



**CONVENTION ON  
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LIAISON GROUP ON CAPACITY-BUILDING  
FOR BIOSAFETY  
Montreal, Canada  
4 to 5 November 2002

**ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Article 22 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety requires Parties to cooperate in the development and/or strengthening of human resources and institutional capacities in biosafety, including biotechnology to the extent that it is required for biosafety, for the purpose of the effective implementation of the Protocol through existing global, regional, sub-regional and national institutions and organizations and, as appropriate, through facilitating private sector involvement.

2. At its second meeting, which was held in Nairobi, Kenya from 1-5 October 2001, the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (ICCP), in recommendation 2/9A, endorsed an Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol. At its third meeting, which was held in The Hague, the ICCP in its recommendation 3/5, proposed a Coordination Mechanism for the implementation of the Action Plan to facilitate exchange of information with a view to promoting partnerships and maximizing complementarities and synergies between various capacity building initiatives. One of the elements of the Coordination Mechanism is the establishment of a Liaison Group on Capacity-building for Biosafety.

3. The mandate of the Liaison Group, as specified in Annex 1 to the ICCP recommendation 3/5, is to provide expert advice to the Executive Secretary on ways and means to enhance the coordination and effective implementation of the Action Plan. This could include advise on promotion of international cooperation and on implementation of other elements of the Coordination Mechanism, i.e. the Biosafety capacity-building project database, the BCH web pages on "capacity-building opportunities" and "country capacity needs", the Networking Mechanism and the coordination workshops. The Liaison Group may also propose innovative ways and means to assist Parties in identifying and mobilizing the necessary financial, technical and other resources for building capacities to implement the Protocol.

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4. The present meeting will consider issues, opportunities and strategic options for operationalizing the Coordination Mechanism. It will also consider and provide advice to improve the implementation of ICCP recommendations on capacity-building and relevant issues to be further considered by the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the meeting of Parties to the Protocol (COP/MOP.1), including indicators for monitoring implementation of the Action Plan.

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

5. The meeting will be opened by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity or his representative, at 10 a.m. on 4 November 2002.

### **ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

#### *2.1 Election of Officers*

6. The Meeting of will be invited to elect its Chair and Vice-Chair as well as a Rapporteur from among the participants.

#### *2.2 Adoption of the agenda*

7. The meeting will be invited to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda proposed in document UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/1.

#### *2.3 Organization of work*

8. The Liaison Group will be invited to consider the proposed organization of work as contained in annex I below. The proposal is intended to provide for an opportunity to consider, in-depth, the critical agenda items within the time frame available. The meeting will endeavour to cover all the agenda items in the plenary.

9. The meeting will take up the main substantive issues requiring detailed consideration as reflected under item 3 of the provisional agenda, and then consider other relevant issues and procedural matters. Working groups may be established as need arises.

10. The proposed organization of work also provides for an opportunity for participants to raise any other relevant issues and suggestions to improve capacity-building efforts for the effective implementation of the Protocol. In light of observations and suggestions made, the meeting may wish identify strategic issues that might require further consideration by the COP/MOP.

### **ITEM 3. ISSUES FOR IN-DEPTH CONSIDERATION**

11. As stated in the provisional agenda, the main substantive issues to be considered in-depth are: the Status and Gaps in Implementation of the Action Plan; Operationalization of the Coordination Mechanism; Ways and means to enhance complementarities, synergies, partnerships and cooperation; and Indicators for monitoring implementation of the Action Plan. These are the key issues emerging from the ICCP recommendations on capacity-building that require urgent attention.

### ***3.1. Existing Initiatives and the Status and Gaps in Implementation of the Action Plan***

12. Under this agenda item, the Liaison Group will review a summary of existing projects and other initiatives on capacity-building for biosafety available in the database on the BCH and a gap analysis prepared by the Secretariat.

13. Participants from intergovernmental organizations active in capacity-building for biosafety will also be invited to give short presentations on their programmes and potential opportunities for cooperation with other initiatives. The representative from UNEP/GEF will be invited to make a presentation on the donor matrix that was prepared in March 2002.

14. The meeting will then be invited to:

(a) Exchange ideas and make recommendations on how coordination and cooperation between existing activities and initiatives on capacity-building could be best enhanced.

(b) Identify possible options for addressing the gaps and emerging capacity-building needs in implementation of the Action Plan in a coordinated manner.

(c) Consider and provide advice on options for further elaboration of the elements of the Action Plan, including concrete actions that could be undertaken to implement each element.

### ***3.2. Operationalization of the Coordination Mechanism***

15. Under this item, the Liaison Group is expected to consider and provide advice on the further development and implementation of elements of the Coordination Mechanism recommended by the ICCP at its third meeting, namely: the Biosafety capacity-building project database, BCH web pages on "capacity-building opportunities" and "country capacity needs", the networking mechanism and the coordination workshops. In order to facilitate the discussion on this item, meeting will have a note (UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/1/3) prepared by the Executive Secretary elaborating the design, current status and potential role of each element in promoting coordination and cooperation in implementation of the Action Plan. The Liaison Group will be invited to propose ways to improve the design and implementation of the elements.

### ***3.3. Ways and means to enhance complementarities, synergies, partnerships and cooperation between various capacity building initiatives***

16. The Liaison Group will be invited to propose innovative ways and means to enhance complementarities, synergies, partnerships and cooperation between various capacity building initiatives. Options for promoting harmonization of approaches to capacity-building for biosafety and tools, including guidelines, for promoting partnerships will be explored.

### ***3.4. Indicators for Monitoring Implementation of the Action Plan***

17. The meeting will consider and provide input/ comments on the draft preliminary indicators for monitoring the implementation of the Action Plan, which was prepared by the Secretariat for the third meeting of the ICCP.

18. In considering this item, the Liaison Group will also have before it a compilation of any the views and comments submitted by Governments and relevant international organizations as of ... November 2002, pursuant to ICCP recommendation 3/5, paragraph 9. The Liaison Group may wish to review the draft indicators and propose a core set under each capacity-building element of the Action Plan to be used by parties to establish their national indicators, and develop technical monitoring guidelines.

#### **ITEM 4. PREPARATION OF THE PRE-SESSION DOCUMENTS ON CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR COP/MOP.1**

19. The Secretariat will present a draft outline of the pre-session document(s) on capacity-building to be prepared for COP/MOP.1. Participants will be invited to provide comments and ideas on the scope and structure of the document and to provide relevant information or suggestion of useful sources of relevant information to assist the Executive Secretary in finalizing the document(s).

#### **ITEM 5. OTHER MATTERS**

20. Under this item, the meeting may wish to consider any other matter of relevance raised by participants.

#### **ITEM 6. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

21. The Liaison Group will be invited to formulate its general conclusions and recommendations to assist the Executive Secretary in preparing the necessary documentation on capacity-building for consideration by the COP/MOP.1.

#### **ITEM 7. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

22. It is expected that the meeting will be closed on 5 November 2002, at 5 p.m.

## ANNEX I

**PROVISIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE MEETING OF THE LIAISON GROUP ON  
CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR BIOSAFETY**

	<i>Plenary</i>
<i>Monday</i> 4 November 2002 10.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.	<i>Agenda item:</i> 1. Opening of the meeting.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 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.
11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 3. Issues for in-depth consideration: 3.1 Existing initiatives and progress with implementation of the Action Plan 3.2 Operationalization of the Coordination Mechanism 3.3 Consideration of ways and means to enhance complementarities, synergies, partnerships and cooperation 3.4 Indicators for monitoring implementation of the Action Plan
2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 3 (Cont'd)</i>
<i>Tuesday</i> 5 November 2002 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 3 (Cont'd)</i>
2 p.m. to 5 p.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 4. Pre-session documents on capacity-building for COP/MOP.1 5. Other matters 6. Conclusions and recommendations 7. Closure of the meeting

*Annex II*

**DOCUMENTS FOR THE MEETING OF THE LIAISON GROUP ON CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR BIOSAFETY**

**A. Working documents**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/LG-CB/1/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/LG-CB/1/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/LG-CB/1/2	Discussion paper on coordination and cooperation in building capacities for the effective implementation of the Biosafety Protocol: Issues, options and mechanisms
UNEP/CBD/LG-CB/1/3	Summary of existing projects and other initiatives on capacity-building for biosafety and a gap analysis in implementation of the Capacity-building Action Plan

**B. Information documents**

UNEP/CBD/ LG-CB/1/INF/1	Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
UNEP/CBD/ LG-CB/1/INF/2	UNEP/GEF Donor Matrix

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