

**Convention on
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SEVENTH COORDINATION MEETING FOR
GOVERNMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS
IMPLEMENTING OR FUNDING BIOSAFETY
CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES
Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, 4–6 April 2011
Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA**INTRODUCTION**

1. In its decision BS-I/5, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety established a Coordination Mechanism to facilitate exchange of information and collaboration among Parties, other governments and relevant organizations with a view to promoting synergies, complementarities and partnerships between various capacity-building initiatives for the effective implementation of the Protocol. The Coordination Mechanism consists of the five elements, namely: the liaison group; biosafety capacity-building databases; information-sharing and networking mechanism; coordination meetings and workshops; and reporting mechanism.
2. The coordination meetings provide a forum for Government agencies, relevant organizations and donors involved in implementing and/or funding biosafety capacity-building activities to: (i) interact and share relevant information and experiences on ongoing initiatives; (ii) identify and discuss proposals to address critical biosafety capacity-building issues, needs and gaps; (iii) identify opportunities for collaboration; and (iv) exchange views to improve the design and delivery of capacity-building activities for the effective implementation of the Protocol.
3. To date, six coordination meetings for Governments and organizations involved in implementing and/or funding biosafety capacity-building activities have taken place. The first meeting was held in Montreal on 26-27 January 2005; the second in Tromsø, Norway, from 18 to 20 January 2006; the third in Lusaka from 26 to 28 February 2007; the fourth in New Delhi from 11 to 13 February 2008; the fifth in San Jose, Costa Rica, from 9 to 11 March 2009; and the sixth in Siem Reap, Cambodia, from 1 to 3 February 2010. The reports of these meetings have been circulated as documents UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/1/5, UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/2/3, UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/3/3, UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/4/INF/23, UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/5/4 and UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/6/2, respectively.

* UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/7/1.

4. At the fifth coordination meeting, the participants identified the following as priority issues on which capacity-building support and guidance are needed:

- (a) Public awareness and participation in decision-making regarding living modified organisms;
- (b) Enforcement of national regulatory frameworks;
- (c) Capacity-building in the use of the Biosafety Clearing-House;
- (d) Handling of liability and redress issues at the national level;
- (e) Risk assessment of genetically modified animals.

5. The issue of capacity-building with respect to public awareness, education and participation was considered at the sixth coordination meeting.¹ The present meeting will focus on the issue of capacity-building for enforcement of national biosafety regulatory frameworks and capacity-building for implementation of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress,² within the context of operational objectives 2.1 and 2.4 of the new Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.³ The meeting will also be presented with an update on the process for further deliberation on the issue of socio-economic considerations (Article 26 of the Protocol) initiated by the Secretariat pursuant to paragraphs 21-31 of decision BS-V/3 of the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol. Furthermore, participants will be invited to share preliminary views and suggestions regarding the next comprehensive review of the capacity-building action plan and the Coordination Mechanism.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

6. The meeting will be opened by a representative of the Government of the Republic of Moldova, at 9 a.m. on 4 April 2011. A representative from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will also make opening remarks.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1 Election of officers

7. The participants will be invited to elect its Chair and Rapporteur.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda

8. The participants will be invited to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/7/1), developed by the Secretariat in consultation with the Steering Committee for the coordination meetings.

¹ See UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/6/2, paras. 20-25 and 35 and annex II.

² Decision BS-V/11, annex.

³ Report of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/5/17), annex, decision BS-V/16, annex I.

2.3 *Organization of work*

9. Participants will be invited to consider and adopt the proposed organization of work as contained in annex I below. Participants will also be invited to raise any other relevant issues related to the building of capacities for the effective implementation of the Protocol under agenda item 5 (Other matters).

ITEM 3. STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

3.1. *Update on ongoing and planned biosafety capacity-building projects/initiatives*

10. Under this item participants will be invited to give short presentations (of approximately five minutes) on their ongoing or planned projects/initiatives, in particular the latest developments since the last coordination meeting. Written reports submitted to the Secretariat prior to the meeting will be made available in an information document (UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/7/INF/1).

3.2. *Progress report on implementation of the recommendations of previous coordination meetings and relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol*

11. Under this item, participants will consider the report of the sixth coordination meeting (UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/6/2) and review the progress made in implementing the conclusions and recommendations of the meeting.⁴ The participants will also be presented with an update on the process for further consideration of the issue of socio-economic considerations (Article 26 of the Protocol) initiated by the Secretariat pursuant to section IV of decision BS-V/3, which was adopted by the Parties at their fifth meeting taking into account recommendations of the sixth Coordination Meeting. Participants will be invited to provide input, as appropriate.

ITEM 4. ISSUES FOR IN-DEPTH CONSIDERATION

4.1. *Capacity-building for enforcement of national biosafety regulatory frameworks*

12. Paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Protocol requires each Party to take necessary and appropriate legal, administrative and other measures to implement its obligations under the Protocol. In this regard, most developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to the Protocol, with support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), have developed national biosafety frameworks (NBFs)⁵. However, a majority have not yet embarked on their implementation and enforcement, largely due to lack of financial and human resources and institutional capacities.

13. In their decision BS-V/16, the Parties to the Protocol adopted a Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020. Strategic objective 2 of the Strategic Plan seeks to further develop and strengthen the capacity of Parties to implement the Protocol. Under this strategic objective, the Parties included a specific operational objective (objective 2.1) to further support the development and implementation of national regulatory and administrative systems.

14. Under this item, participants will review the current status, needs and gaps in national capacities for enforcement of national biosafety regulatory frameworks and propose options for further developing and/or strengthening the capacities of Parties in this regard.

⁴ The report of the sixth meeting is available at: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/bs/bscmcb-06/official/bscmcb-06-02-en.pdf>.

⁵ Most NBFs typically comprise a national biosafety policy, a national biosafety law, administrative systems to handle notifications, mechanisms for enforcement and monitoring and mechanisms for public awareness and participation

4.2. *Capacity-building needs and initiatives relating to the implementation of the Nagoya - Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress*

15. At their fifth meeting, held in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2010 the Parties to the Protocol adopted the Nagoya - Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.⁶ In paragraphs 9 and 10 of decision BS-V/11, in which the Supplementary Protocol was adopted, Parties were urged to cooperate in the development and/or strengthening of human resources and institutional capacities for the effective implementation of the Supplementary Protocol and to take this into account while formulating bilateral, regional and multilateral assistance to developing country Parties that are in the process of developing their domestic law relating to the implementation of the Supplementary Protocol. Furthermore, operational objective 2.4 of the new Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety is aimed at assisting Parties to the Protocol in their efforts to establish and apply the rules and procedures on liability and redress for damage resulting from the transboundary movements of living modified organisms.

16. Under this item, the participants will brainstorm on possible measures and guidance that might assist Parties to develop and/or strengthen their human resources and institutional capacities for the effective implementation of the Supplementary Protocol. Available information on the experiences from different countries and regions in this regard will be presented to facilitate the discussion.

4.3. *Update and views on the process for the next comprehensive review of the Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol and the Coordination Mechanism*

17. At their third meeting, which was held in Curitiba, Brazil, in March 2006 the Parties adopted, in decision BS-III/3, an updated Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol. In paragraph 5 of the decision, the Parties agreed to conduct a comprehensive review of the Action Plan every five years based on an independent evaluation of the capacity-building initiatives carried out to implement the Action Plan. At their last meeting, the Parties adopted, in decision BS-V/3, the terms of reference for the next comprehensive review of the Action Plan. In paragraph 13 of the decision, Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations were invited to submit information that might facilitate the comprehensive review of the updated Action Plan as well as views and suggestions on possible revisions to the Action Plan.

18. In addition, in paragraph 15 of their decision BS-IV/3, the Parties to the Protocol requested the Executive Secretary to continue undertaking measures to improve the implementation of the Coordination Mechanism and provide a report to the sixth meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.

19. Under this item, the participants will be invited to make a general assessment of the role, effectiveness and impact of the Action Plan in guiding capacity-building efforts under the Protocol; provide comments on the proposed process for its next comprehensive review; and share preliminary views and suggestions on the possible changes to structure and content of the Action Plan as well as the framework for its implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The participants will also be invited to make suggestions for the improvement of the Coordination Mechanism for consideration by the Parties to the Protocol at their sixth meeting, to be held in India in October 2012.

⁶ The Supplementary Protocol will be open for signature at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 7 March 2011 to 6 March 2012.

ITEM 5. OTHER MATTERS

20. Under this item, participants will be invited to elect a new Steering Committee to serve for the next two years, in accordance with the operational procedures and guidelines for coordination meetings. The participants will also be given opportunity to raise any other matters relevant to capacity-building for the effective implementation of the Protocol.

ITEM 6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

21. Participants will be invited to formulate the conclusions and recommendations of the meeting, which may be submitted for consideration by the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of Parties to the Protocol.

ITEM 7. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

22. It is expected that the meeting will be closed at 5 p.m. on 6 April 2011.

Annex I

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK

4 April 2011 9 a.m. – 9.30 a.m.	<i>Agenda item:</i> 1. Opening of the meeting.
9.30 a.m. – 10 a.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 2. Organizational matters: 2.1. Election of officers; 2.2. Adoption of the agenda; 2.3. Organization of work.
10 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Coffee/Tea Break
10.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 3. Standing agenda items: 3.1. Updates on ongoing and planned biosafety capacity-building projects/initiatives.
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.	Lunch Break
2 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 3. Standing agenda items: 3.2. Progress report on implementation of the recommendations of previous coordination meetings and relevant decisions of the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.
3.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.	Coffee/Tea Break
4 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 4. Issues for in-depth consideration: 4.1. Capacity-building for enforcement of national biosafety regulatory frameworks.
5 April 2011 9 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 4.2. Capacity-building needs and initiatives relating to the implementation of the Nagoya - Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress.
10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.	Coffee/Tea Break
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 4 (continued):</i> Group discussions on items 4.1 and 4.2
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.	Lunch Break
2 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 4 (continued)</i> Group presentations
3.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.	Coffee/Tea Break

4 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 4 (continued)</i> 4.3. Update and views on the process for the next comprehensive review of the Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol and the Coordination Mechanism.
6 April 2011 9 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	<i>Agenda item 4 (continued):</i> Group discussions on item 4.3
10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.	Coffee/Tea Break
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 4 (continued):</i> Consideration of group discussion reports
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.	Lunch Break
2 p.m. – 5 p.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 5. Other matters 6. Conclusions and recommendations 7. Closure of the meeting

Annex II

**DOCUMENTS FOR THE SEVENTH COORDINATION MEETING FOR
GOVERNMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS IMPLEMENTING OR
FUNDING BIOSAFETY CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES**

A. *Working documents*

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/7/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/7/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda

B. *Information documents*

UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/7/INF/1	Compilation of updates on ongoing and planned biosafety capacity-building projects/initiatives submitted by Governments and organizations.
UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/6/2	Report of the Sixth Coordination Meeting for Governments and Organizations Implementing or Funding Biosafety Capacity-Building Activities, held from 1 to 3 February 2010 in Siem Reap, Cambodia
