



## CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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### LIAISON GROUP ON CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR BIOSAFETY

Second meeting

Montreal, Canada, 27 to 28 January 2005

#### *Annotations to the Provisional Agenda*

#### INTRODUCTION

1. At its first meeting, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol in its decision BS-1/5, adopted an Action Plan for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and 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. A Liaison Group on Capacity-building for Biosafety was established as one of the elements of the Coordination Mechanism.
2. The mandate of the Liaison Group 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 would include advise on how to promote inter-agency coordination and collaboration in the implementation of the Action Plan and comments on the measures and approaches designed by the Executive Secretary to operationalize elements of the Coordination Mechanism. The Liaison Group would also be expected to propose ways and means to assist Parties in identifying, mobilizing or leveraging the necessary financial, technical and other resources for building capacities to implement the Protocol.
3. Pursuant to decision BS-I/5, the Executive Secretary is convening the first formal meeting of the Liaison Group to consider emerging issues and opportunities, and provide appropriate advice.<sup>1</sup> The meeting will focus on issues emerging from the implementation of decision BS-I/5, and the follow-up activities which will be considered at the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.

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<sup>1</sup> Following the recommendation by the ICCP at its third meeting to establish a Coordination Mechanism, the Executive Secretary convened in November 2002 an informal liaison group meeting on capacity-building for biosafety to provide advice modalities for operationalizing the Coordination Mechanism and for advancing the implementation and monitoring of the Action Plan on capacity-building.

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

4. The meeting will be opened by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Mr. Hamdallah Zedan, at 2 p.m. on 27 January 2005.

## **ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

### ***2.1 Election of Officers***

5. The Meeting will be invited to elect its Chair and Rapporteur from among the participants.

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

6. The meeting will be invited to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda presented in document UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/2/1.

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

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. The proposed organization of work 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.

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

10. The main substantive issues to be considered in-depth include the following:

### ***3.1. Terms of reference of the Liaison Group and its modalities of operation***

11. Under this agenda item, the meeting will consider the draft terms of reference of the Liaison Group, its operating procedures and the mechanisms through which it will undertake its work. These will be contained in document UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/2/2. Members will be invited to seek any clarifications on the terms of reference and discuss the proposed operational procedures and mechanisms.

### ***3.2. Draft report on implementation of the Coordination Mechanism***

12. Under this agenda item, the Liaison Group will consider the interim progress report by the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the Coordination Mechanism, contained in document (UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/2/3). This will include a status report on implementation of the capacity-building databases on projects, opportunities and country needs established in the Biosafety Clearing-House as well as the progress with the establishment of the Biosafety Information Resource Centre, the hub for the Biosafety Capacity-Building Network and the database of reports on biosafety capacity-building activities. The Liaison Group will also hear reports on the outcomes of the Coordination Meeting of institutions offering biosafety training programs held 4-6 October 2004 in Geneva, Switzerland and the Coordination Meeting for governments and organizations implementing or funding biosafety capacity-building activities held 26-27 January 2005 in Montreal, Canada.

13. The Liaison Group will be invited to provide advice on possible specific improvements in the implementation of the Coordination Mechanism elements, as well as ways and means to enhance synergies and collaboration between existing initiatives in general.

**3.3 *Measures to enhance the coordination and implementation of the Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol***

14. Under this item, the Liaison Group will be invited to consider ways and means to enhance the coordination and effective implementation of the Action Plan, including options for addressing the needs and priorities of Parties and for mobilizing additional resources for biosafety capacity-building activities.

**3.4 *Consideration of elements of the draft terms of reference for the comprehensive review of the Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol***

15. In its decision BS-I/5, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol agreed to undertake a comprehensive review and possible revision of the Action Plan and at its third meeting, on the basis of the progress report to be prepared by the Executive Secretary and also on the basis of the capacity needs and priorities submitted by Parties and other Governments. In order to facilitate this exercise, guidance would be required regarding the parameters of the review, including the scope/ elements of the review, the methodology to be used, and the process of the review exercise.

16. Under this item, the Liaison Group will be invited to provide advice on the possible elements of the terms of reference for the review, which the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol may consider at its second meeting to guide the review process.

**ITEM 4. OTHER MATTERS**

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

**ITEM 5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

18. The Liaison Group will be invited to formulate its general conclusions and recommendations, which may be used by the Executive Secretary in preparing documentation for consideration by the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.

**ITEM 6. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

19. It is expected that the meeting will be closed on 28 January 2005, at 5 p.m.

## ANNEX I

## PROVISIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WORK

	<i>Plenary</i>
<p><i>Thursday</i> 27 January 2005 2.00 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Agenda item:</i></p> <p>1. Opening of the meeting.</p>
<p>2.30 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Agenda items:</i></p> <p>2. Organizational matters:</p> <p>2.1. Election of Officers</p> <p>2.2. Adoption of the agenda;</p> <p>2.3. Organization of work.</p>
<p>3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Agenda items:</i></p> <p>3. Issues for in-depth consideration:</p> <p>3.1 Terms of reference of the Liaison Group and its modalities of operation</p> <p>3.2 Draft report on implementation of the Coordination Mechanism</p> <p>3.3 Way and means to enhance the coordination and implementation of the Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol</p> <p>3.4 Consideration of elements of the terms of reference for the comprehensive review of the Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol</p>
<p><i>Friday</i> 28 January 2005 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Agenda item 3 (Cont'd)</i></p>
<p>2 p.m. to 5 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Agenda items:</i></p> <p>4. Other matters</p> <p>5. Conclusions and recommendations</p> <p>6. Closure of the meeting</p>

*Annex II*

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

***A. Working documents***

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/2/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/2/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/2/2	Draft terms of reference of the Liaison Group and its operating procedures and mechanisms
UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/2/3	Draft report on implementation of the Coordination Mechanism
UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/2/4	Elements of the draft terms of reference for the comprehensive review of the Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol
UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/2/5	Draft report on the priority needs of countries, the coverage and gaps in existing biosafety capacity-building initiatives and possible measures for addressing the needs and gaps, including options for enhancing the adequacy and effectiveness of financial assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition

***B. Information documents***

UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/2/INF/1	COP/MOP Decision BS-1/5, which includes Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and an outline of the Coordination Mechanism
UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/2/INF/2	Report of the Coordination Meeting of institutions offering biosafety-related training and education programs, held 4-6 October 2004, Geneva, Switzerland
UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/2/INF/3	Report of the Coordination Meeting for governments and organizations implementing or funding biosafety capacity-building activities held 26-27 January 2005 in Montreal, Canada.