



Current activities on the Biosafety Clearing-House

*Informal Advisory Group on the Biosafety Clearing House,
twelfth meeting,
15-16 May 2023*



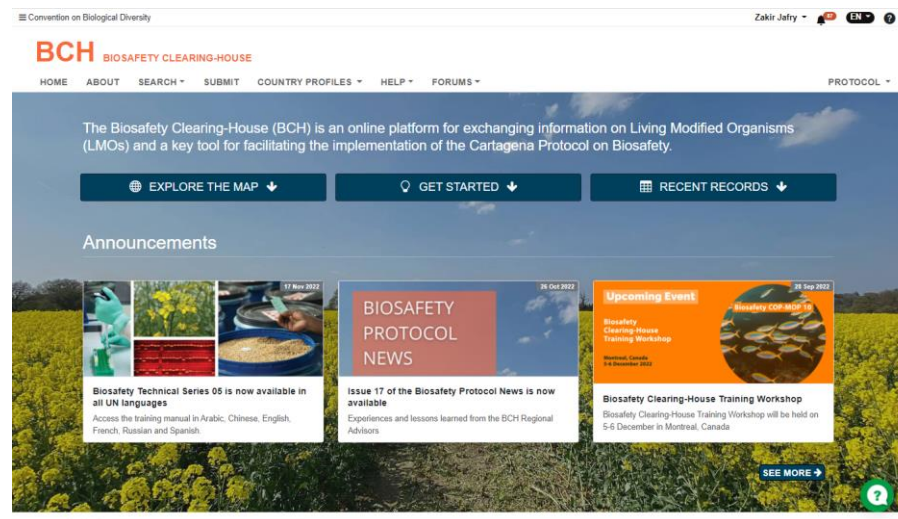
Convention on
Biological Diversity





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Submissions to Notifications

- Previously on the legacy platform of the BCH, there were two Submissions formats:
 - *Submissions from Parties & other Governments*
 - *Submissions from relevant organizations*
- On the previous platform of this BCH, challenges were encountered where users were using the format incorrectly and using the format to submit information that should be published using another format.
- At the Eleventh meeting of the BCH IAC, outcome was to make the Submissions format only available to the Secretariat





Submissions to Notifications

- **In light of recent Notifications calling for the submission of information, changes were made to address inefficiencies in the submission process**
 - 2023-06 (Submission of information on synthetic biology); and
 - 2023-07 (Risk Assessment and Risk Management under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: submission of information pursuant to paragraph 7 and paragraph 8 of decision CP-10/10)
- **Receiving submissions:**
 - Standard Secretariat modality for receiving submissions is through e-mail exchange.
- **Displaying submissions:**
 - New search interface consolidates all published records in the BCH
 - Previously, Secretariat staff manually build landing pages for each call for submissions.





Submissions to Notifications: What has been done

- **Reception of submissions for Notification 2023-07:**
 - Encouraged submitters to send their submissions using the new platform of the BCH rather than email.
 - Success of the initial pilot: 15/17 submissions were received directly through the BCH

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Submissions (SUB)" with an orange header bar. In the top right corner of the header is a "TAKE TOUR" button. Below the header is a navigation bar with four tabs: "Introduction", "Submission form", "Review", and "Publish". The "Submission form" tab is active. To the right of the tabs is a language selection menu showing "en | es | fr | ru | zh" and a "Save Draft" button. The form is divided into two main sections: "General Information" and "Submission Information".

General Information

Please select in which language(s) you wish to submit this record: *

English ▾

Please select one of the following: *

Country ▾

OR

Organization(s) *No records have been linked.*

Submission Information

Title of the submission * EN

Date of submission *



Submissions to Notifications: What has been done

- **Display of submissions:**

- New '*Submissions to Notifications*' landing page developed with the Search function of the BCH.

1) Separates submissions records from other records in the BCH

- Provides a series of search filters

2) Allows for the automated creation of landing pages for each individual submission process.



Submissions to Notifications: What has been done

Convention on Biological Diversity
Zakir Jafry
170
EN
?

BCH

BIOSAFETY CLEARING-HOUSE

HOME
ABOUT
SEARCH
SUBMIT
COUNTRY PROFILES
HELP
FORUMS
PROTOCOL

CBD / BCH / Submissions to Notifications

Submissions to Notifications

Certain notifications issued by the Secretariat include an invitation for Parties, other Governments and relevant stakeholders to submit information on a particular subject. Select a notification from the "Notifications" sub-filter below to view all submissions that were received in response to that notification.

SUB-FILTERS

Submissions

Free Text

Search in Submissions

Submission by

Party
Non-Party
Organization

Notification(s)

>

Countries(s)

>

Organization(s)

>

Thematic areas

>

Submission Date

Page 1 of 23
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Next >
Last »
1 - 25 of 558
Items per page 25

Colombia

Risk Assessment and Risk Management under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: submission of information pursuant to paragraph 8 of decision CP-10/10 (Notification 2023-007)

SUBMISSIONS | BCH-SUB-SCBD-263985-2 | 14 APR 2023

Colombia

Risk Assessment and Risk Management under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: submission of information pursuant to paragraph 7 of decision CP-10/10 (Notification 2023-007)

SUBMISSIONS | BCH-SUB-SCBD-263986-2 | 14 APR 2023

Imperial College London

Risk Assessment and Risk Management under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: submission of information pursuant to paragraph 7 of decision CP-10/10 (Notification 2023-007)

SUBMISSIONS | BCH-SUB-SCBD-263948-2 | 10 APR 2023

CropLife International A.I.S.B.L., Global Industry Coalition

Risk Assessment and Risk Management under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: submission of information pursuant to paragraph 7 of decision CP-10/10 (Notification 2023-007)

SUBMISSIONS | BCH-SUB-SCBD-263941-1 | 07 APR 2023



Online forums

- **Discussions at the eleventh meeting of the BCH IAC**
 - “Migration of online forums” was indicated in the chronogram as an item to be considered after the launch of the new platform.
 - The Committee suggested that the new BCH should have the function to host online forums.
 - Indicated that previous online forums could be archived as static HTML.

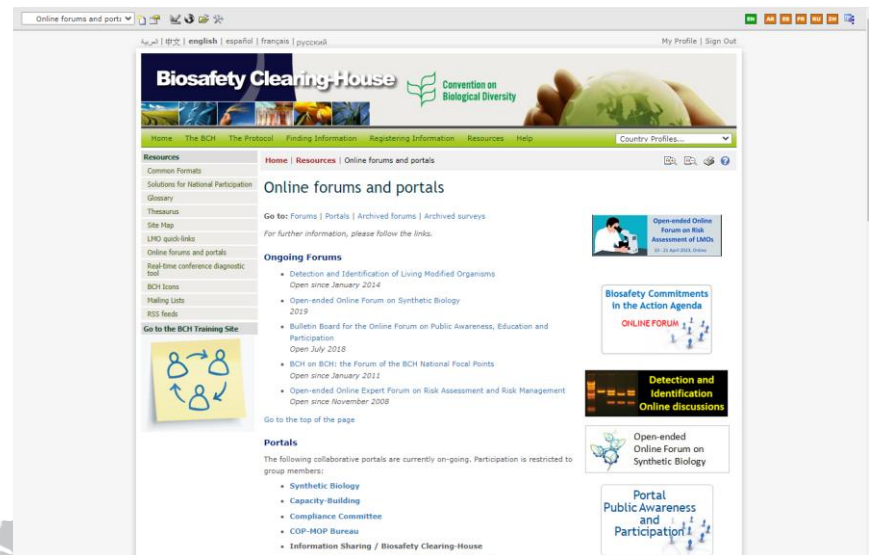
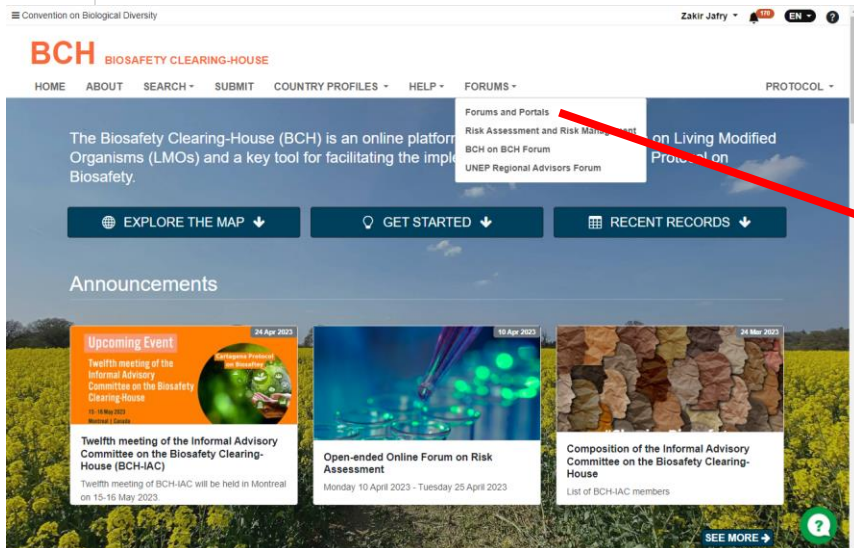
This Forum is closed.

Thread	Replies	Last Post
Opening of the discussion	28	2018-02-12 15:37 Melissa Willey
Message from moderator	0	2018-02-12 02:12 Marianela Araya
Closing of the Forum	0	2018-02-12 00:58 Marianela Araya
Risk assessment guideline	0	2018-02-01 13:10 Raja Chalhouni



Online forums

- Current framework
 - Inconsistent user experience
 - Navigating traffic toward the legacy platform in activities in which users are actively interacting on the BCH





Online forums: What has been done

- IT development on the new forum structure on the BCH began Fall 2022.
- 100% compatible with the previous forum
- Key pain points and improvements have been identified as part of the forum development on the new platform.
 - Modernize the user interface, consistent with the UI/UX of the new platform;
 - Improve approach to thread structure (chronological vs nested);
 - *Add ability for users to 'quote' previous messages posted to the forum;*
 - *Improve text entry using rich text editor (bold, italics, link, etc)*
 - *Add centralized location for all file attachments uploaded within the forum;*
 - *Automate the forum opening and closing time;*
 - *Automate forum engagement statistics for improved internal reporting.*



Online forums: What has been done

- The first forum hosted on the new platform of the BCH, the “Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment” took place on 11-25 April 2023.
 - The forum experienced over 20% more engagement (posts) than the 2018-2020 iteration of the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment

Convention on Biological Diversity

BCH BIOSAFETY CLEARING-HOUSE

HOME ABOUT SEARCH SUBMIT COUNTRY PROFILES HELP FORUMS PROTOCOL

CBD / BCH / Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment and Risk Management

- Calendar of Activities 2023-2024
- **Open-ended Online Forum**
- Submissions
- > AHTEG
- > Resources
- > Past activities

Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment

Background

In decision [CP-10/10](#), the Conference of the Parties serving as a meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP) agreed to develop additional voluntary guidance materials to support case-by-case risk assessment of living modified organisms (LMOs) containing engineered gene drives in accordance with Annex III of the Cartagena Protocol. The COP-MOP decided that this material should have a special focus on engineered gene drive mosquitoes taking into account the current experience with the organism, the type of gene drive and specific issues of risk assessment, identified in annex I of decision [CP-9/13](#), including existing reports, general considerations of LMOs containing engineered gene drives and existing national and regional risk assessment experiences. The decision also established an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) and requested the convening of the Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management to contribute to this process. The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice will consider the draft prepared by the AHTEG.

In response to this, the Secretariat is convening the first round of the Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management to collect views on elements to be included in the outline for the additional voluntary guidance materials. This forum will be re-convened periodically to provide additional inputs into the process.

The first session of the online forum opened at 12:00 (noon) EDT on Monday 10 April 2023

The first session of the online forum closed at 17:00 (5:00 pm) EDT on Tuesday 25 April 2023.

The online forum was moderated by Dr. Luciana Pimenta Ambrozavicius from Brazil.

Discussion topic

Suggestions for the development of additional voluntary guidelines for the risk assessment of living modified organisms containing engineered gene drives.



Online forums: What has been done

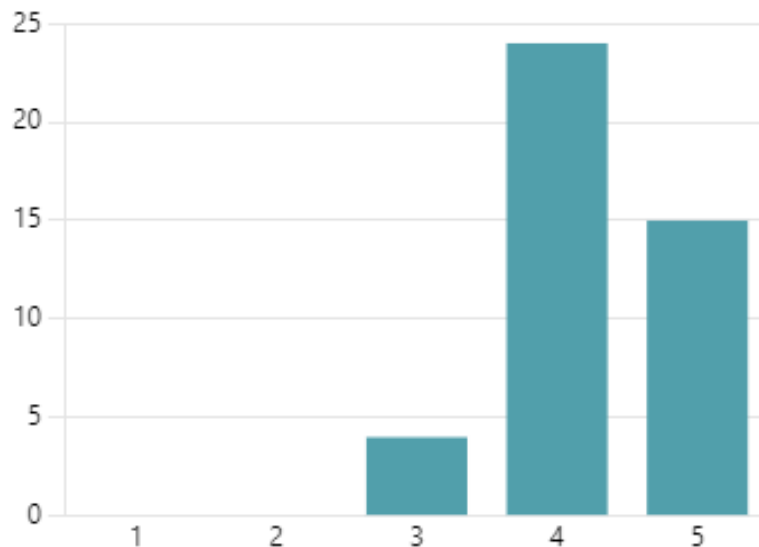
- The Secretariat conducted a forum participant survey to rate user experience (44 responses).

Please rate your experience as a participant of the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment (where 1 star is poor and 5 stars is excellent):

[More Details](#)

 Insights

4.26
Average Rating



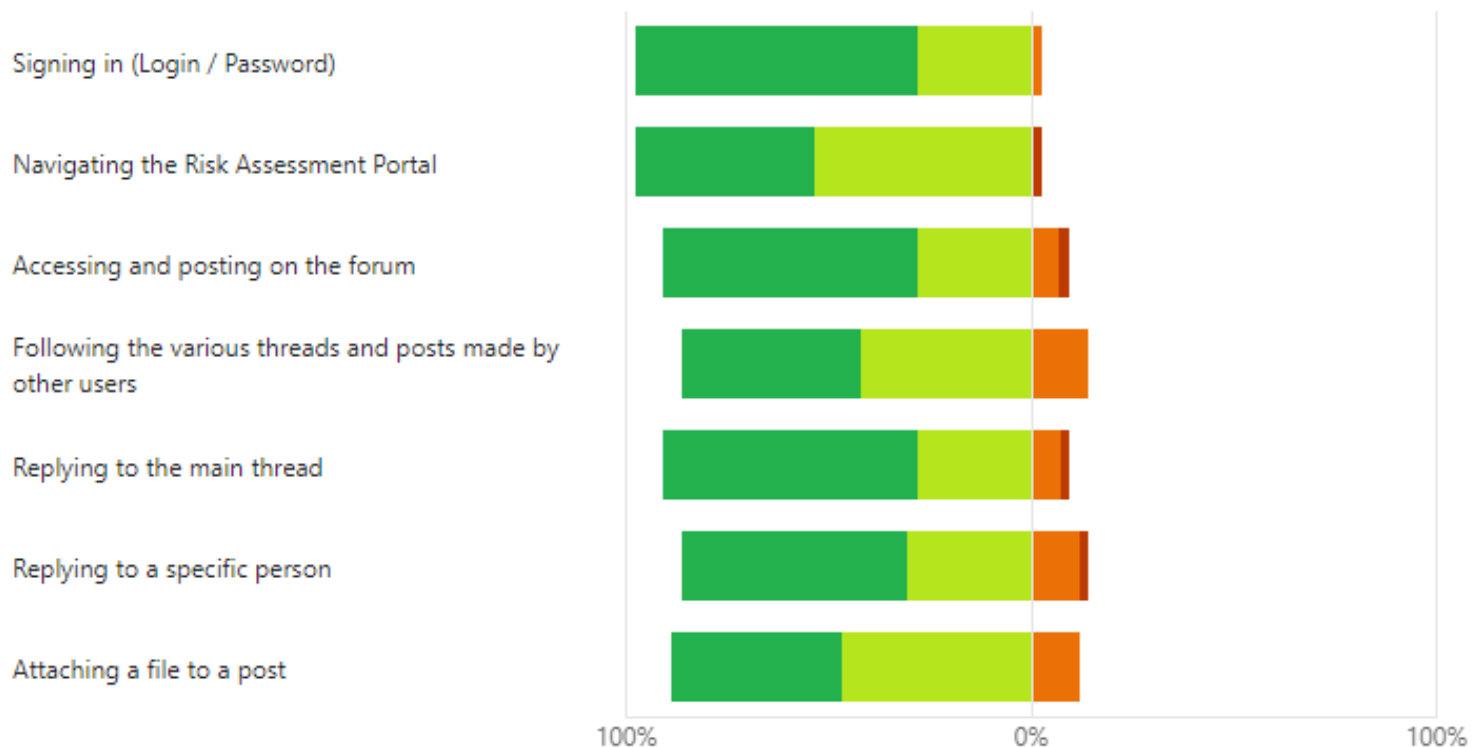


Online forums: What has been done

How would you rate the level of difficulty of the following elements associated with the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment?

[More Details](#)

■ Very easy
 ■ Somewhat easy
 ■ Somewhat difficult
 ■ Very difficult





Online forums: Next steps for consideration

- Future forums and online discussions related to the Cartagena Protocol occur through the new BCH platform;
- Build a “Portals and Forums” landing page on the new platform;
- Continue the list of forum improvements (quote, centralized location for attachments, improve text editor, etc)
- Maintain previous forum discussions on legacy BCH Platform
- Getting Help: create new Forum tour and other help materials.
- Question for the committee: desire to bring back the BCH IAC forum?

The screenshot displays the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) website. The header includes the logo for the Convention on Biological Diversity and the text 'Biosafety Clearing-House'. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and a Country Profiles dropdown menu.

The main content area is titled 'The BCH IAC Forum'. It includes a sidebar on the left with links to 'The BCH Collaborative Portal', 'Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)', 'BCH on BCH Forum', 'FAO - CBD - OECD Forum', and 'UNEP-GEF BCH Projects'. The main content area lists 'The BCH IAC Forum 2013-2014' with a list of threads and a table of threads.

Thread	Replies	Last Post
Final Report; Presentations; Updated BCH-IAC page	0	2016-08-02 19:01 Andrew Bowers
Reminder regarding taxi service to and from the airports	0	2016-04-05 19:23 Andrew Bowers
Registering through the JRC website	1	2016-02-24 11:34 Johansen T. Voker
Webinar on tools and information resources available on biosafety (31	2	2014-10-21 11:30 Giovanni

On the right side of the forum page, there is a 'Shared Documents' section with a list of documents and their dates. The documents include:

- 1 - DRAFT Report 9th meeting
- 2 - Provisional Agenda 9th meeting
- 3 - Final Report 8th meeting
- 4 - Provisional Agenda 8th meeting
- 5 - Decision BS-VI/2
- 6 - UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/6/3



Online format for the Fifth National Report

- Decision CP-10/9 approved the format and guidelines for the submission of the Fifth National Report and requested the Executive Secretary to make the final format available online through the BCH.
- Current active priority is the building of the online formats
- Considering the limited IT resources available at the Secretariat, a web development consultant has been engaged to support the front-end development of this new format on the BCH.
- The “National Reports Analyzer” tool will also be updated to reflect the new reporting format





Next steps for consideration

- **Submissions to Notifications:**
 - Continue encouraging the use of the new platform in the submission process for Notifications related to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
- **Online Forums:**
 - Future forums and online discussions related to the Cartagena Protocol occur through the new BCH platform;
 - Build a “Portals and Forums” landing page on the new platform;
 - Continue the list of forum improvements (search, centralized attachments, etc)
 - Maintain previous forum discussions on legacy
 - Forum help materials (onboarding tour)
 - BCH IAC forum?
 - Request IAC members that participated to provide feedback on their experience
- **5th National Report:**
 - Build the new online format (*currently in development*)
 - Update the National Report Analyzer tool