

NOTIFICATION**Submissions of information on synthetic biology to support the preparation of the thematic action plan in the context of synthetic biology and the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Synthetic Biology**

Dear Sir or Madam,

In its decision [16/21](#), the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity decided to develop a thematic action plan to support capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology and knowledge-sharing in the context of synthetic biology for the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in line with the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development (also see decision [15/8](#), annex I). To support the preparation of this thematic action plan, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, academia, research institutions, the business sector and relevant organizations to submit information on their experiences, needs and priorities with regard to synthetic biology, in addition to other relevant processes and initiatives on capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology and knowledge-sharing related to synthetic biology.

Further, the Conference of the Parties also established an ad hoc technical expert group on synthetic biology to identify the current and potential benefits of synthetic biology, the potential positive impacts of the most recent technological developments in synthetic biology and the potential negative impacts of the most recent technological developments in synthetic biology, all in relation to the three objectives of the Convention and the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. To inform the work of the Expert Group, Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, academia, research institutions, the business sector and relevant organizations were also invited to submit information on their priority areas in relation to synthetic biology, including the most recent technological developments, relevant to the three objectives of the Convention and the Framework.

In line with these requests, I would like to invite Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, academia, research institutions, the business sector and relevant organizations to submit information to support the preparation of the thematic action plan in the context of synthetic biology and the information relevant to the work of the Expert Group as outlined above. Information should be submitted through the Biosafety Clearing-House using the Submission (SUB) common format accessible at the following page: <https://bch.cbd.int/en/register/SUB/new>. Full instructions on how to upload your submission are provided at the following link: https://bch.cbd.int/synbio/instructions-submit_info_bch.docx.

A template for submitting information is available at the following link: https://bch.cbd.int/synbio/submissions_synbio_dec-16_21.docx. Submissions from Parties and other Governments should be made through the National Focal Points of the Convention on Biological Diversity. In the case of organizations, information should be submitted through the Head of such organization. Information should be submitted as both Word and PDF files as soon as possible, but **no later than 18 July 2025**.

Please accept, Sir, Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Astrid Schomaker
Executive Secretary

To: CBD national focal points, relevant organizations, and indigenous peoples and local communities
cc: SBSTTA national focal points, Cartagena Protocol national focal points, ABS Protocol focal points