



## 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

Ninth meeting

Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 17-29 November 2018

Agenda item 9

### OPERATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE BIOSAFETY CLEARING-HOUSE

#### Draft decision submitted by the Chair of Working Group I

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

*Noting with concern* that important activities requested in decision CP-VIII/2 have not been undertaken,

1. *Welcomes* the continued efforts by Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations in supporting the implementation of the Biosafety Clearing-House and carrying out related capacity-building activities, and *invites* them to continue doing so with a view to further strengthening the role of the Biosafety Clearing-House in the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol;

2. *Welcomes* the 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 continue facilitating regional collaboration and capacity-building on the use of the Biosafety Clearing-House;

3. *Decides* that the Informal Advisory Committee on the Biosafety Clearing-House will hold at least one meeting, and informal online discussions as needed, and report on the outcomes of its work to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its tenth meeting;

4. *Endorses* 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, contained in the annex to decision 14/-- of the Conference of the Parties, which are complementary to the modalities of operation of the Biosafety Clearing-House adopted in decision [BS-I/3](#);

5. *Recalls* decision CP-VIII/2, and *requests* the Executive Secretary, as a matter of priority, to act upon the requests in decision CP-VIII/2 and, in particular:

(a) To allocate adequate and specific resources, both human and financial, for the management, improvement and maintenance of the Biosafety Clearing-House;

(b) To complete the migration of the Biosafety Clearing-House to its new platform and to continue collaborating with other biosafety databases and platforms;

(c) To continue making improvements to the central portal of the Biosafety Clearing-House and following up on the recommendations of the Informal Advisory Committee on the Biosafety Clearing-House at its tenth meeting;

(d) To facilitate the development, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme through the BCH III Project, of training materials, including online training, based on the new platform and user interface;

6. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to submit to the Executive Secretary views on the changes made as a result of the migration and improvements referred to in paragraph 5 above, particularly with regard to the procedure for registering information, the tools for the analysis of search results, and the graphical representations of data, and *requests* the Executive Secretary to take these views into account for the further improvement of the Biosafety Clearing-House and to submit a report for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its tenth meeting;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to explore how the Bioland Tool for National Clearing-House Mechanisms could be used to facilitate the exchange information related to biosafety.

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