



Convention on Biological Diversity

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CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON MAINSTREAMING BIOSAFETY INTO NATIONAL MEASURES

Batumi, Georgia, 16-20 December 2013

Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Annotations to the provisional agenda

INTRODUCTION

1. In its decision BS-V/16, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP) adopted a Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety covering the period 2011 to 2020. In paragraph 2 of that decision, Parties, other Governments and relevant international organizations were invited to (a) review and align, as appropriate, their national action plans and programmes relevant to the implementation of the Protocol, including their national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), with the Strategic Plan and; (b) allocate adequate human and financial resources necessary to expedite the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

2. The COP-MOP in decision BS-V/11 adopted the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress and encouraged Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to ratify or accede to it as soon as possible and to embark on its implementation. Furthermore the Parties to the Protocol adopted, in decision BS-V/13, a programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms (LMOs) for the period 2011-2015 to foster a cohesive and focused approach to the implementation of Article 23 of the Protocol.

3. The second assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol considered at the sixth meeting of the Parties, held in October 2012 in Hyderabad, India, noted that while progress has been made in the implementation of some of the core elements of the Protocol a number of barriers have impeded its full implementation (UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/6/17/Add.1). These include lack of human, financial and technical resources; a continuing lack of awareness of biosafety issues among the public and policymakers; and the limited integration of biosafety considerations into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, plans and programmes, including NBSAPs, national development plans and development cooperation policies and programmes.

4. This workshop is intended to contribute to efforts to strengthen the capacities of Parties in the Central and Eastern European region, as well as Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, to advance the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and its Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress in line with the Strategic Plan for the Protocol and the

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relevant Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in particular Targets 1-4, 7, 9, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19 and 20. Participants will review the status of the implementation of the Protocol in the region, share experiences and lessons learned, and identify strategies and actions to mainstream biosafety into relevant national plans, programmes and policies, in particular the national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and to mobilize additional resources to support the implementation of the Protocol. They will also discuss ways to foster regional cooperation to address common challenges and maximize use of available opportunities and resources.

5. The specific objectives of the workshop are to:

(a) Take stock of the status of implementation of the Protocol in Central and Eastern European countries, as well as Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, and share experiences and lessons learned in the development and implementation of national biosafety measures and in addressing the challenges encountered;

(b) Identify strategic actions and mechanisms to improve Parties' efforts to further develop legal, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the Protocol and to mainstream them into NBSAPs and other relevant national plans, programmes and policies, as appropriate;

(c) Discuss possible national strategies for mobilizing additional resources to support the implementation of the Protocol, taking into account relevant elements of the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted by the Conference of the Parties in decision IX/11;

(d) Learn and share experiences regarding implementation of the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms and its contribution to the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 1; and

(e) Promote awareness of the objective and core requirements of the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress and review the challenges and opportunities with regard to its ratification and implementation.

6. The workshop is being organized by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity with funding by the Government of Japan. At least 28 participants, including the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety national focal points, competent national authorities or other government officials involved in relevant processes at the national level, as well as representatives from regional organizations and other partners, are expected to attend.

7. The workshop will be conducted in English. The Government of Georgia has kindly offered to explore the possibility of providing simultaneous interpretation into Russian. Documents for the workshop will be made available at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=BSRWMB-CEE-01>.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP

8. The workshop will be opened by a representative of the Government of Georgia at 9 a.m. on Monday, 16 December 2013. A representative of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity will also make opening remarks.

ITEM 2. WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

9. Under this item, the Secretariat will present the objectives and expected outcomes of the workshop, and introduce the provisional agenda and the organization of work as contained in the annex to the present document. Participants will thereafter be invited to introduce themselves and indicate their expectations from the workshop.

ITEM 3. INTRODUCTION TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY AND THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS

10. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will make a presentation on the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020 and highlight its linkages with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The presentation will outline the expected outcomes and indicators for the operational objectives of the Strategic Plan for the Protocol. The presentation will be followed by a plenary discussion on how Parties could align their national biosafety measures and activities with the Strategic Plan's objectives, outcomes and indicators.

ITEM 4. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROTOCOL IN THE CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE REGION

11. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will present an overview of the status of implementation of the Protocol in the Central and Eastern Europe region based on the information provided by Parties in their second national reports. The participants will then be invited to share their experiences and lessons learned in implementation of Protocol at the national level, including the challenges encountered and how they have been addressed. Prior to the workshop, participants will be requested to complete and return to the Secretariat a short questionnaire to facilitate the discussions.

ITEM 5. MAINSTREAMING BIOSAFETY INTO RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICIES, PLANS AND PROGRAMMES, INCLUDING NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS

12. Under this item, the Secretariat will give a presentation on the rationale, tools, approaches and good practices for mainstreaming biosafety into national policies, plans and programmes, drawing on case studies from different countries. After the presentation, participants will be invited to participate in a general plenary discussion to share practical experiences and lessons learned in integrating national biosafety measures into NBSAPs and other relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, plans and programmes.

13. Participants will then be divided into small focus groups to discuss various issues, including the meaning and importance of mainstreaming biosafety into national policies, plans and programmes; identification of key areas/sectors into which biosafety issues could or should be integrated; exploration of ways and means through which mainstreaming could be achieved (including tools, methodologies/techniques, approaches, entry points and possible organizational strategies and arrangements); and identification of capacity-building needs and opportunities for mainstreaming biosafety. The reports of the focus groups' discussions will be presented and further discussed and consolidated in the plenary.

ITEM 6. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION FOR ADVANCING NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

14. Under this item, the Secretariat will make a presentation on "Mobilization of new and additional resources to support national implementation of the Protocol", highlighting relevant elements of section II of decision BS-VI/5 taken by the sixth meeting of the Parties to the Protocol and elements of the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in decision IX/11.

15. After the presentation, participants will engage in a plenary discussion to explore innovative ways and means of mobilizing additional resources from various sources, other than the Global Environment Facility, to support national implementation of the Protocol, taking into account decision BS-VI/5 and

relevant elements of the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

ITEM 7. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PUBLIC AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION CONCERNING LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS

16. Under this item, participants will review and share experiences regarding implementation of the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms and its contribution to the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 1. The Secretariat will introduce the elements of the programme of work and the relevant operational objective on awareness, education and participation in the Strategic Plan for the Protocol. The participants will also be introduced to the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and its GMO Amendment.

17. After the presentations, participants will take part in a panel discussion to share experiences, good practices and lessons learned in the promotion and facilitation of public awareness, education and participation concerning living modified organisms in the CEE and Central Asia region. They will also discuss various issues and key concepts, tools and approaches relating to public awareness and education concerning living modified organisms and share experiences on the development and implementation of biosafety outreach strategies and communication plans and how these are contributing to the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 1.

18. Furthermore, the participants will review various concepts, mechanisms and legal and institutional frameworks regarding public access to information on living modified organisms and share experiences, good practices and lessons learned in the context of the Aarhus Convention and its GMO Amendment and the implementation of the Lucca Guidelines.

19. In addition, participants will review key concepts, methods and approaches to public participation in decision-making processes regarding living modified organisms. Among other things, they will discuss the importance of public participation, review the basic principles and conditions for achieving effective participation, analyse the different levels/degrees of public participation, and review the key points to consider in selecting the public participation methods and techniques to use for a given decision-making process. Participants will discuss how to plan and conduct public consultations during decision-making processes, including key elements of and steps involved in developing a public participation plan.

ITEM 8. PROMOTING THE RATIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAGOYA – KUALA LUMPUR SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL ON LIABILITY AND REDRESS

20. Under this item, the Secretariat will present the objective and core requirements of the Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress, which was adopted, as a legally binding instrument, on 15 October 2010 by the fifth meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. They will then identify and discuss measures that may be needed at the national level in order to implement these requirements and discuss challenges and opportunities associated with ratification or accession to, and implementation of, the Supplementary Protocol. Participants will also be briefed on the status of ratification of the Supplementary Protocol and the possible advantages of ratification or accession to the Supplementary Protocol.

ITEM 9. THE WAY FORWARD

21. Under this item, participants will be invited to discuss the way forward with regard to improving and advancing national biosafety measures for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol and its

Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress in the CEE region in line with the Strategic Plan for the Protocol and the relevant Aichi targets.

ITEM 10. CLOSURE OF THE WORKSHOP

22. During the last session, participants will review what was covered during the week against the stated objectives and expected outcomes of the workshop stated earlier, and will complete a workshop evaluation form. The workshop is expected to end on Friday, 20 December 2013 at 4.30 p.m.

Annex

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK

<i>DATE AND TIME</i>	<i>SESSION/ACTIVITY</i>
Monday, 16 December 2013	
9 a.m. – 9.30 a.m.	Item 1. Opening of the workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming remarks by representatives of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection (the host institution) and the CBD Secretariat • Opening of the workshop by the Guest of Honour • Self-introductions by workshop participants
9.30 a.m. – 10 a.m.	Item 2. Introduction to the workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop objectives and expected outcomes • Participants' expectations
10 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
10.30 a.m. – 11.15 a.m.	Item 3. Introduction to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: The Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020 – Operational objectives, expected outcomes and indicators Questions and Answers
11.15 a.m. – 12 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: The relationship between the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (2011-2020) and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020) and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets Questions and Answers
12 p.m. – 1 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plenary discussion: Alignment of national frameworks, action plans and programmes relevant to the implementation of the Protocol with the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK
2 p.m. – 2.45 p.m.	Item 4. Status of implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in the Central and Eastern Europe region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: The status of implementation of the Protocol in the Central and Eastern Europe region based on the synthesis of the second national reports Questions and Answers
2.45 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country presentations: Experiences and lessons learned in implementation of the Protocol at the national level
3.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
4 p.m. to 5 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country presentations: Experiences and lessons learned in implementation of the Protocol at the national level

<i>DATE AND TIME</i>	<i>SESSION/ACTIVITY</i>
Tuesday, 17 December 2013	
9 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.	Item 5. Mainstreaming biosafety into relevant national policies, plans and programmes, including national biodiversity strategies and action plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: The rationale, good practices and approaches to mainstreaming biosafety into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, plans and programmes Questions and Answers
9.45 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panel discussion: Country experiences and lessons learned in mainstreaming biosafety and biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, plans and programmes
10.45 a.m. – 11 a.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11 a.m. – 12 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus group discussions: Practical steps and key points to consider in mainstreaming biosafety into NBSAPs
12 a.m. – 1 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the focus group discussion reports and discussion of action points
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK
2 p.m. – 2.45 p.m.	Item 6. Resource mobilization for advancing national implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: Mobilization of new and additional resources to support national implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety Questions and Answers
2.45 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plenary discussion: Innovative ways and means of mobilizing new and additional resources from various sources, other than the Global Environment Facility, to support national implementation of the Protocol
3.30 p.m. – 3.45p.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
3.45 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus group discussions: Elements on a national strategy for mobilization of resources to support national implementation of the Protocol
4.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the focus group reports and discussion of the follow-up actions
Wednesday, 18 December 2013	
9 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.	Item 7. Implementation of the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning living modified organisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: Overview of the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning LMOs and the measures taken to facilitate its implementation Questions and answers
9.45 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: The GMO Amendment to the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and the Lucca Guidelines and their potential role in facilitating

<i>DATE AND TIME</i>	<i>SESSION/ACTIVITY</i>
	implementation of Article 23 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety Questions and answers
10.30 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
10.45 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation: Outcomes of the Joint Aarhus Convention/Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety Round Table on access to information, public participation and access to justice regarding LMOs/GMOs held 16-17 October 2013 in Geneva, Switzerland Questions and answers
11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panel discussion: National experiences, good practices and lessons learned in the promotion and facilitation of public awareness and education concerning LMOs in the CEE and Central Asia region as part of the national efforts towards the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 1
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK
2 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field trip
Thursday, 19 December 2013	
9 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.	Item 7 (Cont'd) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation: Core elements of national regimes on public access to information: Outcomes of the online forum held through the BCH in June 2012 Video: public access to information Questions and answers
9.45 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation: Public access to biosafety information in the CEE region: Experience, good practices and lessons learned within the context of the Aarhus Convention and its GMO amendment Questions and answers
10.30 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
10.45 a.m. – 11.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation: Public participation in biosafety and environmental decision-making: Key concepts, emerging good practices and lessons learned Video: Public participation in decision-making Questions and answers
11.45 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation: National policies and mechanisms for public participation in decision-making processes regarding LMOs – An analysis of national biosafety frameworks in the CEE region Questions and answers
12.30 p.m. – 1 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case-study presentation on experiences and lessons learned on public involvement in environmental decision-making processes
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK

2 p.m. – 3 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus group discussions on elements of, and key issues to consider in developing a public participation plan for a decision-making process regarding an LMO
3 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation of the focus-group discussion reports
3.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
4 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation: Fostering regional cooperation on public awareness, education and participation concerning LMOs – Synergies and ongoing collaboration between the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Aarhus Convention
4.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plenary discussions: Strategies and mechanisms to promote regional and subregional cooperation on public awareness, education and participation concerning LMOs
Friday, 20 December 2013	
9 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.	<p>Item 8. Promoting the ratification and implementation of the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of the objective and core provisions of the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress <p>Questions and answers</p>
9.45 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group exercise – consideration of hypothetical cases on liability and redress Presentation of the group exercise reports
10.45 a.m. – 11 a.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11 a.m. – 11.45 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case study presentations: National experiences with the development and implementation of liability and redress laws, in particular liability rules addressing environmental damage
11.45 a.m. – 1 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plenary discussion: Measures and capacities that may be needed at the national level in order to ratify/accede to, and implement, the Supplementary Protocol
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK
2 p.m. – 2.45 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation: Significance and possible advantages of ratifying/acceding to the Supplementary Protocol and national strategies to promote its ratification and implementation in the Central and Eastern Europe region
2.45 p.m. – 3 p.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
3 p.m. – 4.15 p.m.	<p>Items 9 and 10. The way forward and closure of the workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plenary discussion: Assessment of the knowledge and skills acquired and how it could be shared and applied Completion of the workshop evaluation form
4.15 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closing remarks by a representative of the CBD Secretariat Closure of the workshop by the representative of the Government of Georgia
