



NOTIFICATION

Nomination of experts to the workshop on the detection and identification of living modified organisms and the role of customs officials in implementing the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Ljubljana, Slovenia, 22-26 September 2025

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in close collaboration and with the support of the Government of Slovenia, and with the financial support of the Government of Denmark, is organizing a workshop on the detection and identification of living modified organisms and the role of customs officials in implementing the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, to be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, from 22 to 26 September 2025, with the objective of providing theoretical and hands-on training on:

- The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, focusing on the detection and identification of living modified organisms, and the role of customs officials in its implementation
- Laboratory methodologies used for the analysis of living modified organisms
- Sharing national experiences and practices in implementing the Cartagena Protocol, focusing on the role of customs authorities

The workshop is organized in response to decisions [BS-VII/10](#), [CP-VIII/16](#), [CP-9/11](#) and [CP-11/8](#), and will support Parties in achieving Goal A.8 of the implementation plan for the Cartagena Protocol (decision [CP-10/3](#), Annex) and in strengthening capacities in this area, further to the capacity-building action plan for the Cartagena Protocol (decision [CP-10/4](#), Annex).

Accordingly, I am pleased to invite developing country Parties to the Cartagena Protocol who are eligible for financial support¹ to nominate three representatives to take part in the workshop:

1. A scientist involved in laboratory-based work on detection and identification of living modified organisms;
2. An official of the national customs authorities involved in clearing shipments; and
3. An official working with the competent national authority for biosafety who is engaged in the discharge of the administrative functions under the Protocol.

The official nomination letter must be accompanied by the nomination form (Annex I), duly completed for each nominee, indicating the activities in which the nominee has been involved that are relevant to the objectives of the workshop, as well as the anticipated benefits of the workshop. For nominations of participants from Parties eligible for funding, candidates should include a completed HR Mini Master Registration Form (Annex II – Parts A and B in Word format) and a copy of the bio page of a valid national passport for each nominee. Annexes I and II are available at the following link: <https://beh.cbd.int/protocol/detection/ntf-annex-detection-workshop.docx>.

¹ Also see the OECD list of countries eligible for official development assistance:

<https://www.oecd.org/en/topics/sub-issues/oda-eligibility-and-conditions/dac-list-of-oda-recipients.html>

To: Cartagena Protocol national focal points, CBD national focal points (where CPB focal points have not yet been designated)

cc: Biosafety Clearing-House national focal points



Participants will be selected on the basis of their relevant expertise, as well as geographical representation and gender balance. Only complete forms and nominations submitted through the Cartagena Protocol Focal Point will be considered.

Nominations are open to eligible developing country Parties to the Cartagena Protocol. Selected participants will receive financial assistance to cover the cost of travel and a daily subsistence allowance. Unfortunately, due to space restrictions at the workshop venue, there is no possibility for additional self-financed representatives to join the workshop.

Nominations should be sent to the Secretariat via e-mail at secretariat@cbd.int. In order to finalize arrangements for the workshop in a timely manner, nominations are to be submitted as soon as possible but **no later than 25 July 2025**.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support of the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

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

(Signed) Astrid Schomaker
Executive Secretary