



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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MEETING OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS ON THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH 2 (a) OF ARTICLE 18 OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

Montreal, 18-20 March 2002

Item 2.2 of the provisional agenda*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Annotations to the provisional agenda

INTRODUCTION

1. At its second meeting, held in Nairobi from 1 to 5 October 2001, the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (ICCP) recommended a number of actions relating to paragraph 2 of Article 18 with a view to facilitating the implementation of the requirements contained in the paragraph once the Protocol enters into force. It invited, among other things, Parties to the Convention, Governments and relevant international organizations to provide to the Executive Secretary views and relevant information regarding:

(a) The appropriate implementation of the requirement contained in the first sentence of paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18, by the time of entry into force of the Protocol; and

(b) The requirements of each element of paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18 of the Protocol.

2. The ICCP requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a synthesis report of the views and information and to convene a meeting of technical experts with broad expertise covering all relevant aspects and disciplines for the implementation of paragraph 2(a) of Article 18, taking into account the need for balanced regional representation, transparency and a stepwise approach.

3. Accordingly, and following the generous financial contribution by the Governments of Canada, France, Switzerland and the United States, the technical expert meeting will be held in Montreal, at the premises of the International Civil Aviation Organization, from 18 to 20 March 2002 back –to-back with the experts' meeting on paragraphs 2 (b) and 2 (c) of Article 18.

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4. The experts will discuss the issues contained in the provisional agenda and make recommendations for consideration by the ICCP at its third meeting, which will be held in The Hague, from 22 to 26 April 2002.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

5. The meeting will be opened by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity at 10 a.m. on Monday 18 March 2002. Other participants may also make, as appropriate, remarks if they wish to do so at this stage.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. Election of officers

6. The meeting will elect its chairperson, a vice-chair and a rapporteur from among the participating experts representing different regions.

2.2. Adoption of the agenda

7. The Meeting will be invited to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda circulated as document UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-18.2a/1/1.

2.3. Organization of work

8. The Meeting may wish to consider the proposed organization and programme of its work as contained in annex I below.

9. The Meeting will be invited to consider the elements of paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18 of the Protocol and associated issues. In accordance with the recommendation of the ICCP, consideration of issues relevant to paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18 needs to be conducted in a stepwise manner taking those requirements that need to be implemented at the time of entry into force of the Protocol first, and those actions that need to be taken at a later stage thereafter. Accordingly, the experts will be invited to commence their deliberations by addressing the possible modalities for the implementation of the requirement contained in the first sentence of paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18 upon entry into force of the Protocol, and then proceed to considering the identification of issues to be addressed beyond entry into force of the Protocol, in the preparation for the decision referred to in paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18. Although the proposed organization of work as contained in annex I below provides for discussions only in plenary, the experts may wish to consider the creation of two groups with a view to expedite its discussions on both aspects of the paragraph during this meeting.

10. As requested by the ICCP at its second meeting, and in order to assist the experts in their discussion of the issues, the Secretariat has prepared a note containing a synthesis report of views and relevant information received from Parties to the Convention, Governments and relevant international organizations regarding the requirements of paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18 (UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-18.2a/1/2). The note includes, for ease of reference as required, the synthesis of information on existing practices, rules and standards relevant to paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18, which was submitted to the second meeting of the ICCP. The document also attempts to propose recommendations that the meeting may wish to consider in developing its recommendations for submission to the third meeting of the ICCP.

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11. A complete list of documents for the meeting is attached as annex II below. In addition to normal distribution, documents are available on the Secretariat's website at <http://www.biodiv.org>.

ITEM 3. CONSIDERATION OF VIEWS AND RELEVANT INFORMATION ON THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH 2 (a) OF ARTICLE 18 OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

12. The Secretariat will introduce the synthesis report of views and relevant information it has received from different Parties to the Convention, Governments and relevant international organizations. The experts will be invited to make general comments, if any, on the synthesis report. The full texts of the views and information submitted to the Executive Secretary are compiled in an information document (UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-18.2a/1/INF/1).

13. The experts will be invited to consider, sequentially, the specific items, namely the modalities of implementation of the requirement contained in the first sentence of paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18, upon entry into force of the Protocol (agenda item 3.1), and the identification of issues to be addressed beyond entry into force of the Protocol, in preparation for the decision referred to in paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18 (agenda item 3.2).

ITEM 4. RECOMMENDATIONS

14. In considering this agenda item, the Meeting will be invited to formulate its recommendations to the ICCP based on its deliberations on each of the two aspects of paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18.

ITEM 6. OTHER MATTERS

15. Under this item, the Meeting may wish to consider any other matters of relevance raised by participants.

ITEM 7. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

16. The Meeting will be invited to consider and adopt its report on the basis of its draft report to be prepared and presented to it by the Rapporteur.

ITEM 8. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

17. The Meeting is expected to be closed at 6 p.m. on Wednesday 20 March 2002.

Annex I

**PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE MEETING OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS ON
THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH 2 (a) OF ARTICLE 18 OF THE CARTAGENA
PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY**

	<i>Plenary</i>
<i>Monday</i> <i>18 March 2002</i> 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	<i>Agenda item:</i> 1. Opening of the meeting.
10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 2. Organizational matters: 2.1. Election of officers; 2.2. Adoption of the agenda; 2.3. Organization of work. 3. Consideration of views and relevant information on the requirements of paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	<i>Agenda item:</i> 3.1. Consideration of the modalities of implementation of the requirement contained in the first sentence of paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18 at the time of entry into force of the Protocol.
<i>Tuesday</i> <i>19 March 2002</i> 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Continuation of agenda item 3.1
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	<i>Agenda item:</i> 3.2. Consideration of the identification of issues to be addressed beyond entry into force of the Protocol, in preparation for the decision referred to in paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18

	<i>Plenary</i>
<i>Wednesday</i> <i>20 March 2002</i> 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 4. Recommendations 5. Other matters.
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 6. Adoption of the report. 7. Closure of the meeting

Annex II

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE MEETING OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS
ON THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH 2 (a) OF ARTICLE 18 OF
THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-18.2a/1/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-18.2a/1/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-18.2a/1/2	A synthesis report of views and relevant information on the requirements of paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-18.2a/1/INF/1	Compilation of views and relevant information on the requirements of paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
