The Committee may wish to continue and finalize its deliberations on this item based on, once again, the report of its last meeting (UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/6/4) and, in particular paragraph 18 of the report.

**ITEM 6. OTHER MATTERS**

15. Under this item, the members of the Compliance Committee may wish to raise and discuss other relevant matters.

**ITEM 7. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

16. The Compliance Committee will consider and adopt its report. The reports of the fifth, sixth and seventh meetings of the Committee will be consolidated and submitted to the fifth meeting of the Parties to the Protocol for their consideration and appropriate action.

**ITEM 8. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

17. It is expected that the meeting will be closed at 5 p.m. on Friday, 10 September 2010.

*Annex I*

**PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE  
COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE UNDER THE BIOSAFETY PROTOCOL**

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
8 September 2010 9.30 a.m. to 9.45 a.m.	1. Opening of the meeting. 2. Organizational matters: 2.1 Adoption of the agenda; 2.2. Organization of work.
9.45 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	3. Review of information on national reporting rates ( <i>continued from the last meeting</i> )
2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.	Continuation of agenda item 3
9 September 2010 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	4. Review of previous discussions by the Committee as regards triggering the compliance procedures and mechanisms
2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.	Continuation of agenda item 4
10 September 2010 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	5. Review of general issues of compliance
2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.	6. Other matters 7. Adoption of the report. 8. Closure of the meeting.

*Annex II***LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE  
COMMITTEE UNDER THE BIOSAFETY PROTOCOL**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/7/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/7/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/7/2	Compilation of the work of the Committee concerning the trigger mechanism of the compliance procedure under the Protocol
UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/6/4	Report of the Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety on the work of its sixth meeting
UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/5/2/Add/1	Compilation of views on how the supportive role of the Compliance Committee could be improved
UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/5/14/Rev.1	Monitoring and reporting (Article 33)

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