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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**
**Twelfth meeting**
Yerevan, 19–30 October 2026
Agenda item 10
**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*

1. *Welcomes with appreciation* the work of the Informal Advisory Committee on the Biosafety Clearing-House, including the recommendations made at its thirteenth meeting[1] and the support provided by the Committee for the development of the customized biosafety national website template using the Bioland tool;

2. *Welcomes* progress towards Goal A.2 of the implementation plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,[2,3] in particular the increase in Parties publishing mandatory information through the Biosafety Clearing-House, and the ongoing efforts made by Parties to maintain accurate and complete information in the Biosafety Clearing-House;

3. *Encourages* Parties to continue to review their national records systematically, with a view to ensuring that the information made available through the Biosafety Clearing-House is accurate, up to date and complete;

4. *Recognizes* the need for continued capacity-building support for Parties in relation to the Biosafety Clearing-House, including developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition;

5. *Reminds* Parties of their obligation to publish the final decisions taken regarding the import or release of living modified organisms and corresponding summaries of risk assessments through the Biosafety Clearing-House, in compliance with Article 20 of the Cartagena Protocol;

6. *Invites* Parties to review the biosafety experts national records published through the Biosafety Clearing-House and associated with each Party, with a view to ensuring that the list of experts is up to date, outdated records are removed and all relevant experts are included;

7. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to make available relevant scientific information with sufficient technical detail when submitting reference records through the Biosafety Clearing-House to support their timely review, validation and publication;

[1] CBD/CP/BCH-IAC/13/3/Rev.1, annex I.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.
[3] Decision 10/3, annex.

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

(a) To continue to maintain the Biosafety Clearing-House and to make any necessary improvements to it, including those recommended by the Informal Advisory Committee on the Biosafety Clearing-House at its thirteenth meeting;[4]

(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 continue to update and publish reference records in the Biosafety Clearing-House and to support Parties in updating the biosafety experts national records referred to in paragraph 6 above;

(d) To provide practical training and technical support to Parties, at their request, for the ongoing maintenance of national records in the Biosafety Clearing-House, including support for users with limited Internet connectivity, taking into account paragraph 1 (b) of Article 20 of the Protocol;

(e) To make the new customized biosafety national website template available to all Parties wishing to develop a national biosafety website, support Parties using the Hermes national website tool in transitioning to the new template and provide capacity-building materials and training on the use and maintenance of the new template, ensuring that the materials are available in the six official languages of the United Nations;

(f) To facilitate linkages with biosafety-related databases, including national biosafety information systems, through the use of the existing application programming interface and the embed tool;

(g) To continue to collaborate with other biosafety-related databases and organizations, with a view to improving the exchange of relevant scientific and technical information;

(h) To allocate adequate resources for the ongoing development of the Biosafety Clearing-House, including the timely roll-out of the customized biosafety national website template;

(i) To continue to improve the functionalities and common formats of the Biosafety Clearing-House in order to facilitate the submission and publication of information that Parties are required to make available under the Cartagena Protocol.

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[4] See CBD/CP/BCH-IAC/13/3/Rev.1.