



Convention on Biological Diversity

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON
BIOSAFETY

Tenth meeting – Part II
Montreal, Canada, 7-19 December 2022
Agenda item 11

Operation and activities of the Biosafety Clearing-House (Article 20)

Draft decision submitted by the Chair of Working Group II

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,

Reaffirming the key role of the Biosafety Clearing-House as an information-sharing mechanism facilitating the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and related capacity-building actions, and noting the increasing relevance of the Biosafety Clearing-House for online forums,

1. *Welcomes* the migration of the central portal of the Biosafety Clearing-House to its new platform and the improvements made in accordance with the joint modalities of operation for the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, the Biosafety Clearing-House and the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House endorsed in decision CP-9/2;
2. *Calls upon* Parties and other Governments to publish information available at the national level on the Biosafety Clearing-House in accordance with the obligations of the Protocol;
3. *Calls upon* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to review records they have previously published on the Biosafety Clearing-House to verify their accuracy on the new platform and to make any revisions or updates as necessary in a timely manner;
4. *Takes note* of goal A.2 and related capacity-building activities in the implementation plan and the capacity-building action plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and *invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to carry out related activities with a view to further strengthening the role of the Biosafety Clearing-House in the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol;
5. *Welcomes* the successful implementation of the United Nations Environment Programme—Global Environment Facility “Project for Sustainable Capacity Building for Effective Participation in the Biosafety Clearing-House” (BCH III Project) and invites the United Nations Environment Programme to develop further capacity-building projects related to the Biosafety Clearing-House;
6. *Welcomes* the collaborative activities undertaken between the biosafety databases of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Biosafety Clearing-House;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to maintain and make necessary improvements to the Biosafety Clearing-House, including:

(a) Translating further pages of the Biosafety Clearing-House, including new features and content as they are developed to ensure that the Biosafety Clearing-House is available in the six official languages of the United Nations;

(b) Exploring how the Bioland tool can be used to facilitate the linkage between national websites and the Biosafety Clearing-House, and other mechanisms that allow national clearing-houses to retrieve information from the Biosafety Clearing-House;

(c) Taking into account the knowledge management component of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in line with decision 15/-- of the Conference of the Parties when updating the Biosafety Clearing-House;¹

(d) Continuing to ensure information on the clearing-house is up-to-date.

8. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To develop capacity-building materials based on priorities identified by Parties and perform trainings on the new functionalities of the Biosafety Clearing-House including as a contribution to the key activities highlighted in the capacity-building action plan;

(b) To explore options for and implement a coordinated approach to the web infrastructure for online forums across the clearing-houses;

(c) To continue collaborating with other biosafety-related databases and organizations.

¹ Subject to the adoption of the knowledge management component of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.