



Convention on Biological Diversity

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COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE UNDER THE
CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY
Fourteenth meeting
Montreal, Canada, 16-18 May 2017

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

1. The eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety was held in Cancun, Mexico, from 4 to 17 December 2016. The Parties considered, among other things, the report and recommendations of the Compliance Committee (UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/2), submitted on the Committee's behalf by its Chair, Ms. Jimena Nieto Carrasco. The report, which contained recommendations in its annex, had been adopted by the Committee at its thirteenth meeting, held in Montreal, Canada, from 24 to 26 February 2016.
2. The 17 specific recommendations of the Committee were clustered under broader items: compliance; operation and activities of the Biosafety Clearing-House; matters related to the financial mechanism and resources; monitoring and reporting; unintentional transboundary movements; and the third assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Cartagena Protocol and midterm evaluation of the Strategic Plan. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties considered these recommendations under the relevant agenda items and adopted decisions.
3. Following consultations with members of the Committee, it was decided that the fourteenth meeting of the Committee would be held in Montreal, Canada, from 16 to 18 May 2017.
4. The provisional agenda for the meeting has been prepared with due account being taken of: (a) the cyclical organization of work agreed to by the Committee at its eighth meeting; (b) the relevant outcomes and decisions emanating from the eighth meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the work plan proposed accordingly for the current intersessional period; and (c) any other relevant actions taken by the Committee at its previous meetings for which follow-up was needed.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

5. The meeting will be opened at 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 16 May 2017.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. Election of officers

6. According to rule 12 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Committee (decision BS-II/1), the Committee shall elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair for a term of two years with a possibility of re-election for one further two-year term. Ms. Jimena Nieto Carrasco and Mr. Ruben Dekker served for two terms (2013-2016) as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee, respectively. The Committee will therefore be invited to elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair who can serve for the next two-year term.

2.2. Adoption of the agenda

7. The Committee may wish to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda proposed by the Secretariat (CBD/CP/CC/14/1).

2.3. Organization of work

8. The Committee may wish to consider the proposed organization of work as contained in annex I below. The language of the meeting will be English.

9. A list of documents for the meeting is contained in annex II below. The documents will be made available on the Secretariat's website at <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=CPCC-14>.

10. An information note has also been made available containing details of logistical arrangements for the meeting, including information on travel, visa requirements, accommodation and other similar matters.

ITEM 3. ASSESSMENT OF THE OUTCOMES OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY WITH REGARD TO ITEMS RELEVANT TO COMPLIANCE

11. As indicated above, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties considered the recommendations submitted to it by the Committee and adopted decisions on the basis of most of these recommendations.

12. Under this agenda item, the Committee may wish to reflect on the decisions adopted at the eighth meeting of the Parties and agree on appropriate follow-up actions. In order to facilitate the deliberations of the Committee in this regard, the Secretariat has prepared a document which reviews the outcomes of the eighth meeting of the Parties relating to compliance and the Committee (CBD/CP/CC/14/2), and proposes a programme of work for the Committee for the current biennium.

13. The Secretariat has also prepared an information document (CBD/CP/CC/14/INF/1) summarizing the steps leading to the Committee's recommendations to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties in relation to monitoring and reporting.

ITEM 4. REVIEW OF COMPLIANCE ON THE BASIS OF THE THIRD NATIONAL REPORTS, WITH A FOCUS ON THE PRIORITY ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY AT ITS EIGHTH MEETING

12. According to the organization of work agreed by the Committee at its eighth meeting, the Committee is expected to review compliance on the basis of the third national reports, focusing on priority issues as may be identified by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties. As part of the third assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol and the mid-term evaluation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties called upon Parties, for the remaining period of the Strategic Plan, to consider prioritizing the operational objectives relating to the development of biosafety legislation, risk assessment and risk management, detection and identification of living modified organisms, and public awareness, education and training in view of their critical importance in facilitating the implementation of the Protocol.

13. The document prepared by the Secretariat under this agenda item (CBD/CP/CC/14/3) provides an assessment of the compliance of Parties with the obligations within each of the identified priority areas, based primarily on information provided in the third national reports. It also suggests some further considerations to facilitate discussion and appropriate action by the Committee.

ITEM 5. REVIEW OF GENERAL ISSUES OF COMPLIANCE

14. Following the fifth meeting of the Committee, the review of general issues of compliance has become a standing agenda item at its meetings. In the past, the Compliance Committee has considered the compliance of Parties with (a) the obligation to report on measures taken to implement the Protocol, in accordance with Article 33 of the Protocol; (b) the obligation to make information available to the Biosafety Clearing-House; (c) the obligation to introduce legal, administrative and other measures to implement the obligations under the Protocol, in accordance with Article 2 of the Protocol; and (d) the obligation to promote public awareness, education and participation, in accordance with Article 23 of the Protocol.

15. Under its consideration of general issues of compliance at this meeting, the Committee is expected to consider the status of Parties' obligation to report on measures taken to implement the Protocol, in accordance with Article 33 of the Protocol, specifically the rate of submission of third national reports.

16. At its thirteenth meeting, the Committee reviewed compliance with the obligation to submit national reports and whether information in the reports is complete. The Committee decided to review any updates in the rate of reporting at its fourteenth meeting in the context of its review of general issues of compliance. In its decision CP-VIII/14, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties requested the Committee to explore the reasons for the lower rate of submission of the third national reports, as compared to the previous reporting cycle.

17. The document prepared by the Secretariat under this agenda item (CBD/CP/CC/14/4) provides an update on the rate of reporting of third national reports and of contributing factors since the Committee's thirteenth meeting. Possible reasons for the lower rate of submission of third national reports are considered, and suggestions are proposed for the consideration of the Committee on the way forward to address this issue.

18. In order to support further discussions by the Committee, document CBD/CP/CC/14/INF/1 compiles information on the Committee's past work and actions taken in this regard, focusing on the period following the adoption of decision BS-V/1.

ITEM 6. OTHER MATTERS

19. Under this item, members of the Compliance Committee may raise and discuss any other matters relevant to the functions of the Committee.

ITEM 7. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

20. The Committee will consider and adopt its report.

ITEM 8. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

21. The fourteenth meeting of the Compliance Committee is expected to close at 5 p.m. on Thursday, 18 May 2017.

Annex I

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE UNDER THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

Date and time	Agenda item
16 May 2017	
9.30 to 10.15 a.m.	1. Opening of the meeting 2. Organizational matters: 2.1. Election of officers 2.2. Adoption of the agenda 2.3. Organization of work
10.15 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	3. Assessment of the outcomes of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety with regard to items relevant to compliance
2 to 5 p.m.	4. Review of compliance on the basis of the third national reports, with a focus on the priority issues identified by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its eighth meeting
17 May 2017	
9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	Continuation of agenda item 4
2 to 5 p.m.	5. Review of general issues of compliance
18 May 2017	
9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	Continuation of agenda item 5 6. Other matters
2 to 5 p.m.	7. Adoption of the report 8. Closure of the meeting

Annex II

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE
COMMITTEE UNDER THE BIOSAFETY PROTOCOL**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
CBD/CP/CC/14/1	Provisional agenda
CBD/CP/CC/14/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
CBD/CP/CC/14/2	Assessment of the outcomes of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety regarding items relevant to compliance
CBD/CP/CC/14/3	Review of compliance on the basis of the third national reports, with a focus on the priority issues identified by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
CBD/CP/CC/14/4	Review of general issues of compliance
CBD/CP/CC/14/INF/1	Consideration by the Compliance Committee of the obligation to submit national reports in the context of decision BS-V/1

Decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties are available at <https://www.cbd.int/decisions/mop/?m=mop-08>
