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COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE UNDER THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

Tenth meeting
Montreal, 29-31 May 2013 2013

REVIEW OF THE OUTCOMES OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY AS THEY RELATE TO THE WORK OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP 6) was held in Hyderabad, India, from 1 to 5 October 2012. The report of the Compliance Committee was, as always, one of the items in the agenda of the COP-MOP. The meeting considered the report and the recommendations submitted by the Compliance Committee and took decisions accordingly.

2. This document highlights the outcomes of COP-MOP 6 relevant to compliance. It is a review on how and to what extent the recommendations of the Committee were considered and incorporated into the decisions of COP-MOP 6 for the information of the members of the Compliance Committee. The document also provides some thoughts on how the Committee may wish to carry out its tasks in the next biennium.

3. Section II of the document examines the decisions that were taken at COP-MOP 6 under agenda item 4 on the report of the Compliance Committee. The decisions are reviewed vis-à-vis the recommendations that the Committee had proposed in the annex of its report to COP-MOP 6, (i.e., UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/6/2). For ease of reference, a table is also provided, as an annex to this document, showing how and to what extent the recommendations of the Compliance Committee have been integrated in the decisions of the Parties to the Protocol. Section II also considers other relevant decisions adopted at COP-MOP 6 that may require the attention of the Compliance Committee. Section III proposes a possible work plan for the Committee for the next biennium, taking into account the organization of work agreed upon by the Committee during the previous intersessional period and the elements derived from COP-MOP 6 decisions relevant to compliance. Finally, the document presents, in section IV, the list of members of the Compliance Committee, including those who were newly elected or re-elected at COP-MOP 6.

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II. DECISIONS TAKEN BY COP-MOP 6 TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

4. The Compliance Committee submitted its report and recommendations to COP-MOP 6 as contained in document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/6/2. The document presented a consolidated report of the work of the Committee undertaken during the intersessional period after COP-MOP 5, i.e. at its eighth and ninth meetings. The recommendations submitted to COP-MOP 6 were agreed by the Committee at its ninth meeting held in September 2012.

5. Mr. Jürg Bally, the Chair of the Committee attended COP-MOP 6. He made a statement at the opening plenary session of COP-MOP 6 and submitted the report of the Committee.

6. Following past practices and taking into account the suggestion of the Committee as specified in the annex to its report, each of the seventeen recommendations of the Committee was considered under the agenda items of COP-MOP 6 to which it is most closely related. Accordingly, the recommendations of the Committee were considered under the following agenda items:

- (a) Recommendations 1 to 5 stayed under the agenda item on compliance (item 4);
- (b) Recommendations 6 to 14 were considered under the item on monitoring and reporting (item 17);
- (c) Recommendation 15 was considered under the item on the financial mechanism and resources (item 6); and
- (d) Recommendations 16 and 17 were considered under the item on assessment and review (item 18).

7. The discussion below highlights each of the decisions taken by COP-MOP 6 relevant to the issue of compliance and/or the work of the Compliance Committee.

BS-VI/1 Report of the Compliance Committee

8. The Committee's first recommendation submitted to COP-MOP 6 was for Parties to decide to identify as a priority, the fulfillment of the obligation to introduce legal, administrative and other measures necessary for the implementation of the Protocol consistent with the Strategic Plan adopted under decision BS-V/16, which identifies the task of putting operational biosafety frameworks in place as the top most priority area. Accordingly, the gap that still exists with regard to the obligation to introduce legal, administrative and other measures necessary for the implementation of the Protocol was recognized in the preambular paragraphs of decision BS-VI/1. Paragraph 1 of decision BS-VI/1 expands further on the preamble and calls upon Parties to *expedite* their efforts to put in place the legal and administrative frameworks necessary to meet their obligations under the Protocol.

9. In light of the gaps identified and in keeping with the expanded mandate given to the Compliance Committee through decision BS-V/1, COP-MOP agreed with the Committee's recommendation and requested Parties that have not yet put in place operational biosafety frameworks to submit information on the difficulties they are faced with in this regard, and the plans and timelines they envisage, as appropriate, for the purpose of taking the necessary measure (paragraphs 2, decision BS-VI/1). Also on the basis of the Committee's recommendation, COP-MOP also requested the Executive Secretary to compile the information submitted by the concerned Parties and submit it to the Compliance Committee for its consideration and appropriate action (paragraph 3 of decision BS-VI/1).

10. The Committee's fourth recommendation was for the COP-MOP to remind Parties that are experiencing difficulties to put in place legal, administrative and other measures necessary for the implementation of the Protocol that they may submit their difficulties to the Compliance Committee and seek assistance. This is reflected in paragraph 4 of decision BS-VI/1. It is to be noted that providing assistance is one of the measures, indicated in paragraph 1 (a) of decision BS-V/I, that the Committee may consider taking in case of difficulties a Party may be facing in order to comply with its obligations.

11. Paragraph 5 of decision BS-VI/I incorporates the fifth recommendation of the Committee and reiterates its invitation to Parties to make use of the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms, as contained in the annex to decision BS-V/13, to facilitate the implementation of their obligations to promote public awareness and participation as specified in Article 23 of the Protocol. COP-MOP also invited Parties to make use of the programme of work for the purpose of developing their own awareness programmes.

12. The final paragraph of the decision encourages Parties "to use, as appropriate, the procedures and mechanisms on compliance set out in the Protocol to promote compliance with the requirements of the Protocol". This paragraph stems from the suggested elements for a draft decision on standards relevant to the handling, transport, packaging and identification of living modified organisms (item 10 of the agenda of COP-MOP 6) included in document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/6/9 where reference was made to the use of compliance procedures and mechanisms to promote compliance with the Protocol's requirements specifically related to handling, transport, packaging and identification of living modified organisms. It was included in this decision following a suggestion by a Party.

BS-VI/5 Matters related to the financial mechanism and resources

13. Paragraph 2 (g) of decision BS-VI/5 (recommendation to COP) invites the Global Environment Facility to "make available, in a timely manner, adequate and predictable financial resources to eligible Parties to facilitate the preparation of their third national reports under the Protocol". This addresses part of recommendation 15 of the Committee.

14. The COP-MOP has also called for the inclusion of "activities recommended by the Compliance Committee to assist eligible Parties to comply with their obligations under the Protocol", as one of the nine programme priorities with respect to biosafety, to be considered within the four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for biodiversity for the sixth GEF replenishment period (paragraph 2 (n) of decision BS-VI/5).

BS-VI/7 Programme budget for the costs of the Secretariat services and the biosafety work programme of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the biennium 2013-2014

15. COP-MOP 6 maintained the approved core programme budget as set out in table 1 contained in decision BS-VI/7 providing for one meeting of the Compliance Committee per year during the 2013-2014 biennium.

BS-VI/14 Monitoring and reporting under the Protocol

16. COP-MOP 6 has taken into account the recommendations of the Compliance Committee in adopting decision BS-VI/14 as explicitly stated in the final preambular paragraph of the decision.

17. Recommendation 6 of the Committee welcoming the fact that 144 out of 161 Parties had submitted their second national report* is reflected in the second paragraph of the decision that welcomes the high rate of submissions in the second reporting cycle.

18. The seventh recommendation of the Committee is reiterated in the first preambular paragraph of the decision welcoming the financial support of the Global Environment Facility for eligible Parties to prepare and submit their national reports and recognizing the contribution of that support to the high rate of submission of these reports.

19. Recommendations 8 and 9 of the Committee noting that seven Parties had never submitted any reports and that an additional ten Parties had not submitted their second national reports is reflected in the second preambular paragraph of this decision which notes that 14 Parties have not yet submitted their second national reports and that five of those Parties have never fulfilled their reporting obligations under Article 33 of the Protocol, the numbers having been adjusted to reflect the fact that three Parties had, in the interim before COP-MOP 6, duly submitted their outstanding reports.

20. Accordingly, and as derived from the first part of recommendation 10 of the Committee, paragraph 3 of the decision urges (instead of “requests”, as recommended by the Committee) the 14 Parties that have not yet submitted their national reports to do so at the earliest opportunity by fully completing the report form for the second national report, as contained in the annex to decision BS-V/14. Whereas the second part of recommendation 10 had further explained that Parties were requested to respond “to all questions, given that the information provided in the second national reports establishes the baseline for measuring progress of implementation of the Protocol”, the decision only urges Parties to “fully complete” the report form with no elaboration as to the specific purpose as explained in the recommendation of the Committee.

21. Paragraphs 4, 5 and 7 of the decision regarding the completion of second national reports, the reporting format to be used and the assistance available for the preparation and submission of national reports, incorporate recommendations 11, 12 and 13 of the Committee, respectively, in their entirety.

22. The decision further requests the Executive Secretary to also take into account the “recommendations of the Compliance Committee”, among other factors, when updating the reporting format (paragraph 9). The Compliance Committee had submitted specific recommendations in this regard to COP-MOP 5 and these had been adopted in paragraph 8 of decision BS-V/14.

23. Recommendation 14 of the Compliance Committee suggesting for the COP-MOP to request the Secretariat to assist Parties, including through the organization of workshops, subject to the availability of funds, in preparing their third national reports was not considered at COP-MOP 6. However, COP-MOP 5 had already requested the Secretariat, in general terms, to organize an online forum, or, regional or subregional workshops on national reporting with a view to assist Parties in the preparation of their national reports (paragraph 8 (c), decision BS-V/14). Recommendation 14 was, therefore, well covered in that previous decision.

BS-V/15 Second assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol (Article 35)

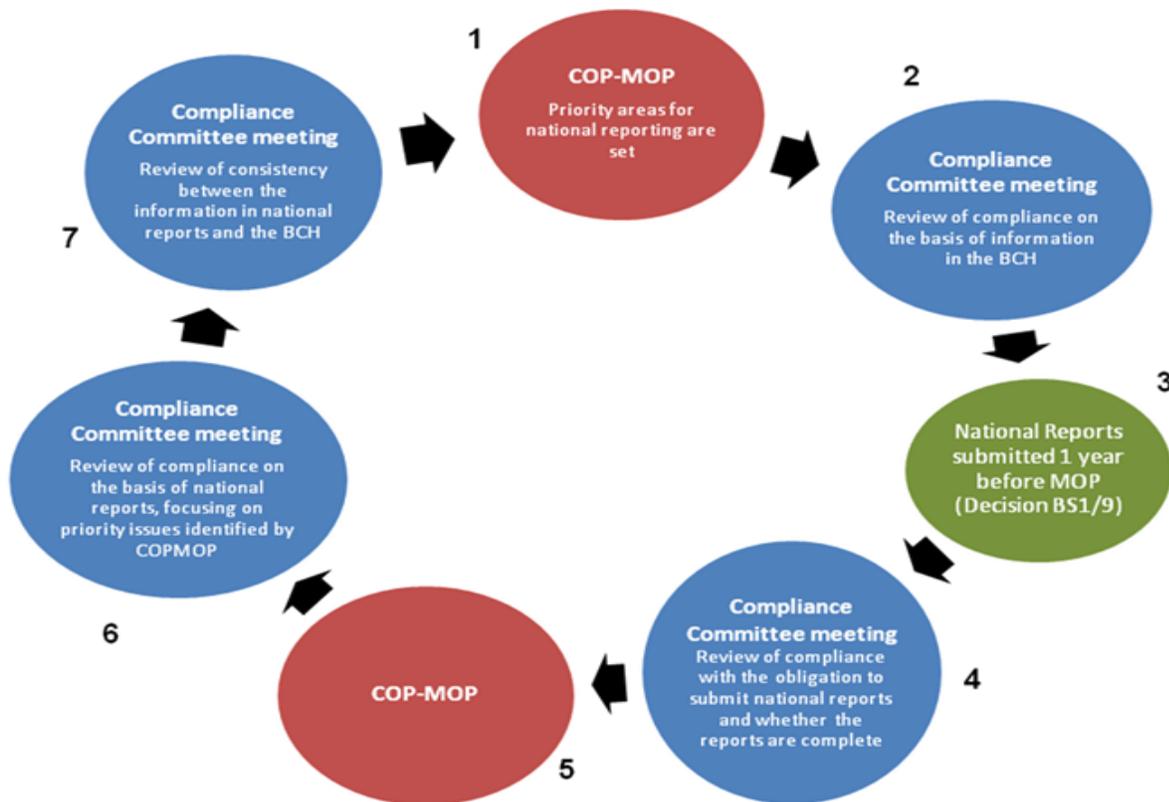
24. At its ninth meeting, the Compliance Committee had noted the overlap between the function of the Compliance Committee in the context of general issues of compliance and the process for the second assessment and review in the context of decision BS-V/15. The Committee had, accordingly, submitted

* This number represents the number of Parties that submitted their national reports as of 1 June 2012 when the Compliance Committee convened its ninth meeting.

recommendations 16 and 17. COP-MOP 6 decided that input from the Compliance Committee had to be taken into account in the process of the third assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol (recommendation 16), and the Compliance Committee was requested to evaluate the status of implementation of the Protocol as a contribution to the third evaluation of the effectiveness in meeting the objective of the Protocol in accordance with Article 35 of the Protocol (recommendation 17).

III. PROPOSED WORK PLAN FOR THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE BETWEEN NOW AND COP-MOP 7

25. In order to apply decision BS-V/1, and taking into account the four year reporting cycle and the priorities set by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, the Compliance Committee agreed at its eighth meeting to the organization of work as set out in the figure below, noting that this organization of work is intended to complement any work plan or existing arrangement for the consideration of specific items by the Committee.



26. Accordingly, the proposed work plan for the Compliance Committee for the biennium before COP-MOP 7 is as follows:

- (a) Tenth meeting (second quarter of 2013):
 - (i) Assessment of the outcomes of COP-MOP 6 relating to compliance;
 - (ii) Review of compliance on the basis of national reports, focusing on priority issues as identified by COP-MOP 6 (step 6 of the above figure). In this regard, one of

the most important priority issues for consideration by the Committee will be the obligation to put in place operational biosafety frameworks. This has also been supported by COP-MOP 6 as stated in paragraph 3 of decision BS-VI/1 (see paragraphs 8 – 12 above). The Secretariat will make available to the Committee a compilation of any information that may be submitted by Parties with regard to the challenges faced in putting in place legal, administrative and other measures necessary for the implementation of the Protocol.

- (iii) General issues of compliance; and
 - (iv) Any other issues that may arise.
- (b) Eleventh meeting (first quarter of 2014):
- (i) Review consistency between the information in national reports and the BCH (Step 7 in the figure above);
 - (ii) Provide input, as appropriate, to the methodological approach proposed for the third assessment and review;
 - (iii) Contribution to the third national reporting format;
 - (iv) General issues of compliance;
 - (v) Any other issues that may be pending or may arise; and
 - (vi) Preparation and adoption of the report and the recommendations of the Committee for submission to COP-MOP 7.

IV. MEMBERSHIP

27. As noted by the Committee at its last meeting, the term of ten members is due to end at the end of 2012. Accordingly, COP-MOP 6 has elected or re-elected the following members to serve on the Compliance Committee:

- (a) **Africa** - Mr. Johansen Voker (Liberia) and Ms. Kaouthar Tliche Aloui (Tunisia);
- (b) **Asia & Pacific** - Dr. Banpot Napompeth (Thailand) and Dr. Rai S. Rana (India), both re-elected for a second term;
- (c) **GRULAC** – Ms. Jimena Nieto Carrasco (Colombia) and Mr. Héctor Conde Almedia (Cuba);
- (d) **CEE** - Ms. Dubravka Stepic (Croatia) and Dr. Angela Lozan (Moldova), re-elected for a second term;
- (e) **WEOG** - Mr. Ruben Dekker (Netherlands), re-elected for a second term and Mr. Geoff Ridley (New Zealand).

28. Accordingly, membership in the Committee for the coming biennium (2013-2014) will be as follows:

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1. Ms. Kaouthar Tliche Aloui (Tunisia) (31 December 2016)
2. Mr. Abisai Mafa (Zimbabwe) (31 December 2014)
3. Mr. Johansen Voker (Liberia) (31 December 2016)
4. Dr. Yousef S. Al-Hafedh (Saudi Arabia) (31 December 2014)
5. Dr. Banpot Napompeth (Thailand) (31 December 2016)
6. Dr. Rai S. Rana (India) (31 December 2016)
7. Dr. Angela Lozan (Moldova) (31 December 2016)
8. Ms. Natalya Minchenko (Belarus) (31 December 2014)
9. Ms. Dubravka Stepic (Croatia) (31 December 2016)
10. Mr. Héctor Conde Almedia (Cuba) (31 December 2016)
11. Mr. Alejandro Hernández (Costa Rica)) (31 December 2014)
12. Dr. Jimena Nieto Carrasco (Colombia) (31 December 2016)
13. Mr. Ruben Dekker (Netherlands) (31 December 2016)
14. Ms. Clare Hamilton (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) (31 December 2014), and
15. Mr. Geoff Ridley (New Zealand) (31 December 2016).

V. CONCLUSION

31. The sixth meeting of the Parties to the Protocol considered the recommendations of the Committee favourably. The table in the annex below shows how the recommendations were considered, accepted, and, as appropriate, included in the decisions of COP-MOP under the items to which they were considered to be relevant.

Annex

THE EXTENT OF INTEGRATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE INTO THE DECISIONS OF COP-MOP 6

Recommendation of the Committee (Annex, document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/6/2)	COP-MOP 6 decision	Remarks/clarifications
<p>The Compliance Committee recommends that the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety decide, at its sixth meeting, to:</p> <p>1. <i>Decide</i> to identify as a priority the fulfillment of the obligation to introduce legal, administrative and other measures necessary for the implementation of the Protocol consistent with the Strategic Plan adopted under decision BS-V/16, which identifies the task of putting operational biosafety frameworks in place as the top most priority area;</p> <p>2. <i>Request</i> Parties that have not yet put in place operational biosafety frameworks to submit information on the difficulties they are faced with in this regard, and the plans and timelines they envisage, as appropriate, for the purpose of taking the necessary measures;</p>	<p><i>BS-VI/1. Report of the Compliance Committee</i></p> <p><i>The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,</i></p> <p><i>Recognizing</i> the gaps that still exist regarding compliance with the Protocol by a number of Parties, in particular as regards the obligation to put in place legal, administrative and other measures that are necessary and appropriate to implement obligations under the Protocol,</p> <p><i>Recognizing</i> also that the fulfillment, by each Party of the obligation to introduce legal, administrative and other measures necessary for the implementation of the Protocol, as required in paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Protocol, is the topmost priority in the domestic implementation of the Protocol,</p> <p><i>Taking note</i> of the recommendation of the Compliance Committee contained in the annex to its report (UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/6/2),</p> <p>1. <i>Calls upon</i> Parties, consistent with the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol for the period 2011–2020 adopted under decision BS-V/16, which identifies the task of putting operational biosafety frameworks in place as the topmost priority area, to expedite their efforts and to put in place the legal and administrative frameworks necessary to meet their obligations under the Protocol;</p> <p>2. <i>Requests</i> Parties that have not yet put in place operational biosafety</p>	<p>The suggested elements for a draft decision are all adopted.</p> <p>Some recommendations have been incorporated into the preamble of the decision.</p>

<p>Recommendation of the Committee (Annex, document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/6/2)</p>	<p>COP-MOP 6 decision</p>	<p>Remarks/clarifications</p>
<p>3. <i>Request</i> the Executive Secretary to compile the information submitted by the concerned Parties as stated in paragraph 2 above and submit it to the Compliance Committee for its consideration and appropriate action;</p> <p>4. <i>Remind</i> Parties experiencing difficulties putting in place legal, administrative and other measures necessary for the implementation of the Protocol that they may submit their difficulties to the Compliance Committee in order to seek assistance in this regard;</p> <p>5. <i>Reiterate its invitation</i> to Parties to make use of the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms, as contained in the annex to decision BS-V/13, to facilitate the implementation of their obligations to promote public awareness and participation as specified in Article 23 of the Protocol;</p>	<p>frameworks to submit information on the challenges they are faced with in this regard, and the plans and timelines, as appropriate, that they envisage for the purpose of taking the necessary measures;</p> <p>3. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to compile the information submitted in accordance with paragraph 2 above by the Parties concerned and to submit it to the Compliance Committee for consideration and appropriate action;</p> <p>4. <i>Reminds</i> Parties experiencing challenges putting in place legal, administrative and other measures necessary for the implementation of the Protocol that they may submit their difficulties to the Compliance Committee in order to seek assistance in this regard, as indicated in paragraph 1(a) of decision BS-V/1;</p> <p>5. <i>Reiterates</i> its invitation to Parties to make use of the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms, contained in the annex to decision BS-V/13, in order to facilitate the fulfilment of their obligations to promote public awareness and participation, as specified in Article 23 of the Protocol, including for the purposes of developing their own awareness programmes;</p>	<p>Parties decided to make particular reference to the previous decision on the facilitative role of the Committee.</p> <p>It was also suggested (and added) to invite Parties to make use of the programme of work for the purpose of developing their own awareness programmes.</p>
<p>15. <i>Recommend</i> to the Conference of the Parties, in adopting its guidance to the Global Environment Facility with respect to support for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, to urge the Global Environment Facility to make available, in a timely manner, financial</p>	<p><i>BS-VI/5. Matters related to the financial mechanism and resources</i></p> <p>1. <i>Recommends</i> to the Conference of the Parties, in adopting its further guidance to the financial mechanism with respect to support for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, that it invite the Global Environment Facility to:</p> <p>(g) Make available, in a timely manner,</p>	<p>The recommendation (with the exception of the reference to the sixth replenishment) was incorporated in the guidance to the financial mechanism that was finally adopted by COP 11 (Appendix</p>

Recommendation of the Committee (Annex, document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/6/2)	COP-MOP 6 decision	Remarks/clarifications
<p>resources to eligible Parties to facilitate the preparation of their third national reports under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and to make specific provision to this effect as part of the sixth replenishment;</p>	<p>adequate and predictable financial resources to eligible Parties to facilitate the preparation of their third national reports under the Protocol;</p>	<p>II, decision XI/5)</p>
<p>6. <i>Welcome</i> the fact that 144 out of 161 Parties that had an obligation to report have submitted their second national reports;</p> <p>7. <i>Welcome</i> the financial support that was made available by the Global Environment Facility to eligible Parties to prepare and submit their second national reports and recognize that this contributed to the high rate of submission of the reports;</p> <p>8. <i>Note</i> that seven Parties have not fulfilled their reporting obligation under the Protocol as they have failed to submit any reports in accordance with Article 33 of the Protocol and associated decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol;</p> <p>9. <i>Also note</i> that a further 10 Parties have not yet submitted their second national reports;</p> <p>10. <i>Request</i> the 17 Parties that have not yet submitted their national report to do so at the earliest opportunity using the reporting format for the second national report as contained in the annex to decision BS-V/14 and responding to all questions, given that the information provided in the second national reports establishes the baseline for measuring progress of</p>	<p><i>BS-VI/14. Monitoring and Reporting</i></p> <p><i>Welcoming</i> the financial support of the Global Environment Facility for eligible Parties to prepare and submit their national reports and <i>recognizing</i> the contribution of that support to the high rate of submission of these reports;</p> <p>1. <i>Welcomes</i> the high rate of submissions of second national reports by Parties and <i>takes note</i> of the analysis of responses prepared by the Executive Secretary;</p> <p><i>Noting</i> that 14 Parties have not yet submitted their second national reports and that five of those Parties have never fulfilled their reporting obligations under Article 33 of the Protocol,</p> <p>3. <i>Urges</i> the 14 Parties that have not yet submitted their national reports to do so at the earliest opportunity by fully completing the report form for the second national report, as contained in the annex to decision BS-V/14;</p>	<p>The suggested elements for a draft decision are largely adopted.</p> <p>Some of the recommendations are incorporated into the preamble of the decision</p> <p>The final number of Parties not having submitted reports takes into account reports received between the ninth meeting of the Compliance Committee and COP MOP 6.</p> <p>The reference (in recommendation 10) to the potential use of the reports to establish a baseline for measuring progress of implementation of the Protocol has been set aside.</p>

Recommendation of the Committee (Annex, document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/6/2)	COP-MOP 6 decision	Remarks/clarifications
<p>implementation of the Protocol;</p> <p>11. <i>Urge</i> those Parties that have not yet submitted responses to all mandatory questions in the second national report to cooperate with the Secretariat in order to complete their national reports as soon as possible;</p> <p>12. <i>Remind</i> Parties of paragraph 2 of decision BS-V/14 which requests Parties submitting their national report for the first time to use the reporting format of the second national report and decides that all Parties should complete this format before using any simplified reporting format that may be adopted in the future;</p> <p>13. <i>Encourage</i> Parties to explore and utilize, as appropriate: (i) technical and other resources available in existing bilateral, regional and subregional arrangements, and (ii) experts from the Biosafety Roster of Experts, to facilitate the preparation and submission of their national reports;</p> <p>14. <i>Request</i> the Secretariat to assist the Parties, including through the organization of workshops, subject to the availability of funds, in preparing their third national reports;</p>	<p>4. <i>Also urges</i> those Parties that have not yet responded fully to all mandatory questions in the second national report to cooperate with the Secretariat in order to complete their second national reports as soon as possible;</p> <p>5. <i>Reminds</i> Parties of paragraph 2 of decision BS-V/14, which requests Parties submitting their national report for the first time to use the reporting format for the second national report, and <i>decides</i> that all Parties should complete this form before using any simplified reporting format that may be adopted in the future;</p> <p>7. <i>Encourages</i> Parties to facilitate the preparation and submission of their national reports by exploring and utilizing, as appropriate: (i) the technical and other resources available in existing bilateral, subregional and regional arrangements; and (ii) the roster of biosafety experts;</p>	<p>Recommendation 14 was found to be adequately covered by a previous COP-MOP decision i.e. paragraph 8(c) decision BS-V/14.</p>

<p>16. <i>Decide</i> that, in the process of preparing for the third assessment and review of the Protocol, the experiences of the Parties in complying with the Protocol, including submission of national reports, are taken into account, along with the input of, <i>inter alia</i>, the Compliance Committee.</p> <p>17. <i>Request</i> the Compliance Committee, in light of the conclusions and recommendation of the Ad Hoc Technical Experts Group on the Second Assessment and Review of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, to evaluate the status of implementation of the Protocol as a contribution to the third evaluation of the effectiveness in meeting the objective of the Protocol in accordance with Article 35 of the Protocol.</p>	<p><i>BS-VI/15. Second assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol (Article 35)</i></p> <p>5. <i>Decides</i> that, in the process of preparing for the third assessment and review of the Protocol, the experiences of the Parties in complying with the Protocol, including submission of national reports, shall be taken into account, along with the input of, <i>inter alia</i>, the Compliance Committee;</p> <p>6. <i>Requests</i> the Compliance Committee, in the light of the conclusions and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the Second Assessment and Review of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, to evaluate the status of implementation of the Protocol as a contribution to the third evaluation of effectiveness in meeting the objectives of the Protocol, in accordance with Article 35 of the Protocol.</p>	
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