



Ref.: SCBD/BS/CS/jh/49493

4 July 2005

**NOTIFICATION**

**Report and Decisions of the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP/2) requesting action from Governments**

Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to convey herewith the report of the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/2/15) held from 30 May to 3 June 2005 in Montreal. You can find it also on the website of the Secretariat at <http://www.biodiv.org/doc/meeting.aspx?mtg=MOP-02>.

The meeting adopted a number of decisions requesting action from Parties and other Governments on a number of issues that were for consideration by the meeting. Please find attached herewith a summary list of the requests and decisions addressed to Parties and other Governments together with the submission dates where appropriate. Please refer to the report, for the full text of the requests and decisions.

I would like to draw your attention in particular to those requests that call for the submission of certain information and/or views to the Secretariat in preparation for the third meeting of the COP-MOP. In order to facilitate timely preparations of background documentation, it would be appreciated if the appropriate information is submitted no later than 6 months before the third meeting of the COP-MOP, namely no later than 13 September 2005.

I also take this opportunity to thank you for the support your Government has provided so far to the work of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and look forward to your continued cooperation.

Accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Hamdallah Zedan  
Executive Secretary

To: Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB) National Focal Points  
CBD National Focal Points (where CPB focal points have not yet been designated)

Enclosures



**ATTACHMENT 1**  
**SUMMARY OF REQUESTS AND DATES FOR SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION TO THE SECRETARIAT**  
**(as derived from the decisions of COP-MOP/2 contained in annex I to UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/2/15)**

Agenda Item	Requested action/information	Date of submission
5 Operation and activities of the BCH (Article 20, para. 4) Decision BS-II/2	Parties, governments and other users encouraged continue to use the Management Centre to provide information, and/or to develop national, regional, sub-regional and institutional nodes that are interlinked and interoperable with the Central Portal	
	<i>Urges</i> all Parties, governments and other users to provide relevant information to the Biosafety Clearing-House as soon as possible, including information pertaining to decisions on the release or import of LMOs and risk assessments taken prior to entry into force of the Protocol and to undertake regular review of the information they have previously made available	By December 2005
	<i>Calls upon</i> each Party that has not yet done so to designate an appropriate national focal point for the Biosafety Clearing-House	As soon as possible, by mid 2005
	<i>Invites</i> Parties, Governments and other users to identify constraints on making information available in a timely manner, and to implement strategies to overcome these difficulties	By December 2005
	<i>Invites</i> Parties, Governments and international organizations to make relevant biosafety information available through the Biosafety Information Resource Centre	
	<i>Invites</i> donor Governments and organizations to assist developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition, as well as countries that are centres of origin and centres of genetic diversity, to access and use the Biosafety Clearing-House, particularly in the areas of improved capacity for data collection and data management at a national level, strengthening of core human resources at a national level, and the establishment of appropriate infrastructure to share information at both national, regional and international levels	
6 Capacity-building (Article 22 and Article 28, paragraph 3); Decision BS-II/3	<i>Urges</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to share their information through the Coordination Mechanism and the Biosafety Clearing-House and to ensure reliable quality of that information	
	<i>Welcomes</i> the generous offer by the Government of Norway to sponsor and host a coordination meeting for representatives of Governments and organizations implementing or funding biosafety capacity-building activities in early 2006	
	<i>Invites</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to submit for the compendium information on existing biosafety training courses and to use the compendium to identify and take advantage of available training and education opportunities in biosafety	
	<i>Urges</i> countries to identify their biosafety training and education needs and communicate the information to the Biosafety Clearing-House to enable relevant institutions to design appropriate training programmes and packages	

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	<p><i>Invites</i> developed country Parties, other developed States, the Global Environment Facility and relevant organizations to:</p> <p>(a) Provide financial resources and other support for training and education in biosafety, including the provision of scholarships and fellowships for students from developing countries, in particular the least developed and the small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition as well as support for “training-of-trainers” programmes and “re-training” courses;</p> <p>(b) Assist countries to incorporate specific components on training and education in their capacity-building project proposals, for example for the implementation of the national biosafety frameworks.</p>	
	<p><i>Encourages</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to:</p> <p>(a) Endeavour to create opportunities and career paths for local professionals trained in biosafety, especially young graduates, in order for them to utilize their skills;</p> <p>(b) Actively involve academic and training institutions in relevant national and international biosafety processes, including the development and implementation of national biosafety frameworks.</p>	
	<p><i>Invites</i> developed country Parties, Governments and relevant organizations to consider the information contained in the report in the development of their assistance programmes;</p>	
	<p><i>Reminds</i> Parties and other Governments that have not yet done so to submit to the Biosafety Clearing-House information on their capacity-building needs and priorities and all those that have done so to update their records on a regular basis</p>	
	<p><i>Invites</i> developed countries and relevant international organizations to provide support to developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing states among them, including countries among them that are centres of origin and centres of genetic diversity, as well as Parties with economies in transition, in the field of capacity-building, in particular for the development and implementation of national biosafety frameworks</p>	
	<p><i>Urges</i> Parties and other Governments to prioritize among the different possible measures for addressing their needs and gaps in building capacities for the effective implementation of the Protocol</p>	
	<p><i>Encourages</i> Parties and other Governments that have not yet done so to develop national strategies for capacity-building in biosafety, prioritizing the needs for capacity-building activities in the different components of the national biosafety frameworks, in order to facilitate a proactive, systematic and coordinated approach addressing the country capacity-building needs and gaps</p>	
	<p><i>Further encourages</i> Parties and other Governments to address the issue of sustainability of capacity-building by designing in their national capacity-building plans and programmes elements that may help them to incorporate follow-up actions as part of their regular national programmes</p>	
	<p><i>Urges</i> Parties and other Governments and relevant organizations to promote regional and subregional initiatives and approaches to address common needs and priorities and encourages them to make effective use of locally existing facilities and expertise, including through exchange of experts</p>	

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	<p><i>Invites</i> donor countries and relevant organizations to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed and the small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition, including countries amongst these that are centres of origin and centres of genetic diversity, to build capacity for conducting independent biosafety-related research</p>	
	<p><i>Further invites</i> donor countries and organizations supporting capacity-building activities to:</p> <p>(a) Consider simplifying the procedures for making resources available, and harmonize them to the extent possible, in order to improve access to resources for capacity-building by recipient countries;</p> <p>(b) Provide training in project-proposal development to interested recipient countries;</p> <p>(c) Consider requiring that countries seeking support for capacity-building initiatives provide information on other related ongoing initiatives in order to minimize duplication of capacity-building assistance</p>	
	<p><i>Invites</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to submit to the Secretariat, no later than three months prior to its third meeting, progress reports on their initiatives contributing to the implementation of the Action Plan, including their effectiveness, as well as views and suggestions on desired revisions to the Action Plan, taking into account the terms of reference for the review mentioned above</p>	
<p>6 Capacity-building (Roster of experts); Decision BS-II/4</p>	<p><i>Reiterates</i> its call to Parties and Governments to:</p> <p>(c) Submit nominations of experts to the Secretariat in accordance with the Interim Guidelines for the roster of experts on Biosafety, using the nomination form available through the Biosafety Clearing-House or from the Secretariat;</p> <p>(d) Update, or request their nominated experts to update, the information currently contained in the roster, for each field of the nomination form, with a view to providing sufficient detail to discern the particular areas of knowledge and specialization for each expert; and</p> <p>(e) Use the roster of biosafety experts in accordance with the Interim Guidelines for the Roster of Experts on Biosafety</p>	
	<p><i>Reminds</i> Parties and Governments to submit to the Executive Secretary reports on the assistance or advice provided by the experts in accordance with section J of the Interim Guidelines, with a view to contributing to the review of the roster that will be undertaken two years after the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol</p>	
	<p><i>Reiterates</i> its invitation to Governments and other donors to make contributions to the pilot phase of the Voluntary Fund for the roster of experts</p>	

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7 Financial Mechanism Decision BS-II/5	<i>Encourages</i> all donors and their agencies as well as the Global Environment Facility to simplify, to the extent possible, their project cycle requirements in order to expedite access, by developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and the small island developing States among them, and the Parties with economies in transition, to the financial resources needed to assist the implementation of the Protocol	
	<i>Invites</i> countries that have received funding from the Global Environment Facility for activities referred to in paragraph 21 (b) of decision VII/20 to report to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on actions being taken towards becoming Parties to the Protocol	
9 Budget Decision BS-II/6	<i>Urges</i> Parties that have not yet done so, to pay their 2005 contributions to the BG Trust Fund as soon as possible in order to enable the Secretariat to plan and execute the Protocol programme in a timely manner	
	<i>Invites</i> all Parties to the Protocol to note that contributions to the core budget (BG Trust Fund) are due on 1 January of the year in which these contributions have been budgeted for, and to pay them promptly, and urges Parties in a position to do so, to pay by 15 November 2005 for the calendar year 2006 the contributions required to finance the Protocol expenditures approved and, in this regard, requests that Parties be notified of the amount of their contributions by 15 October of the year preceding the year in which the contributions are due	By 15 November 2005
	<i>Notes</i> with concern the shortfalls in contributions for supporting approved activities and participation of developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition in meetings organized under the Protocol, and urges all Parties and States not Parties to the Protocol, as well as governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other sources, to contribute to the Special Voluntary Trust Funds (BH and BI) of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to enable the Secretariat to implement approved activities in a timely manner	
10 Notification (Article 8) Decision BS-II/8	<i>Decides</i> to keep the item on notification referred to in decision BS-I/12 under review with a view to elaborating and developing, if appropriate, at its fourth meeting, modalities of implementation with respect to notification requirements under Article 8 of the Protocol, taking into account the information on national implementation and experiences on this matter gathered through interim national reports and the Biosafety Clearing-House	
11 Risk assessment and Risk Management Decision BS-II/9	<i>Encourages</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to contribute further to the Biosafety Information Resource Centre on the Biosafety Clearing-House, by registering additional guidance materials and other scientific and technical information	
	<i>Reminds</i> Parties to submit their interim reports on implementation of the Protocol by 11 September 2005, in accordance with decision BS-I/9, and encourages Parties to include, in accordance with the section of the reporting format related to risk assessment and risk management, information on experiences and progress in implementing Articles 15 and 16, including any obstacles or impediments encountered	No later than 11 September 2005

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12 Handling, transport, packaging and identification (Article 18); Decision BS-I/6 Decision BS-II/10	<i>Requests</i> Parties to the Protocol and <i>invites</i> other Governments to submit to the Executive Secretary, not later than six months prior to the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, information on experience gained with the use of documentation, with a view to the future consideration of a stand-alone document, to fulfill the identification requirements of paragraphs 2 (b) and 2 (c) of Article 18	No later than 13 September 2005 (6 months prior to COP-MOP/3)
	<i>Urges</i> Parties to the Protocol and <i>invites</i> other Governments to take necessary measures, taking into account their specific capabilities, to make sure that those requirements of paragraphs 2 (b) and 2 (c) of Article 18 of the Protocol as elaborated by decision BS-I/6 B are fully complied with	
	<i>Further urges</i> Parties, especially those Parties of import, to make available to the Biosafety Clearing-House information on their domestic requirements concerning imports of living modified organisms in general, and documentation requirements in particular, with respect to living modified organisms for contained use and for intentional introduction into the environment, as part of the requirement set out in paragraph 3 of Article 20 of the Protocol for each Party to make available its laws, regulations and guidelines relevant to the implementation of the Protocol	
13 Liability and redress (Article 27); Decision BS-II/11	<i>Calls upon</i> Parties, other Governments and other stakeholders in a position to do so to provide financial resources for the organization of the meetings of the Working Group envisaged in the indicative work plan contained in decision BS-I/8	
	<i>Agrees</i> that the second meeting of the Working Group should be convened before the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol and <i>calls upon</i> Parties, other Governments and other stakeholders in a position to do so to provide the necessary financial resources to enable the participation of developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition as provided for in decision BS-I/10	Avail financial resources no later than 15 January 2006
14 Socio-economic Considerations (Article 26, paragraph 2); Decision BS-II/12	<i>Invites</i> Parties and other Governments to continue to cooperate within relevant processes under other organizations and arrangements, such as those referred to in section III of the note by the Executive Secretary on socio-economic considerations: cooperation on research and information exchange (UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/2/12), which deal with socio-economic impacts of living modified organisms	
	<i>Urges</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to provide more emphasis to research on socio-economic impacts of living modified organisms and to allocate resources for that purpose	
	<i>Invites</i> Parties, other Governments and organizations with research activities related to socio-economic impacts of living modified organisms arising from the impacts of these organisms on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, to share information, with other Parties, other Governments, and other stakeholders through the Biosafety Clearing-House, on their research methods and results, both positive and negative	
	<i>Further invites</i> Parties and other Governments to share, through the Biosafety Clearing-House, their information and experiences in taking into account socio-economic impacts including experiences in implementing the Akwé:Kon Voluntary Guidelines	

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	<i>Requests</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant international organizations to provide to the Executive Secretary not later than six months prior to the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, their views and case-studies, where available, concerning socio-economic impacts of living modified organisms	6 months prior to COP-MOP/4
15 Public awareness and Participation (e.g. Article 23, para 1(a))	<i>Encourages</i> Parties and other States, as part of their efforts in implementing Article 23, paragraph 1 (a), to seek and leverage opportunities for cooperation with other Parties, other States and relevant international bodies at subregional, regional and international levels, taking into account the options referred to in paragraph 1 above	
Decision BS-II/13	<i>Urges</i> Parties and other States to develop and implement national programmes for public awareness, education and participation, including public access to information, concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms	
	<i>Further invites</i> Parties, other States, and relevant international bodies to share, through the Biosafety Information Resource Centre in the Biosafety Clearing-House, information, awareness materials and case-studies about their ongoing initiatives on public awareness, education and participation, including major accomplishments, success stories, best practices and lessons learned as well as limitations experienced	
	<i>Encourages</i> Parties and other States to make effective use of the media to promote public awareness and education concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms	
	<i>Urges</i> Parties, other Government and relevant international bodies to develop and support subregional and regional public awareness and education initiatives concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms, including through educational systems and regional centres	
	<i>Reminds</i> Parties and other States to submit to the Biosafety Clearing-House information regarding their capacity needs, gaps, programmes and priorities with respect to public awareness, education and participation	
	<i>Encourages</i> Parties, other States and relevant international bodies to make effective use of the tools and mechanisms established under the Global Initiative on Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) under the Convention on Biological Diversity	
	<i>Invites</i> Parties, other States and relevant international bodies to include in their programmes for implementing the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development specific activities related to promoting public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms in relation to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking into account also risks to human health	
	<i>Invites</i> Parties, other States and concerned relevant international bodies to explore and maximize opportunities for cooperation in the promotion of public awareness, education and participation concerning living modified organisms through the frameworks provided by related national and international instruments, in particular the Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters	

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16 Other Scientific and Technical Issues Decision BS-II/14	<i>Invites</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant international organizations to submit views, not later than six months prior to the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, regarding clarification of the rights and/or obligations of transit States, particularly related to documentation, for inclusion in a synthesis report to be considered by the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol	No later than 13 September 2005
	<i>Encourages</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to share the results of public research related to biosafety through the Biosafety Information Resource Centre of the Biosafety Clearing-House	
	<i>Invites</i> Parties and other Governments to submit views to the Executive Secretary, in conjunction with the interim national reports under the Protocol that will be submitted in accordance with decision BS-I/9, regarding the need to designate or establish a permanent subsidiary body to provide the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol with timely advice on scientific and technical issues arising in relation to the implementation of the Protocol including risk assessment and risk management, and also views regarding the nature of any such body should it be established and particular issues that it could address, such as issues related to paragraph 5 of Article 16, for inclusion in a synthesis report to be considered by the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol	No later than 11 September 2005