



Convention on Biological Diversity

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ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP ON PUBLIC AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION CONCERNING THE SAFE TRANSFER, HANDLING AND USE OF LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS

Hanoi, 25 - 29 March 2013

ANNOTATIONS TO THE WORKSHOP AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

1. In its decision BS-V/13, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP) adopted a programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms for the period 2011-2015 to foster a cohesive and focused approach to the implementation of Article 23 of the Protocol. The programme of work includes four programme elements: capacity-building, public awareness and education, public access to information, and public participation.

2. The Secretariat is organizing the Asia and the Pacific regional workshop to enhance the capacity of Parties and other Governments in the region to effectively implement the programme of work and to share experiences and lessons learned. The specific objectives of the workshop are:

(a) To introduce participants to key concepts, tools and legal instruments relevant to public awareness, education, access to information, and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms;

(b) To facilitate exchange of information, experiences, best practices and lessons learned in promoting public awareness and education, access to information and participation concerning living modified organisms; and

(c) To discuss strategies for enhancing regional and subregional cooperation in the implementation of the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation at the national and regional levels.

3. The last segment of the workshop will introduce the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress with a view to raising awareness of its objective and core requirements as well as the challenges and opportunities regarding its ratification and implementation.

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4. It is expected that at the end of the workshop participants will be better informed and equipped to undertake various tasks, including: development of outreach strategies and communication plans, development and communication of targeted messages, effective use of the media to promote awareness of biosafety, facilitation of public access to information, planning and conducting effective public consultations during decision-making processes regarding living modified organisms, promoting regional collaboration and networking on public awareness, education and participation concerning living modified organisms.

5. The workshop will include a series of thematic lectures by practitioners, case-study presentations, interactive group discussions and special sessions involving hands-on practical exercises and role-plays. A field trip will be organized for participants to engage in field-based public consultation exercises relating to living modified organisms.

6. The workshop will be conducted in English only.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP

7. The workshop will be opened at 9 a.m. on Monday, 25 March 2013. A representative of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity will give opening remarks, and a representative of the host Government will officially open the workshop. Participants will then be invited to introduce themselves.

ITEM 2. INTRODUCTION TO THE WORKSHOP – OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

8. A representative of the Secretariat will present the objectives and expected outcomes of the workshop and then give an overview of the workshop programme. Participants will be invited to indicate their expectations of the workshop and provide comments on the proposed programme, as appropriate.

ITEM 3. INTRODUCTION TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY AND THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PUBLIC AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION CONCERNING THE SAFE TRANSFER, HANDLING AND USE OF LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS

9. Under this item, the Secretariat will show a short video on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and thereafter introduce the key elements of the Protocol relating to public awareness, education and participation and give an overview of the current status of implementation of Article 23 of the Protocol based on the information provided by Parties in their second national reports. The Secretariat will also give an overview of the previous decisions of the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol related to Article 23, including the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms as well as elements of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (2011-2020) relating to public awareness, education and participation. The presentations will be followed by a general discussion.

ITEM 4. REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORKS RELATING TO PUBLIC AWARENESS, ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND PARTICIPATION

10. Under this item, participants will be introduced to key regional and international legal frameworks relating to public awareness, education, access to information and participation, including:

Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and the UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) and its Amendment on GMOs. Participants will be invited to consider how the experiences and lessons learned from the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration and the Aarhus Convention could be applied and maximized in the implementation of Article 23 of the Biosafety Protocol.

**ITEM 5. PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION CONCERNING THE SAFE
TRANSFER, HANDLING AND USE OF LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS**

11. Under this item, participants will discuss various issues and key concepts, tools and approaches relating to public awareness and education concerning living modified organisms. Participants will also share experiences on how to develop and implement effective outreach strategies or communication plans and how to effectively engage and use the media to promote awareness of biosafety. Specifically, the participants will review the different awareness-raising and communication tools, channels and techniques and the key points to consider in making choices on which ones to use under different circumstances. Participants will also be introduced to the basics on preparing press releases and handling media interviews and press conferences. Experienced practitioners will share their expertise and lead the discussions on the different topics under this session. It is expected that at the end of the session participants would have a better understanding of key issues and considerations that need to be taken into account in developing and implementing biosafety outreach strategies or communication plans, preparation of press releases and in the handling of press conferences.

**ITEM 6. PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON LIVING MODIFIED
ORGANISMS**

12. Under this item, participants will learn about various concepts, mechanisms and legal and institutional frameworks regarding public access to information. Among other things, they will review core elements of national regimes on public access to information and share experiences and lessons learned in promoting public access to information. Participants will then be invited to identify and discuss elements of a national framework or action plan for public access to information. On the basis of the discussions, each participant will be requested to engage in an individual exercise to prepare his/her country's national framework and action plan for public access to biosafety information.

**ITEM 7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES
REGARDING LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS**

13. Under this item, participants will learn key concepts, tools, methods and approaches relevant to public participation in decision-making processes regarding living modified organisms. Among other things, participants will discuss the importance of public participation and review the basic principles and conditions for achieving effective participation. They will also review the different levels/degrees of public participation and the key points to consider in selecting the public participation methods and techniques to use for a given decision-making process. Furthermore, they 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. An analysis of the mechanisms for public participation in decision-making regarding LMOs provided for in approved national biosafety frameworks in Asia and the Pacific will be presented. As well, case-studies on practical experiences and lessons learned in involving the public in biosafety and environmental decision-making processes will be shared. After the presentations and exchange of views in the plenary, participants will be divided into focus groups to discuss elements of, and key issues to consider in developing a public participation plan for a decision-making process regarding a living modified organism.

ITEM 8. THE WAY FORWARD: FOSTERING REGIONAL COOPERATION ON PUBLIC AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION CONCERNING THE SAFE TRANSFER, HANDLING AND USE OF LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS

14. Under this item, the Secretariat will make a presentation on the synergies and ongoing collaboration between the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Aarhus Convention. Participants will also be invited to share information on previous and ongoing cooperation between their countries and with relevant organizations. After the presentations, participants will be divided into focus groups to discuss ways (including concrete immediate actions) to promote regional and subregional cooperation on the implementation of Article 23 of the Protocol in general and the programme of work in particular and identify opportunities and challenges.

ITEM 9. PROMOTING THE RATIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAGOYA – KUALA LUMPUR SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL ON LIABILITY AND REDRESS TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

15. Under this item, participants will be introduced to the objective and core requirements of the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress, which was adopted on 15 October 2010 by the fifth meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. They will consider and identify measures that may be needed at the national level in order to implement the requirements of the Supplementary Protocol. Challenges and opportunities associated with ratification, accession to, and implementation of the Supplementary Protocol will also be reviewed. Furthermore, participants will be briefed on the status of ratification of the Supplementary Protocol and then introduced to the procedural steps in the process of ratification, approval, acceptance or accession. The possible advantages of ratification or accession to the Supplementary Protocol will also be highlighted. Participants will be invited to propose and discuss possible national strategies to promote the ratification and implementation of the Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress in the Asia and the Pacific region.

ITEM 10. WORKSHOP REVIEW AND EVALUATION

16. The last session of the workshop will be devoted to retrospective review and evaluation of the workshop. Participants will be invited to assess the various components of the workshop covered during the course of the week against the stated objectives and their expectations at the beginning of the workshop and write down the main new knowledge and skills learned (and the take-home messages). Finally, participants will be requested to complete a workshop evaluation form.

ITEM 11. CLOSURE OF THE WORKSHOP

17. It is expected that the workshop will be closed by 5.30 p.m. on Friday, 29 March 2013.

*Annex I***TENTATIVE WORKSHOP PROGRAMME**

DATE AND TIME	SESSION/ACTIVITY
Monday, 25 March 2013	
9 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.	Item 1. Opening of the workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome remarks by representatives of the host institution and the CBD Secretariat • Opening of the workshop by the Guest of Honour • Self-introductions by workshop participants
9.45 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Item 2. Introduction to the workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop objectives, expected outcomes and the proposed programme • Participants' expectations
10.30 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	Item 3. Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and its Kuala – Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress • Overview of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and decisions of the meeting of the Parties on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs • The Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020 and its elements on public awareness, education and participation
12.30 p.m. – 2 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK
2 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	Item 4. Regional and international legal frameworks relating to public awareness, access to information and participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and its implementation in Asia and the Pacific: National Experiences and Prospects After Rio+20 • Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and its Amendment on Genetically Modified Organisms
3.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
4 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country presentations on the status of, and initiatives for, promoting public awareness, education and participation concerning LMOs

<i>DATE AND TIME</i>	<i>SESSION/ACTIVITY</i>
Tuesday, 26 March 2013	
9 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.	Item 5. Public awareness and education concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to public awareness and education concerning the LMOs: Basic concepts, tools and approaches • Key considerations in designing and implementing a biosafety outreach strategy or communication plan • Individual exercise to develop draft elements of a national biosafety outreach strategy or communication plan
11.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging and using the media to promote public awareness of biosafety issues: Media relations and how to engage media through press releases and press conferences
1.00 p.m. – 2 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK
2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiences and lessons learned in promoting public awareness and education concerning LMOs in Japan
4.00 p.m. – 4.15 p.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
4.15 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Country presentations on the status of, and initiatives for, promoting public awareness, education and participation concerning LMOs (<i>cont'd</i>)
Wednesday, 27 March 2013	
9 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Item 6. Public access to information on living modified organisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to basic concepts and core elements of national regimes on public access to information: Outcomes of the online forum held through the BCH in June 2012 • The status of access to information in the Asia and the Pacific region • Public access to information in Central and Eastern Europe: Experiences and lessons learned within the context of the Aarhus Convention and its GMO amendment
10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual exercise to review the country status and capacity-building needs with regard to public access to information regarding LMOs and drafting of proposals for a national framework/action plan • Discussions and feedback on general measures to promote public access to information regarding LMOs

<i>DATE AND TIME</i>	<i>SESSION/ACTIVITY</i>
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK
2 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	Item 7. Public participation in decision-making processes regarding of living modified organisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public participation in biosafety and environmental decision-making: Key concepts, emerging good practices and lessons learned National mechanisms for public participation in decision-making processes regarding LMOs: An analysis of approved national biosafety frameworks in Asia and the Pacific
3.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
4 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case-study presentations on experiences and lessons learned on public involvement in environmental decision-making processes
Thursday, 28 March 2013	
9 a.m. – 10.30 a.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
10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Item 8. The way forward: fostering regional cooperation on public awareness, education and participation concerning LMOs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Synergies and ongoing collaboration between the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Aarhus Convention Focus group discussions on how to promote regional and subregional cooperation on public awareness, education and participation concerning LMOs
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK
2 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	Item 9. Promoting ratification and implementation of the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of the objective and core provisions of the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress Questions and answers
3.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
4 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group exercises – addressing hypothetical cases on liability and redress
Friday, 29 March 2013	
9 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country presentations on national experiences with the development and implementation of liability and redress laws, in particular liability rules addressing environmental damage, if any
10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK

<i>DATE AND TIME</i>	<i>SESSION/ACTIVITY</i>
11.00 – 1.00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures for the implementation of the Supplementary Protocol at the national level that may need capacity-building
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.	LUNCH BREAK
2 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status of ratification and accession to the Supplementary Protocol and possible advantages/significance of becoming a Party National strategies to promote ratification and implementation of the Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress in Asia and the Pacific region
3.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
4 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.	<p>Item 10. Workshop review and evaluation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of the knowledge and skills learned regarding public awareness and education, access to information and participation Completion of the workshop evaluation form <p>Item 11. Closure of the workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closing remarks by a representative of the CBD Secretariat Closure of the workshop by the Guest of Honour

*Annex II***REFERENCE MATERIALS****ITEM 3. INTRODUCTION TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY AND THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PUBLIC AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION CONCERNING LMOs***Recommended readings/resources*

- Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity – http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb_publications.shtml
- Video on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: ftp://ftp.cbd.int/BCH/Video/CPB_video_EN.mp4
- Programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms, 2011-2015 - http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb_art23_pow.shtml
- Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020 – http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/issues/cpb_stplan_txt.shtml

Other useful resources

- Report of the Joint Aarhus Convention/Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety workshop on public awareness, access to information and public participation regarding living/genetically modified organisms, held in Nagoya, Japan, 8-9 October 2010: <http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/meetings/documents.shtml?eventid=3401>
- Report of the Subregional Workshop for Asia and the Pacific on Risk Assessment and Management and Public Awareness and Participation: <https://bch.cbd.int/database/record.shtml?documentid=41513>

ITEM 4. REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORKS RELATING TO PUBLIC AWARENESS, ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND PARTICIPATION*Recommended readings/resources*

- Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development - <http://www.gdrc.org/decision/principle-10.html>
- Environmental Governance in Asia: Independent Assessments of National Implementation of Rio Declaration's Principle 10 (TAI, 2012) - <http://www.tei.or.th/tai/2012-TAI-Asia-Report.pdf>
- Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters - <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/pp/documents/cep43e.pdf>

Other useful resources

- UNEP Guidelines for the Development of National Legislation on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, 2010: http://www.unep.org/civil-society/Portals/59/Documents/Resources/GUIDELINES_TO_ACCESS_TO_ENV_INFO_2.pdf

- Moving from Principles to Rights: Rio 2012 and Ensuring Access to Information, Public Participation, and Access to Justice for Everyone - <http://www.accessinitiative.org/resource/moving-principles-rights>
- Success at Rio+20?: The case for regional conventions on environmental access rights, an information note prepared by the World Resources Institute - <http://www.wri.org/project/earth-summit-rio-2012>
- A simplified guide to the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters - http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2006/pp/ece%20mp%20pp%205_E.pdf
- Lucca Guidelines on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice with Respect to Genetically Modified Organisms Implementation, Annex to decision II/1 on genetically modified organisms (2003) – <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/pp/documents/gmoguidelinesenglish.pdf>

ITEM 5. PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION CONCERNING THE SAFE TRANSFER, HANDLING AND USE OF LMOS

Recommended readings/resources

- Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA): A Toolkit for National Focal Points and NBSAP Coordinators - <http://www.cbd.int/cepa/toolkit/2008/doc/CBD-Toolkit-Complete.pdf>
- APAARI Communication Strategy 2010-2015 - <http://www.apaari.org/publications/cs.html>
- Risk Communication Manual (FAO Asia-BIONET, 2005) - <http://it.doa.go.th/asianbionet/documents/PublicParticipationandAwarenessTrainor'sManual1.pdf>
- Using the Media to Promote Awareness and Action - <http://phrtoolkits.org/toolkits/student-chapter-toolkit/advocacy-and-education/media-and-publicity-raising-awareness/>
- Guide to Successful Communications - http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/science-communication/mediarelations3_en.htm

Other useful resources

- ABNE Communication Guide for Biosafety Regulators, 2010 - <http://www.nepadbiosafety.net/for-regulators/resources/guidelines>
- Workbook: Creating a Communications Plan - <http://www.wallacefoundation.org/knowledge-center/after-school/collecting-and-using-data/Documents/Workbook-A-Communication.pdf>
- Getting In Step: A Guide for Conducting Watershed Outreach Campaigns, 2010, prepared by Tetra Tech, Inc. for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (it provides tips and tools for creating awareness, educating specific audiences, and motivating positive behavior change) – <http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/outreach/documents/getnstep.pdf>
- Participatory Communication Strategy Design: A Handbook, 2004, prepared by the SADC Centre of Communication for Development in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: <ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/008/y5794e/y5794e00.pdf>
- Proceedings of the SADC Regional Workshop on “Public Awareness, Education and Participation in Biosafety and the Environment”, 21 – 26 May 2006, Gaborone, Botswana: <https://bch.cbd.int/database/record.shtml?documentid=102576>

ITEM 6. PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS*Recommended readings/resources*

- Online discussion forum on public access to biosafety information, June 2012:
https://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/portal_art23/pa_forum2012.shtml

Other useful resources

- Directive 2003/4/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2003 on public access to environmental information and repealing Council Directive 90/313/EEC – <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2003:041:0026:0032:EN:PDF>
- Draft Model Law on Access to Information in Africa, 2011 –
<http://www.chr.up.ac.za/images/files/research/ati/MODEL%20LAW%20Final%20Document%20ENG.pdf>
- Implementing Access to Information: A Practical Guide for Operationalising Access to Information Laws, 2008, prepared by the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative:
http://www.humanrightsinitiative.org/publications/rti/implementing_ati.pdf
- Bangladesh: Right to Information Act, 2009 - http://www.infocom.gov.bd/ic/forms/rti_english.pdf
- China: Provisions of the People's Republic of China on the Disclosure of Government Information, 2007 - <http://chinesefoi.org/regulation.aspx>
- Cook Islands: Official Information Act, 2008 - http://www.pacii.org/ck/legis/num_act/oia2008197/
- India: Right to Information Act, 2005 - <http://www.righttoinformation.gov.in/rti-act.pdf>
- Indonesia: Public Information Disclosure Act, 2008 -
<http://ccrinepal.org/files/documents/legislations/12.pdf>
- Japan: Law Concerning Access to Information Held by Administrative Organs, 1999 -
http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/gyoukan/kanri/low0404_2.htm
- Jordan: Access to Information Law, 2007 - <http://www.right2info.org/resources/publications/Jordan-Access-Law-arabic.doc>
- Mongolia: Law on Information Transparency and Right to Information, 2011 -
http://www.right2info.org/resources/publications/laws_mongolia-foi-law
- Nepal: Right to Information Act, 2007, and Right to Information Rule, 2009 -
<http://www.right2info.org/resources/publications/nepal-rti>
- Pakistan: Freedom of Information Ordinance, 2002 -
<http://www.ccrinepal.org/files/documents/legislations/8.pdf>
- South Korea: Act on Disclosure of Information by Public Agencies, 1996 -
<http://www.right2info.org/laws/constitutional-provisions-laws-and-regulations#section-104>
- Thailand: Official Information Act, 1997 - http://www.oic.go.th/content_eng/act.htm
- Turkey: Law on the Right to Information, 2003 -
<http://www.legislationline.org/documents/action/popup/id/6419>
- Yemen: Law of the Right of Access to Information, 2012 -
http://www.right2info.org/resources/publications/laws-1/laws_yemen

ITEM 7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES REGARDING OF LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS

Recommended readings/resources

- UNEP-GEF toolkit module on public consultation and analysis, 2006, published by the UNEP-GEF Biosafety Project – http://www.unep.org/biosafety/Documents/Toolkit_for_the_Development_Project_Phase2.pdf
- Public Participation and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: A practical guide, prepared for DFID and GEF, 2003 – <http://bch.cbd.int/database/record.shtml?documentid=41530>
- Brief: Public Participation in the Implementation of the Biosafety Protocol, Third World Network - http://www.biosafety-info.net/file_dir/1410148856539c28e5.pdf

Other useful resources

- Public involvement in environmental issues in the ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting) countries – Background and overview (2002), published by Asia-Europe Environmental Technology Centre (AEETC) - <http://www.ymparisto.fi/default.asp?contentid=146373&lan=en>
- Public Participation in African Biosafety Regulations and Policies, 2010, an Issue Paper prepared for the African Union Commission – <http://www.au.int/en/dp/hrst/sites/default/files/2011-AUC-PublicParticipation.pdf>
- A Handbook for Public Participation in Environmental Assessment In Southern Africa - <http://www.saiea.com/calabash/handbook/handbook.pdf>
- Public Participation Guide: A Guide for Meaningful Public Participation in Environmental Assessments under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2008, prepared by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency: http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/46425CAF-50B2-408D-A2A4-EDFAD2A72807/Public_Participation_Guide.pdf
- Public Participation in Making Local Environmental Decisions: The Aarhus Convention Good Practice Handbook, 2000 (based on outcomes of the workshop on public participation in making local environmental decisions, held in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK in December 1999) – <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/newcastle.handbook.html>
- Summary Report of the FAO e-mail conference on “Public participation in decision-making regarding GMOs in developing countries: How to effectively involve rural people”, 2005 - <http://www.fao.org/biotech/logs/C12/summary.htm>
