



## 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 Eleventh meeting

Cali, Colombia, 21 October–1 November 2024

Agenda item 8

### Operation and activities of the Biosafety Clearing-House

## Operation and activities of the Biosafety Clearing-House

### 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*

1. Welcomes with appreciation the improvements made to the central portal of the Biosafety Clearing-House in accordance with the joint modalities of operation for the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>1</sup> the Biosafety Clearing-House and the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House,<sup>2</sup> as endorsed in decision CP-9/2 of 28 November 2018;
2. Notes the work of the Informal Advisory Committee on the Biosafety Clearing-House;
3. Urges Parties to make all required information systematically available on the Biosafety Clearing-House, including legal measures for implementing the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,<sup>3</sup> decisions on the import or release of living modified organisms and cases of unintentional or illegal transboundary movements, in a timely manner, in accordance with the obligations under the Protocol and the procedures and mechanisms established in decision BS-I/3 of 27 February 2004;
4. Requests Parties to review their national records published in the Biosafety Clearing-House for accuracy, including by verifying that the information made available on the Biosafety Clearing-House is up to date and complete and that the actual documents containing the information are uploaded correctly or, in cases where links to the documents are provided, that the links are functional, noting that the Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol will be reviewing the information on the Biosafety Clearing-House at its twentieth meeting, in accordance with the obligations under the Protocol and the procedures and mechanisms established in decision BS-I/3;

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>2</sup> Decision 14/25, annex.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

5. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to submit scientific information to improve the quality of information published in the Biosafety Clearing-House;

6. *Urges* Parties to start the preparation of their fifth national reports on the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol and ensure the publication thereof in the Biosafety Clearing-House in a timely manner;

7. *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, and urges potential donor country Parties, other Governments and funding organizations to provide funds to continue the project and other capacity-building projects related to the Biosafety Clearing-House and to support the network of regional advisers;

8. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility, and invites other relevant funds, to continue to make funds available to Parties in support of activities related to the Biosafety Clearing-House and national biosafety websites;

9. *Welcomes* the collaborative activities of the Secretariat of the Convention with biosafety-related organizations and the linkages between the Biosafety Clearing-House and other databases;

10. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue to maintain the Biosafety Clearing-House and to make necessary improvements to it, including those recommended by the Informal Advisory Committee and those requested by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol, and to the functionalities of various parts of the platform, so as to avoid creating new thematic pages;

(b) To continue to translate pages of the Biosafety Clearing-House, including new features and content as they are developed, to ensure the availability of the platform in the six official languages of the United Nations;

(c) To develop a customized biosafety national website template using the Bioland tool and to make it available to Parties wishing to build a national biosafety website with linkages to the Biosafety Clearing-House;

(d) To continue to develop capacity-building materials and to provide training on the new functionalities of the Biosafety Clearing-House;

(e) To continue to collaborate with other biosafety-related databases and organizations.

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