



**CONVENTION ON  
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

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INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS REGARDING THE RESUMED SESSION  
OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES  
FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY  
TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY  
Vienna, Austria  
15 to 19 September 1999

**Note from the Secretariat**

**Documentation for the informal consultations.**

1. The following two documents will be available for the informal consultations:
  - Report of the Sixth meeting of the Open-ended Ad hoc Working Group on Biosafety (UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/2);
  - Draft Report of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Parties for the Adoption of the Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/L.2/Rev.1).
2. The Open-ended Ad hoc Working Group on Biosafety (BSWG), established in accordance with decision II/5 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held its sixth and final meeting in Cartagena, Colombia, from 14 to 22 February 1999. It adopted its report, namely document UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/2, which contains the text of the draft Protocol (appendix 1 of the document) and the statements made by delegations with respect to the text of the draft Protocol. The Working Group submitted its report to the Conference of the Parties at its first extraordinary meeting.
3. The first extraordinary meeting of the COP was held in Cartagena, Colombia, from 22 to 24 February 1999. The Conference of the Parties took note of the report of the BSWG 6 contained in document UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/2.

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Due to outstanding core and related issues which could not be resolved during the meeting, the ExCOP was suspended. Before its suspension the ExCOP agreed, by decision EM-I/1 to "transmit the text of the draft protocol set out in appendix I to the report of the sixth meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on Biosafety (UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/2), as well as the statements with respect to the text of the draft protocol contained in that report, to the Conference of the Parties at the resumed session of its extraordinary meeting". The draft report of the ExCOP is contained in document UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/L.2/Rev.1 which includes in its Annex V, the text of the draft Protocol. Also annexed to this document are the positions of the different negotiating groups.

4. It should be noted that the text of the draft Protocol, contained as Annex V in the draft report of the ExCOP, is the same as that contained in the report of the BSWG 6 (appendix 1 in document UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/2).