



Convention on Biological Diversity

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**Subsidiary Body on Scientific,
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Item 7 of the provisional agenda
Risk assessment and risk management

Risk assessment and risk management of living modified organisms

Note by the Secretariat

I. Background

1. In its decision [CP-11/7](#), the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity invited Parties to submit detailed information on their needs and priorities for further guidance materials on specific topics of risk assessment of living modified organisms, including a rationale following the criteria set out in annex I to decision [CP-9/13](#).
2. Also in decision [CP-11/7](#), the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management was extended to support the analysis of further topics of risk assessment in accordance with the criteria set out in annex I to decision [CP-9/13](#). An ad hoc technical expert group on risk assessment was also established and tasked with the evaluation of the needs and priorities identified by Parties.
3. In its terms of reference, the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment was requested, inter alia:
 - (a) To analyse the information submitted by Parties and the discussions held in the Online Forum, and on that basis to prepare a list of prioritized topics, if any, on which further guidance materials on risk assessment might be needed according to the criteria set out in annex I to decision [CP-9/13](#);
 - (b) To prepare a report for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, with a view to enabling the Subsidiary Body to prepare a recommendation for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its twelfth meeting.
4. Still in decision [CP-11/7](#), the Secretariat of the Convention was requested to: convene discussions of the Online Forum; prepare a synthesis of the information submitted by Parties in response to the invitation mentioned in paragraph 1 above and of the discussions held in the Forum; convene at least one in-person meeting of the Expert Group; and convene capacity-building and development activities in support of risk assessment with a particular focus on the risk assessment of living modified organisms containing engineered gene drives.

5. The present document contains a description of the activities undertaken pursuant to the requests in decision [CP-11/7](#) (sect. II) and draft recommendations for consideration by the Subsidiary Body (sect. III).

II. Overview of the process set out in decision CP-11/7

A. Summary of information submitted by Parties on their needs and priorities for further guidance materials on specific topics of risk assessment of living modified organisms and of discussions held in the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management

6. Through notification No. [2025-017](#), Parties to the Protocol were invited to submit detailed information on their needs and priorities for further guidance materials on specific topics of risk assessment of living modified organisms, including a rationale following the criteria set out in annex I to decision [CP-9/13](#).

7. A total of 12 Parties¹ submitted responses, in which they identified 15 topics of risk assessment for the further development of guidance, namely:

- (a) Detection and monitoring of living modified organisms;
- (b) Genome-edited mammals for use in agriculture;
- (c) Living modified algae;
- (d) Living modified animals;
- (e) Living modified fish;
- (f) Living modified microorganisms;
- (g) Living modified organisms containing stacked events;
- (h) Living modified organisms expressing genome editing machinery for pest or pathogen control;
- (i) Living modified organisms for food, feed and processing;
- (j) Living modified organisms produced through new biotechnologies;
- (k) Long-term and cumulative effects of genetic constructs and living modified organisms;
- (l) Operationalizing protection goals into relevant assessment and measurement end points;
- (m) Simplified procedure (Article 13 of the Protocol) and agreements and arrangements (Article 14);
- (n) Transportability of data for risk assessment of living modified organisms;
- (o) Use of living modified organisms in centres of origin and in traditional agricultural systems.

8. To gather information to complement the submissions by Parties and support the analysis of the proposed topics of risk assessment, the Secretariat convened the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management from 21 April to 9 May 2025. The Forum was co-moderated by Anita Anthonysamy (Malaysia) and Ana Laura Mello (Uruguay).

9. During the Forum, a total of 282 interventions were made by 69 representatives of 24 Parties to the Protocol, 2 representatives of a non-Party, 1 representative of indigenous peoples and local communities and the representatives of 18 organizations.

¹ Brazil, Chad, Colombia, Egypt, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Niger, Pakistan, Panama, Peru and South Africa.

10. The information submitted by Parties and the information shared during the Forum were synthesized in document [CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/INF/1](#), while references provided in the submissions and during the Forum were compiled in document [CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/INF/2](#).

B. Meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment

11. The Expert Group met from 8 to 11 July 2025. The meeting was attended by 14 experts from Parties, 1 expert from indigenous peoples and local communities and 5 experts from observer organizations.

12. The Expert Group conducted a structured analysis of the 15 topics of risk assessment, on the basis of the information submitted by Parties and the discussions held in the Forum, and prepared a list of prioritized topics on which further guidance materials on risk assessment may be needed according to the criteria set out in annex I to decision [CP-9/13](#). The Group followed the clarifications regarding the application of the criteria that had been provided by a previous Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment in document [CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2020/1/5](#)² and taken note of by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol in its decision [CP-10/10](#). A stocktaking exercise was also conducted in relation to the 15 topics.

13. In conducting the structured analysis, the Expert Group encountered difficulties when applying criteria (c) and (d) with respect to the topics of simplified procedure (Article 13 of the Protocol) and agreements and arrangement (Article 14) and of the transportability of data for risk assessment of living modified organisms. As a result, the analysis was considered inconclusive with respect to those two topics.

14. The Expert Group agreed that additional guidance materials would be primarily needed for the topics of living modified algae, living modified microorganisms and living modified organisms expressing genome editing machinery for pest or pathogen control. The Group also recognized the need for additional guidance materials on living modified fish. In addition, it recommended the development of technical notes for the topics of long-term and cumulative effects of genetic constructs and living modified organisms, operationalizing protection goals into relevant assessment and measurement end points, and the use of living modified organisms in centres of origin and in traditional agricultural systems.

15. The Expert Group considered that technical notes serving as practical supplements to existing guidance materials³ would be useful for supporting Parties in addressing specific challenges or contexts.

16. Continued capacity-building and development, international cooperation and knowledge-sharing activities in support of the risk assessment and risk management of living modified organisms were identified as important elements for addressing the topics identified by Parties.

17. The substantive outcomes of the analysis are contained in the annex to the present document.

18. The report of the meeting will be issued as document CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/3.

C. Capacity-building and development activities in support of risk assessment of living modified organisms

19. In response to the request in decision [CP-11/7](#), the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Brazil and the Secretariat organized an international training course for risk assessments of living modified organisms in Brasilia from 2 to 6 June 2025. Financial support was provided by the European Commission.

² See annex I, sect. III.

³ Such as the guidance on risk assessment of living modified organisms and monitoring in the context of risk assessment ([UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-8/8/Add.1](#), annex) and the additional voluntary guidance materials to support case-by-case risk assessments of living modified organisms containing engineered gene drives ([CBD/CP/MOP/11/9](#)).

20. A total of 44 participants from 24 Parties attended the training course. They received theoretical training on risk assessment of living modified organisms followed by a practical case study exercise focused on a hypothetical environmental release of a living modified mosquito containing an engineered gene drive. The course was based on the Training Manual on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms in the context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety⁴ and the additional voluntary guidance materials to support case-by-case risk assessments of living modified organisms containing engineered gene drives. The use of the Biosafety Clearing-House as a resource for risk assessment was also emphasized during the course.

21. The report of the training course will be issued as document CBD/CP/RA/OM/2025/1/2.

III. Recommendations

22. Further to the request in decision [CP-11/7](#), the Subsidiary Body may wish to recommend that, at its twelfth meeting, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol adopt a decision along the following lines:

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

Recalling decisions [CP-9/13](#) of 28 November 2018 and [CP-11/7](#) of 30 October 2024,

1. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment,⁵ and takes note of the outcomes of the structured analysis of the topics of risk assessment proposed by Parties in relation to needs and priorities for further guidance on specific topics of risk assessment of living modified organisms;⁶

2. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment to develop additional voluntary guidance materials for living modified algae, living modified microorganisms, living modified organisms expressing genome editing machinery for pest or pathogen control and living modified fish;

3. *Also endorses* the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment to develop technical notes⁷ for voluntary use for long-term and cumulative effects of genetic constructs and living modified organisms, operationalizing protection goals into relevant assessment and measurement end points, and the use of living modified organisms in centres of origin and in traditional agricultural systems;

4. *Decides* to establish a new ad hoc technical expert group on risk assessment, with the terms of reference contained in the annex to the present decision;

5. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations to submit information relevant to the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment;

6. *Decides* to extend the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management to support the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment;

7. *Also decides* to consider at its thirteenth meeting additional issues on which guidance materials on risk assessment may be needed, further to the process established in decision [CP-9/13](#) for the identification and prioritization of specific issues of risk assessment of living modified organisms that may warrant consideration, taking into account the priorities identified by Parties, including in their national reports;

⁴ [UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/7/INF/6](#).

⁵ See CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/3.

⁶ CBD/SBSTTA/27/6, annex.

⁷ To serve as practical supplements to existing guidance materials to support Parties in addressing specific challenges or contexts.

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to:

(a) Convene at least two meetings of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment, one of which will be in person, before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;⁸

(b) Convene discussions in the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management during the same intersessional period;

(c) Synthesize information collected in response to paragraphs 5 and 6 of the present decision;

(d) Continue to undertake capacity-building and development activities to support the risk assessment of living modified organisms;

9. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to consider the outcomes of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment at a meeting held before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and to make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

Annex

Terms of reference for the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment

1. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment shall:

(a) Be composed of experts, selected in accordance with section H of the consolidated *modus operandi* of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice,⁹ with specific scientific and technical expertise relevant to the present mandate, and include experts from academia, relevant international organizations and indigenous peoples and local communities, in line with decision [14/33](#) of 29 November 2018 on the procedure for avoiding or managing conflicts of interest in expert groups, as amended in decision [CP-11/6](#) of 1 November 2024;

(b) Subject to the availability of funds, hold at least two meetings, one of which will be in person, before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety¹⁰ and perform any necessary tasks between its two meetings by online means of communication and engagement;

(c) Develop draft additional voluntary guidance materials for living modified algae, living modified microorganisms, living modified organisms expressing genome editing machinery for pest or pathogen control and living modified fish, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body at a meeting held before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol;

(d) Develop draft technical notes¹¹ for the long-term and cumulative effects of genetic constructs and living modified organisms, operationalizing protection goals into relevant assessment and measurement end points, and the use of living modified organisms in centres of origin and in traditional agricultural systems, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body at a meeting held before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

⁹ Decision [VIII/10](#), annex III.

¹⁰ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

¹¹ Technical notes serve as practical supplements to existing guidance materials to support Parties in addressing specific challenges or contexts.

2. In undertaking its work, the Expert Group shall consider the information submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of the present decision, the discussions held in the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management, the synthesis of information prepared by the Secretariat pursuant to paragraph 8 (c) of the present decision, the synthesis of submissions of information on risk assessment and the discussions of the Open-Ended Online on Risk Assessment and Risk Management¹² and the list of bibliographic references provided in the submissions from Parties and during the discussions of the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management.¹³
3. In conducting its work, the Expert Group shall also consider information produced by other international, regional and national bodies, to avoid the duplication of exiting materials.

¹² [CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/INF/1.](#)

¹³ [CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/INF/2.](#)

Annex

Analysis of the topics proposed by Parties in relation to needs and priorities for further guidance on specific topics of risk assessment of living modified organisms

1. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment agreed on the following during its analysis of the proposed topics of risk assessment.
2. The precautionary approach is an integral part of the objective and scope of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.
3. Annex III to the Protocol is foundational to the conduct of environmental risk assessment of living modified organisms. Problem formulation is a useful approach for framing the risk assessment process.
4. Continued capacity-building and development, international cooperation and knowledge-sharing activities in support of the risk assessment and risk management of living modified organisms are important elements for addressing the topics identified by Parties.
5. Existing environmental risk assessment methodologies, guidance materials and frameworks have mainly been developed for living modified crops. Thus, challenges may exist when assessing risks related to other types of living modified organisms and environments, especially in view of the pace of development in the field and the broadening range of applications. In addition, there may be a lack of baseline data or information.
6. Some of the topics identified by Parties may share similar elements or challenges that could be addressed in a cross-cutting manner.
7. The environment holds a significant value for indigenous peoples and local communities. Tools (such as biocultural community protocols), socioeconomic, cultural and ethical considerations and customary systems must be used or taken into account when assessing potential impacts on indigenous peoples and local communities.
8. The full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities and their free, prior and informed consent are essential in the context of decision-making on living modified organisms.
9. The table below contains an overview of the analysis conducted by Expert Group.

Overview of the structured analysis against the criteria set out in decision CP-9/13

Topic of risk assessment of living modified organisms	Fulfilment of the criteria set out in decision CP-9/13	Availability of existing guidance materials ^a	Challenges in addressing the issue ^b	Conclusion by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment
Detection and monitoring of living modified organisms	Criteria (a) and (b) fulfilled Criteria (c) and (d) not fulfilled Criterion (e) not applicable	Several	The challenges related to this topic were not specific to risk assessment but rather related to implementation and limited capacity. This topic could be considered to be cross-cutting, with some elements also included in and relevant to other topics.	This topic was not prioritized for the development of additional guidance materials given that criteria (c) and (d) were not fulfilled. This topic can be addressed through the programme of work on the detection and identification of living modified organisms under the Cartagena Protocol, including through the <i>Training Manual on the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms in the Context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety</i> (Biosafety Technical Series 05) and relevant databases listed in document CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/INF/2 . Additional information can be found in sections relevant to monitoring in documents UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/8/Add.1 and CBD/CP/MOP/11/9 .
Genome-edited mammals for use in agriculture	Criteria (a), (c), (d) and (e) fulfilled Criterion (b) not applied ^c	Some	Challenges could relate to the genetic modification, experience with the organism, interactions with the environment, mobility, detection and monitoring, and animal welfare aspects.	This topic was not prioritized for the development of additional guidance materials given that criterion (b) was not applied. Additional information can be found in documents UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/8/Add.1 and CBD/CP/MOP/11/9 , <i>Biosafety Technical Series 05</i> and document CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/INF/2 .
Living modified algae	All criteria fulfilled	None or few	Challenges could relate to complex algal biology, algal ecology, aquatic environments, long-term detection and monitoring, risk management and containment, potential for rapid adverse effects (e.g. algal blooms), potential for large spatial distribution, high	Additional guidance materials are needed. Factors to take into consideration for this topic and for living modified microorganisms and living modified organisms expressing genome editing machinery for pest and pathogen control may be similar.

^a Where “few” is one or two, “some” is three to five, “several” is five to 10 and “many” is more than 10. Existing resources can be found in document [CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/INF/2](#).

^b Detailed information regarding the specific challenges can be found in document [CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/INF/1](#).

^c Acknowledging the variety of national approaches and legislation regarding genome-edited organisms, the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment decided not to apply criterion (b) (i.e. the issue falls within the scope and objective of the Cartagena Protocol) to the topic and focused instead on its merits.

<i>Topic of risk assessment of living modified organisms</i>	<i>Fulfilment of the criteria set out in decision CP-9/13</i>	<i>Availability of existing guidance materials^a</i>	<i>Challenges in addressing the issue^b</i>	<i>Conclusion by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment</i>
			potential for transboundary movements and international cooperation.	
Living modified animals	Criteria (a) and (b) fulfilled Criteria (c), (d) and (e) not fulfilled	Several	Challenges were difficult to identify owing to the broad nature of the topic (e.g. the diversity of types of animal organisms).	This topic was not prioritized for the development of additional guidance materials given that criteria (c), (d) and (e) were not fulfilled. A more narrowly defined scope within the broad category of living modified animals may be necessary to guide future discussions. Factors to take into consideration for this topic and for living modified fish, living modified organisms expressing genome editing machinery for pest or pathogen control and genome-edited mammals for use in agriculture may be similar. This topic could be addressed under relevant existing guidance materials (e.g. document CBD/CP/MOP/11/9) and efforts focused on experience-sharing and capacity-building.
Living modified fish	All criteria fulfilled	Some	Challenges could relate to fish biology, the genetic modification, fish ecology, the aquatic environment, risk management, detection and monitoring and institutional arrangements. Previous risk assessments may also not account for subtropical and tropical environments and the high potential for transboundary movements.	Additional guidance materials are needed, which could take into consideration the information contained in document CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2020/1/3 .
Living modified microorganisms	All criteria fulfilled	Some, but none for the environmental release of living modified microorganisms	Challenges could relate to microbial biology, microbial ecology, persistence, the genetic modification, the availability of data, monitoring and surveillance, containment and risk management, and little experience with the environmental release of living modified microorganisms.	Additional guidance materials are needed. Factors to take into consideration for this topic and for living modified algae and living modified organisms expressing genome editing machinery for pest and pathogen control may be similar.
Living modified organisms containing stacked events	Criteria (a), (b) and (e) fulfilled Criteria (c) and (d) not fulfilled	Several	While recognizing the complexity of stacked events, no significant challenges were identified.	This topic was not prioritized for the development of additional guidance materials given that criteria (c) and (d) were not fulfilled. Additional information can be found in documents UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/8/Add.1 , CBD/CP/MOP/11/9 and CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/INF/2 .

<i>Topic of risk assessment of living modified organisms</i>	<i>Fulfilment of the criteria set out in decision CP-9/13</i>	<i>Availability of existing guidance materials^a</i>	<i>Challenges in addressing the issue^b</i>	<i>Conclusion by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment</i>
Living modified organisms expressing genome editing machinery for pest or pathogen control	All criteria fulfilled	None	Challenges could relate to experience with the living modified organism, novel traits, the complexity of exposure in the receiving environment, gene flow, long-term assessment, detection and monitoring, irreversibility and risk management.	Additional guidance materials are needed. Factors to take into consideration for this topic and for living modified microorganisms and living modified algae may be similar.
Living modified organisms for food, feed and processing	Criteria (a), (b) and (e) fulfilled Criteria (c) and (d) not fulfilled	Many	No significant risk assessment challenges were identified. Challenges could relate to international trade and implementation.	This topic was not prioritized for the development of additional guidance materials given that criteria (c) and (d) were not fulfilled. Additional information can be found in documents UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/8/Add.1 , CBD/CP/MOP/11/9 and CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/INF/2 .
Living modified organisms produced through new biotechnologies	Criterion (a) fulfilled Criterion (b) not applied ^c Criteria (c), (d) and (e) not fulfilled	Few	Challenges were difficult to identify owing to the broad nature of the topic (e.g. the many types of organisms, technologies and applications).	This topic was not prioritized for the development of additional guidance materials given that criterion (b) was not applied and criteria (c), (d) and (e) were not fulfilled. A more narrowly defined scope within the broad category of living modified organisms produced through new biotechnologies may be necessary to guide future discussions. This topic could be addressed under existing relevant guidance materials (e.g. CBD/CP/MOP/11/9).
Long-term and cumulative effects of genetic constructs and living modified organisms	All criteria fulfilled	Some	Challenges could relate to scale, the receiving environment, modelling, risk assessment methodologies, long-term monitoring, uncertainty (e.g. in relation to environmental changes and unintentional releases) and risk management.	A technical note ^d is needed to complement documents UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/8/Add.1 and CBD/CP/MOP/11/9 .
Operationalizing protection goals into relevant assessment and measurement end points	All criteria fulfilled	Some	The translation of broad protection goals into specific assessment and measurement end points can present logistical and contextual challenges. The process is often undocumented and lacks clear articulation.	A technical note is needed to complement documents UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/8/Add.1 and CBD/CP/MOP/11/9 .

^d Technical notes serve as practical supplements to existing guidance materials for supporting Parties in addressing specific challenges or contexts.

<i>Topic of risk assessment of living modified organisms</i>	<i>Fulfilment of the criteria set out in decision CP-9/13</i>	<i>Availability of existing guidance materials^a</i>	<i>Challenges in addressing the issue^b</i>	<i>Conclusion by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment</i>
Simplified procedure (Article 13 of the Protocol) and agreements and arrangements (Article 14)	Criterion (a) fulfilled Criterion (b) was the subject of diverging views Criteria (c) and (d) inconclusive Criterion (e) not applicable	Few	The analysis with respect to criteria (c) and (d) was inconclusive owing to the difficulties in applying those criteria to this topic. Challenges could relate to creating an enabling environment and the recognition of the experience to date (e.g. defining simplified procedures and elements related to agreements and arrangements).	This topic was not prioritized for the development of additional guidance materials given that no consensus could be reached on criterion (b), that the analysis of criteria (c) and (d) was inconclusive and that criterion (e) was considered not applicable. There was a lack of clarity related to the implementation of Article 13 in the context of risk assessment. This topic may be relevant to the transportability of data for risk assessment of living modified organisms. Parties may wish to share experiences regarding this topic.
Transportability of data for risk assessment of living modified organisms	Criteria (a) and (b) fulfilled Criteria (c) and (d) inconclusive Criterion (e) not applicable	None	The analysis with respect to criteria (c) and (d) was deemed inconclusive owing to the difficulties in applying the criteria in relation to this topic. Challenges could relate to data and their re-use, local contexts, interoperability between databases, regulation, national capacities and the inappropriate use of data transported between jurisdictions.	This topic was not prioritized for the development of additional guidance materials given that the analysis of criteria (c) and (d) was inconclusive and that criterion (e) was considered not applicable. The technical challenges identified may not relate to risk assessment. It may be relevant to address this topic under simplified procedure (Article 13 of the Cartagena Protocol) and agreements and arrangements (Article 14). Parties may wish to share experiences regarding this topic.
Use of living modified organisms in centres of origin and in traditional agricultural systems	All criteria fulfilled	None	Challenges could relate to the unique nature and context of centres of origin and traditional agricultural systems (e.g. highly diverse environments, genetic diversity, small-scale farming and value of biodiversity for indigenous peoples and local communities).	A technical note consistent with the Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines is needed to complement documents UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/8/Add.1 , CBD/CP/MOP/11/9 . Factors to take into consideration for this topic and for operationalizing protection goals into relevant assessment and measurement end points may be similar.