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COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE UNDER THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

Seventeenth meeting

Online, 15-17 April 2020

# REVISED Annotated provisional agenda

# INTRODUCTION

1. The Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol held its sixteenth meeting from 29 to 31 May 2019. The seventeenth meeting of the Committee will be held from 15 to 17 April 2020.
2. The provisional agenda for the meeting has been prepared on the basis of the workplan for the seventeenth meeting of the Committee, taking into consideration, among other things, the cyclical organization of work agreed by the Committee at its eighth meeting,[[1]](#footnote-1) standing items, as well as relevant actions taken by the Committee at its previous meetings.
3. In view of the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the meeting will be held through a combination of live virtual sessions and online discussions on the collaborative portal, as outlined in annex I.[[2]](#footnote-2)

# ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

1. The Chair of the Committee, Mr. Rigobert Ntep, will open the meeting at 8 a.m. EDT on Wednesday, 15 April 2020.[[3]](#footnote-3)

# ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

**2.1. Adoption of the agenda**

1. The Committee may wish to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda proposed by the Secretariat ([CBD/CP/CC/17/1](https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/dda2/1c8e/5b04f8fa0bae2ab29d7545f0/cp-cc-17-01-en.pdf)).

2.2. Organization of work

1. The Committee may wish to consider the proposed organization of work as contained in annex I below. The language of the meeting will be English.
2. A list of documents for the meeting is contained in annex II below. The documents will be made available on the Secretariat’s website at <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/CPCC-17>.
3. An information note is being issued with details of logistical arrangements for the meeting, including information on travel, visa requirements, accommodation and other similar matters.

**ITEM 3. COMPLIANCE WITH THE OBLIGATION TO SUBMIT NATIONAL REPORTS**

1. Article 33 of the Protocol requires each Party to report to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on measures it has taken to implement the Protocol.
2. In its decision [CP-9/5](https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cp-mop-09/cp-mop-09-dec-05-en.pdf), the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol adopted a reporting format and requested Parties to use it for the fourth national report on the implementation of the Protocol. It requested Parties to submit their fourth national report in an official language of the United Nations, 12 months prior to the tenth meeting of the Parties to the Protocol. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol encouraged Parties to respond to all questions in the reporting format and stressed the importance of the timely submission of the fourth national reports.
3. Through notification 2019-19, dated 13 February 2019, Parties were invited to submit their fourth national report no later than 1 October 2019 in an official language of the United Nations.
4. Under this agenda item, the Committee will review compliance by Parties with the obligation to submit their national reports, focusing on the submission of fourth national reports. The Committee will have before it a note by the Executive Secretary providing an overview of compliance by Parties with the obligation to report in accordance with Article 33 of the Protocol (CBD/CP/CC/17/2).

# ITEM 4. INPUT TO THE FOURTH ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL AND FINAL EVALUATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL FOR THE PERIOD 2011-2020

1. Article 35 of the Protocol requires that the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol undertake a periodic evaluation of the effectiveness of the Protocol.
2. In its decision [CP-9/6](https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cp-mop-09/cp-mop-09-dec-06-en.pdf), the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol decided that the fourth assessment and review of the Cartagena Protocol will be combined with the final evaluation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol for the period 2011‑2020 and requested the Liaison Group on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Compliance Committee, working in a complementary and non-duplicative manner, to contribute to this process and to submit their conclusions for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting.
3. At its sixteenth meeting, the Committee decided that the scope of its input to this process would focus on operational objective 3.1 of the Strategic Plan and the experience that the Committee had gained in implementing its supportive role of assisting Parties in complying with their obligations under the Protocol.
4. The document prepared by the Secretariat under this agenda item (CBD/CP/CC/17/3) provides a summary of progress made towards achieving operational objective 3.1 on the basis of information from the fourth national reports as a primary source and the Biosafety Clearing-House, and taking into consideration the experience of the Compliance Committee.
5. An analysis and synthesis of information on the implementation of the Protocol will be made available as addendum CBD/SBI/3/3/Add.1. This document provides a full analysis of the status and trends in the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety on the basis of a review of progress towards achieving the operational objectives of the Strategic Plan.
6. The Committee will be invited to consider the information provided and develop its input to the fourth assessment and review of the Protocol and the final evaluation of the Strategic Plan for the Protocol.

# ITEM 5. GENERAL ISSUES OF COMPLIANCE

1. At its sixteenth meeting, the Committee reviewed the completeness of information on the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) regarding national contacts. In this context, it identified Parties that had not made available in the BCH the relevant details setting out their point of contact for the purpose of receiving notifications under Article 17 and Parties that had not informed the Secretariat of the name and contact details of their focal points and their competent national authorities. The Committee decided on follow-up actions.
2. The document prepared by the Secretariat under this agenda item (CBD/CP/CC/17/4) provides an overview of actions taken since the Committee’s sixteenth meeting concerning general issues of compliance. The Committee will be invited to consider the information provided and discuss any possible further steps.

# ITEM 6. INDIVIDUAL CASES OF NON-COMPLIANCE

1. At its fourteenth meeting, the Committee decided to include a standing item on the agenda of its future meetings to facilitate consideration of ongoing individual cases of non-compliance.
2. At its sixteenth meeting, in the context of its review of individual cases of non-compliance, the Committee considered non-compliance by Montenegro, which had failed to submit national reports over multiple reporting cycles, and decided on follow-up actions.
3. The Committee also considered compliance by Parties with the obligation to introduce the necessary and appropriate measures to implement the Protocol, in accordance with Article 2 of the Protocol. In this context, it reviewed responses received from those Parties which it had requested to develop a compliance action plan setting out a timeline and actions required to achieve compliance with their obligations under Article 2, paragraph 1, of the Protocol. The Committee decided on follow-up actions.
4. The document prepared by the Secretariat under this agenda item (CBD/CP/CC/17/5) provides an overview of activities taken since the Committee’s sixteenth meeting concerning individual cases of non-compliance and the results achieved in this regard. The Committee will be invited to consider the information provided and discuss any possible further steps.

# ITEM 7. UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK AND RELATED PROCESSES

1. At its sixteenth meeting, the Committee discussed the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and related processes. The Committee decided to include an item on this matter on the agenda of its seventeenth meeting. Accordingly, under this item, the Secretariat will provide an update on the post-2020 process, particularly as it relates to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

# ITEM 8. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL AT ITS TENTH MEETING

1. The practice of the Committee is to submit a consolidated report on its two meetings held since the last meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, including recommendations, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its forthcoming meeting.
2. Under this agenda item, the Committee is invited to prepare and adopt a consolidated report on the work of its sixteenth and seventeenth meetings, including recommendations, for submission to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its tenth meeting for its consideration and appropriate action.

ITEM 9. OTHER MATTERS

1. Under this item, members of the Compliance Committee may raise and discuss any other matters relevant to the functions of the Committee.

ITEM 10. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

1. The Committee will consider and adopt the report on the work of its seventeenth meeting.

ITEM 11. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

1. The seventeenth meeting of the Compliance Committee is expected to close at 12.30 p.m. EDT on Friday, 17 April 2020.

*Annex I*

# PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Date and time**(GMT -4)* | *Agenda item* | *Format (platform)* | *Notes*  |
| **Wednesday, 15 April 2020** |
| 8 – 9 am | Item 1. Opening of the meeting | Online meeting (*GoToWebinar*) |  |
| Item 2. Organizational matters 2.1. Adoption of the agenda2.2. Organization of work | Online meeting (*GoToWebinar*) | Introduction SCBD, including on procedural arrangements and organization of the meeting  |
| 9 - 11 am | Item 3. Compliance with the obligation to submit national reports | Online meeting (*GoToWebinar*) | Introduction SCBD; Discussion  |
| 11 am – 12.30 pm | Item 4. Input to the fourth assessment and review of the Cartagena Protocol and final evaluation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol for the period 2011-2020 | Online meeting (*GoToWebinar*) | Introduction SCBD; Initial discussion agenda item, allowing for first reactions on documents; Chair to explain approach and purpose of online discussions (see below) |
| 12.30 pm – 16 April, 3 am  | *Item 4 continued* | Online discussions ([*Collaborative Portal of the Compliance Committee*](http://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/portal_art34/cc_main.shtml))[[4]](#footnote-4) | Online Portal discussion on:1) progress reported and role of the Committee as summarized in Section II(B) of the document; 2) recommendations provided in section III. |
| **Thursday, 16 April 2020** |
| 8 - 9.30 am | *Item 4 continued* | Online meeting (*GoToWebinar*) | Discussion and recommendations  |
| 9.30 - 11 am | Item 5. General issues of compliance | Online meeting (*GoToWebinar*) | Introduction SCBD; Discussion, focusing on next steps and recommendations |
| 11 am – 12 pm | Item 6. Individual cases of non-compliance | Online meeting (*GoToWebinar*) | Introduction SCBD; Discussion, focusing on next steps (defer to next meeting country-specific recommendations) |
| 12 - 12.30 pm | Item 7. Update on the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and related processes | Online meeting (*GoToWebinar*) | Presentation SCBD; Discussion |
| **Friday, 17 April 2020** |
| 8 am - 12.30 pm | Item 8. Report and recommendations of the Compliance Committee to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its tenth meeting | Online meeting (*GoToWebinar*) | Discussion |
| Item 9. Other matters | Online meeting (*GoToWebinar*) | Discussion |
| Item 10. Adoption report | Online meeting (*GoToWebinar*) | Discussion |
| Item 11. Closure of the meeting | Online meeting (*GoToWebina*r) |  |

Annex II

# LIST OF DOCUMENTS

*Symbol* *Title*

CBD/CP/CC/17/1 Provisional agenda

CBD/CP/CC/17/1/Add.1 Annotations to the provisional agenda

CBD/CP/CC/17/2 Overview of compliance with the obligation to submit national reports

CBD/CP/CC/17/3 Fourth assessment and review of the Cartagena Protocol and final evaluation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol for the period 2011-2020: overview for the Compliance Committee

CBD/CP/CC/17/4 General issues of compliance

CBD/CP/CC/17/5 Individual cases of non-compliance

CBD/SBI/3/3/Add.1 Analysis of information for the assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and final evaluation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol for the period 2011-2020

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1. See UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/8/3, <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/bs/bscc-08/official/bscc-08-03-en.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The live virtual discussions will be hosted on GoToWebinar. Information will be sent to the members by e-mail prior to the meeting. The online discussions will take place on the Collaborative Portal of the Compliance Committee, which can be accessed at: <https://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/portal_art34/cc_main.shtml>. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. EDT (Eastern Daylight Time) is the time in Montreal, which is equivalent to Greenwich Mean Time minus 4 hours (GMT-4) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <https://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/portal_art34/cc_main.shtml> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)