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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

Item 8 of the provisional agenda*

CAPACITY-BUILDING

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present document is meant to facilitate the consideration by the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol of: (a) the status of implementation of the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (2012-2020) (Framework and Action Plan);¹ (b) the capacity-building activities carried out by the Secretariat in the context of the Short-term Action Plan (2017-2020) to Enhance and Support Capacity-Building for the Implementation of the Convention and its Protocols;² and (c) a preparatory process for the development of a framework for capacity-building, following the expiry of the current Framework and Action Plan, as well as the Short-term Action Plan, in 2020.

2. Section II below contains a summary report on the status of implementation of the Framework and Action Plan containing a synthesis of information submitted by Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, and conclusions drawn in this regard by the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety. Section III contains a summary of biosafety capacity-building activities carried out by the Secretariat in the context of the Short-term Action Plan (2017-2020). Section IV presents considerations for the preparatory process for a long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 for the Convention and its Protocols, and a follow-up to the action plan for capacity-building for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol. Finally, section V contains elements of a draft decision that builds on recommendation 2/8 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation with elements arising from the conclusions of the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety at its twelfth meeting.³

* CBD/CP/MOP/9/1.

¹ Decision BS-VI/3, annex I.

² Decision XIII/23, annex.

³ The twelfth meeting of the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety was held in Montreal, Canada, from 5 to 7 September 2018. At the meeting, the Liaison Group considered the report on the status of implementation of the Framework and Action Plan, based on submissions made by Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations. The Liaison Group also considered how it would provide an input to the development of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020. The report of the meeting will be available as information document CBD/CP/LG-CB/12/3.

II. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK AND ACTION PLAN FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY (2012-2020)

3. In decision [BS-VI/3](#), the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety adopted the Framework and Action Plan, and requested the Executive Secretary to prepare, for consideration at its regular meetings, reports on the status of implementation of the Framework and Action Plan on the basis of the submissions made by Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations.

4. With a view to preparing its report for consideration by the meeting of the Parties, the Secretariat issued a notification⁴ inviting Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to submit information on the status of implementation of the Framework and Action Plan, including a summary of the results of the activities undertaken, good practices and lessons learned. Submissions were received from 28 Parties, one other Government and one indigenous peoples and local communities' organization.⁵

5. A detailed synthesis of the information submitted was prepared for review by the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety at its twelfth meeting⁶ and is available as information document CBD/CP/MOP/9/INF/1.

6. Subsection A below, provides a summary report on the status of implementation of the Framework and Action Plan, based on submissions by Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations; and subsection B presents the conclusions drawn by the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety in this regard.

A. Summary report on the status of implementation of the Framework and Action Plan

Focal area 1 - National biosafety frameworks

7. The information submitted to the Secretariat suggested that good progress had been made towards the “development and implementation/enforcement of national biosafety policies and laws and the implementing regulations or guidelines”,⁷ with a majority of Parties reporting that biosafety policies and laws were, at least to some extent, in place. However, according to the submissions, several Parties still did not have in place any biosafety policies or laws.

Focal area 2 - Risk assessment and risk management

8. Parties continued to prioritize this focal area and a large number of activities were reported. Overall, some progress had been made under this focal area but more still needed to be done. In line with decision CP-VIII/3, continued prioritization of this focal area during the remaining period of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol and of the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building might be advisable.

Focal area 3 - Handling, transport, packaging and identification

9. There had been some improvement in the implementation of this focal area since the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building was adopted in 2012, but more still needed to be done. Countries recognized the importance of this focal area for the implementation of the Protocol. However, the capacity for the handling, transport, packaging and identification varied significantly among countries. For example,

⁴ Notification 2018-036, issued on 9 April 2018 (Ref. No.: SCBD/SPS/AL/MPM/MW/87278).

⁵ Twenty-eight Parties: Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Germany, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Peru, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe; one other Government: Argentina; and one indigenous peoples and local communities organization: Society for Wetland Biodiversity Conservation – Nepal (IPLCs Nepal)). The original submissions are available at http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb_art22_submissions.shtml.

⁶ The synthesis of information was presented in [CBD/CP/LG-CB/12/2](#).

⁷ Activity 1.1 under focal area 1 of the Framework and Action Plan.

there was wide variation among countries in the number of laboratories that had been accredited for detection of living modified organisms. More needed to be done in terms of training of laboratory personnel and networking among laboratories and countries. This focal area might continue to be a priority during the remaining period of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol and of the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building.

Focal area 4 - Liability and redress

10. Few countries provided details on most of the planned activities under this focal area. According to the information submitted, overall progress under this focal area had been moderate. It was expected that the entry into force, on 5 March 2018, of the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress would increase the demand for more activities in this area, including for capacity-building support.

Focal area 5 - Public awareness, education and participation

11. The information contained in the submissions suggested that this focal area was where most activities in the context of the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building had been carried out. Nevertheless, in practice, the number and scope of activities carried out under this focal area varied significantly among countries, with only a few countries reporting on the implementation of the full range of activities foreseen in the Framework and Action Plan. As noted by many countries, this continued to be an important focal area under the Framework and Action Plan, and more work needed to be done to achieve the expected outcomes in the Strategic Plan.

Focal area 6 - Information-sharing

12. Among the submissions received, most Parties reported that they had established national and regional infrastructures for accessing the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH), and that measures had been taken to update the information regularly. Several Parties reported in their submissions that they had created national websites. Among the submissions received, many Parties reported that BCH training had been organized for specific target groups. Several Parties expressed their interest in continuation of the BCH capacity-building projects at national and (sub)regional levels. The information submitted suggested that moderate progress had been made under this focal area. It was expected that support provided through the global UNEP-GEF “BCH III Project” would help Parties further implementing this focal area. Three Parties expressed their dissatisfaction for not having been selected for the “BCH III Project”.

Focal area 7 - Biosafety education and training

13. The activities under this focal area was carried out to varying degrees among countries. While assessing training needs, developing curricula and establishing networks seemed to have been undertaken by many countries, follow-up activities focusing on actual development or strengthening of capacities had been limited. Further efforts might be required towards developing and implementing programmatic approaches to educational opportunities in biosafety that were focused on structured long-term training rather than on short-term isolated activities.

B. Conclusions drawn by the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety

14. Following a review of the information on the status of implementation of the Framework and Action Plan, the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety, at its twelfth meeting, agreed that the operational objectives relating to the development of national biosafety legislation, risk assessment, detection and identification of living modified organisms, and public awareness, education and participation, as identified in decision VIII/3, continue to be relevant for the remaining period of the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building.

15. In view of the recent entry into force of the Supplementary Protocol, the Liaison Group further agreed that, in conjunction with carrying out activities to support capacity-building on the Cartagena Protocol, Parties should also prioritize capacity-building activities on liability and redress as set out under focal area 4 of the Framework and Action Plan, in the remaining period of the Framework and Action Plan and beyond.

16. The Liaison Group noted the importance of adequate funding to ensure sustainable support to Parties in carrying out capacity-building activities, as well as the importance of cooperation, partnerships and synergies with other international organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, and other relevant stakeholders to enhance efficiency in capacity-building.

17. The Liaison Group recognized the recent efforts by Parties to strengthen capacities for biosafety mainstreaming, and welcomed the support provided by the Secretariat. The Liaison Group also noted that biosafety mainstreaming and information sharing would be important for further strengthening national biosafety frameworks in the remaining period of the Framework and Action Plan and beyond. Furthermore, the Liaison Group noted the importance of supporting capacity-building activities on socioeconomic considerations in a follow-up to the Framework and Action Plan.

III. SUMMARY OF BIOSAFETY CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY THE SECRETARIAT

18. In its decision XIII/23, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention adopted the Short-term Action Plan (2017-2020) to Enhance and Support Capacity-Building for the Implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, containing, in its section D, capacity-building activities to support the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol to be supported by the Secretariat.

19. In decision CP-VIII/3, the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol requested the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources and in collaboration with relevant organizations, to facilitate and support implementation of the priority capacity-building activities for supporting the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety contained in the Short-term Action Plan.

20. Since the adoption of the Short-term Action Plan for Capacity-Building, the Secretariat has implemented a number of capacity-building activities to support the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol, with support from various donors, including the European Union, the Japan Biodiversity Fund and the Korea Biosafety Capacity-Building Initiative. The following is an overview of the capacity-building activities undertaken by the Secretariat and pursuant to the implementation of the biosafety activities in the Short-term Action Plan:

(a) Three workshops on strengthening capacities for the integrated implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress, and the Convention on Biological Diversity were held: (a) a workshop for the Asian subregion, held in Kuala Lumpur (6-10 November 2017), attended by 28 participants from 10 Parties; (b) a workshop for the African region, held in Lilongwe (19-23 February 2018), attended by 26 participants from 10 Parties; (c) a workshop for the Latin America and Caribbean region, held in Mexico City (16-20 April 2018), attended by 42 participants from 11 Parties. Participants included national focal points for the Cartagena Protocol and for the Convention, coordinators of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and officials involved in the implementation or ratification of the Supplementary Protocol. The workshops aimed at providing tools for strengthening integrated implementation and mainstreaming biosafety into national legal, policy and institutional frameworks. Participants shared national experiences regarding the processes and practical steps taken to integrate biosafety into national laws, policies and institutional frameworks. They were introduced to concepts and tools to identify entry points and further opportunities for integration of biosafety concerns into a variety of sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, laws and institutional frameworks. Participants also developed a draft national mainstreaming strategy setting out steps to achieve integrated implementation of biosafety. The workshops also aimed at enhancing the understanding of the core provisions of the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress and the requirements for its national implementation, including integration into existing regulatory frameworks, national instruments and policies;

(b) Two training workshops on the detection and identification of living modified organisms were held: one for the Asian and Pacific region, held in Kuala Lumpur (20-24 March 2017), attended by 14 participants from 13 Parties; and one for francophone Africa, held in Tunis (5-9 March 2018), attended by 19 participants from 17 Parties in the region. The objectives of the workshops were to provide theoretical

and hands-on training on sampling, detection and identification of living modified organisms in the context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and on laboratory methodologies used for the analysis of samples; and to share experiences and assess national needs and gaps for the effective implementation of the relevant outcomes under the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol;

(c) A webinar, “Asia-Pacific Science-Policy Dialogue”, was held on 26 January 2018, in response to requests made, during the Asia-Pacific workshop on the detection and identification of living modified organisms, for the Secretariat to facilitate the exchange of views among policymakers and scientists to discuss the strengths and limitations of methods for the detection of living modified organisms in order to inform policymaking and implementation, including those policies that set requirements for identification of living modified organisms and their quantification by the exporters. A total of 45 participants from 11 Parties in the Asian region were nominated to take part in the webinar and the final number of participants was 35 from 10 Parties;

(d) The Secretariat facilitated an online discussion on the training manual on the detection and identification of living modified organisms from 2 to 16 April 2018 with a view to implementing decision CP-VIII/16, in which the Secretariat was requested to continue working on the draft training manual, in an expeditious manner, in collaboration with the Network of Laboratories for the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms. A total of 16 participants from 13 Parties and 1 non-Party contributed to the online discussion;

(e) The Secretariat invited Parties to provide information regarding their capacity and needs in the detection and identification of living modified organisms, including a list of laboratories and their specific activities.⁸ A total of 32 submissions were received and information was synthesized by the Secretariat for consideration by the Parties at their ninth meeting;

(f) Two workshops on developing capacity for national border control of living modified organisms were held. The first was convened for small island developing States in the Caribbean, in Saint Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago (17-19 October 2016) and was attended by 25 participants from 11 countries.⁹ The second was held for Pacific small island developing States in Suva (27-29 March 2017), with 39 participants from 11 countries in the subregion in attendance. The objectives of the workshops were to introduce frontline customs and border control officials to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and its requirements regarding the handling, transport, packaging and identification of living modified organisms. Participants also received training on the techniques and methodologies that may be used for the sampling of shipments and the detection of living modified organisms, and shared national experiences and assessed relevant subregional needs and gaps;

(g) Two training courses on risk assessment of living modified organisms were organized. The first was held for the Latin American region in Panama City (20-24 August 2018) and was attended by 40 participants from 15 Parties and 2 non-Parties in the region; a second was planned for Central and Eastern Europe, to be held in Minsk (24-28 September 2018). The objectives of the workshops are to provide theoretical and practical training for participants on the risk assessment process (concepts, steps, methodology and key issues to consider); and hands-on training in the evaluation of case studies of living modified organisms for environmental release, identifying protection goals and applying the risk assessment methodology to develop risk scenarios to assess;

21. The Secretariat also developed online capacity-building materials, in collaboration with the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow and with the financial support of the Japan Biodiversity Fund. These included an e-learning module and toolkit on mainstreaming biosafety; an interactive online application to develop a biosafety mainstreaming strategy; and an e-learning module for the implementation of the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress. These materials are available

⁸ Notification 2017-141, issued on 14 December 2017 (Ref. No.: SCBD/SPS/DC/MM/DA/87054).

⁹ This workshop was not included in the report on capacity-building activities carried out by the Secretariat submitted to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties at its eighth meeting.

through the Secretariat's Biodiversity e-Learning Platform.¹⁰ All e-learning materials will also be made available in French and Spanish.

22. In the context of the second phase of the project on "Integrated implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress and the Convention on Biological Diversity at the national level", funded by the Government of Japan through the Japan Biodiversity Fund, 10 Parties are carrying out activities at the national level to strengthen mainstreaming efforts, including the development of a desk study documenting experience with integrated implementation and the development of a mainstreaming strategy for further integration of biosafety concerns into national biodiversity strategies and action plans, other sectoral and cross-sectoral laws, policies and institutional structures, and intersectoral coordination mechanisms. The national activities involve national workshops through which cross-sectoral involvement and dialogues are fostered to create an environment conducive to achieving the objectives set out in the national biosafety mainstreaming strategies.

IV. LONG-TERM STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING BEYOND 2020 AND ACTION PLAN FOR CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

23. In its decision XIII/23, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to initiate a process for preparing a long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, ensuring its alignment with the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the work of the Protocols.¹¹

24. In its recommendation 2/8, the Subsidiary Body on Implementation recommended that the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its ninth meeting, among other things, (a) welcome the terms of reference for a study to provide an information base for the preparation of a long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020,¹² (b) request that aspects relevant to the Cartagena Protocol be considered in the study, and (c) request the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety to contribute to the development of the draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020.

25. Pending relevant decisions by the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol, the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety, at its twelfth meeting, welcomed the possibility of contributing to the development of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 for the Convention and its Protocols, and considered, among other things, how it might contribute to the development of the biosafety component of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020. The Liaison Group noted that consultations with biosafety experts, including those with expertise on the Supplementary Protocol, should be carried out as necessary to inform the development of a biosafety component in the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 and to provide further input to the process, as appropriate.

26. The Liaison Group also noted that, once the current Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol (2012-2020) came to an end, a specific action plan for capacity-building for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety would be needed. The specific action plan for capacity-building would cover implementation of the

¹⁰ <https://scbd.unssc.org/course/index.php?categoryid=3>.

¹¹ Information regarding the process for the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework is available at <https://www.cbd.int/post2020>.

¹² As contained in the annex to recommendation 2/8 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.

Cartagena Protocol and its Supplementary Protocol and would be aligned with the specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.¹³

27. Furthermore, the Liaison Group agreed that its contribution to the development of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 and the drafting of the specific action plan for capacity-building for implementation of the Cartagena Protocol, as appropriate, could be done at its thirteenth meeting.¹⁴

V. SUGGESTED ELEMENTS OF A DRAFT DECISION¹⁵

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

Recalling decisions [BS-VI/3](#) and [CP-VIII/3](#),

1. *Takes note* of the progress report on the implementation of the short-term action plan (2017-2020) to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols;¹⁶

2. *Also takes note* of the status of implementation of the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (2012-2020);

3. *Urges* Parties, for the remaining period of the Framework and Action Plan, to prioritize and focus on, as appropriate, operational objectives relating to the development of national biosafety legislation, risk assessment, detection and identification of living modified organisms, and public awareness, education and participation, and *takes note* of the importance of biosafety mainstreaming and information sharing for further strengthening national biosafety frameworks in the remaining period of the Framework and Action Plan and beyond;

4. *Also urges* Parties to prioritize capacity-building activities on liability and redress as set out under focal area 4 of the Framework and Action Plan, in the remaining period of the Framework and Action Plan, in view of the recent entry into force of the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress;

5. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations in a position to do so to provide additional financial and technical support to enable developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, to further implement the Framework and Action Plan;

6. *Takes note* of the outcomes of the twelfth meeting of the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building on Biosafety, and *acknowledges* the need for a specific action plan for capacity-building for implementation of the Cartagena Protocol and its Supplementary Protocol that is aligned with the specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and complementary to the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020;

7. *Takes note* of decision XIV/--, in which the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to commission a study, subject to the availability of resources, to provide an

¹³ The Secretariat has prepared a note (CBD/CP/MOP/9/7) on the preparation for a follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020 for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its ninth meeting.

¹⁴ The fourteenth meeting of the Liaison Group would focus on the fourth assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol and the final evaluation of the Strategic Plan, as well as review the final drafts of (a) the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol and (b) the specific action plan for capacity-building for implementation of the Cartagena Protocol, taking into account information provided in the fourth national reports.

¹⁵ Paragraphs 1, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the draft decision were taken or adapted from paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, respectively, of Subsidiary Body on Implementation recommendation 2/8, part III. Paragraphs 2 to 6 and 12 to 13 of the draft decision are new paragraphs based on the conclusions of the Liaison Group at its twelfth meeting.

¹⁶ The updated report is contained in information document CBD/COP/14/INF/10.

information base for the preparation of a long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, *welcomes* the terms of reference for the study annexed to that decision, and *requests* that aspects relevant to the Cartagena Protocol be considered in the study;

8. *Invites* Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations to provide the Executive Secretary with views and suggestions on possible elements of a specific action plan for capacity-building on biosafety, covering the Cartagena Protocol and its Supplementary Protocol, as well as on the need to include a biosafety component in the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020;

9. *Also invites* Parties, as well as indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations to participate in the consultative workshops and online discussion forums on the draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, in conjunction with the preparatory process for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

10. *Requests* the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety, at its thirteenth meeting, to contribute to the development of (a) the draft action plan for capacity-building for implementation of the Cartagena Protocol and its Supplementary Protocol and (b) the draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, as appropriate, and, at its fourteenth meeting, to review the final draft of the action plan for capacity-building on biosafety, taking into account information provided in the fourth national reports under the Cartagena Protocol;

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to submit (a) a draft action plan for capacity-building for implementation of the Cartagena Protocol and its Supplementary Protocol and (b) a draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting and for subsequent consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its tenth meeting;

12. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources and in collaboration with relevant organizations, to facilitate and support implementation of the priority capacity-building activities for supporting the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety contained in the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (2012-2020), as contained in annex I to decision BS-VI/3, and in accordance with the Short-term Action Plan (2017-2020) to Enhance and Support Capacity-Building for the Implementation of the Convention and its Protocols as annexed to decision XIII/23 of the Conference of the Parties;

13. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to ensure an adequate level of participation of biosafety experts, including those with expertise on the Supplementary Protocol, during consultations throughout the development of the strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020.
