**New Zealand Intervention:**

**SBI-3 Agenda Item 5: Implementation plan and capacity-building action plan for the Cartagena Protocol**

New Zealand acknowledges and commends the efforts undertaken over many months and meetings leading to the development of this draft implementation Plan for its consideration by the SBSTTA. New Zealand notes that this plan, once adopted, will cover the years 2021-2030, and believes it should be as robust as possible to ensure the effective implementation of the Cartagena Protocol. Therefore, New Zealand suggests additional objectives, indicators, key areas for capacity building, and capacity-building activities. In our view, these suggestions will add clarity and focus regarding human capability building and training in risk assessment, risk management, and detection of LMOs, which we hope will lead to more effective implementation of the Cartagena Protocol over the next ten years. We also suggest the encouragement of cooperation amongst Parties, where mutually agreed, to assist those with inadequate resources in their reporting and compliance obligations under the Protocol. As these suggestions are too lengthy for a three minute intervention, we will submit them to the Secretariat in writing, in the interests of transparency.

**New Zealand’s suggested changes to the Appendix:**

**A.1. Parties have in place functional national biosafety frameworks**

We suggest Indicator (c) is replaced with:

*(c) Percentage of Parties that have trained staff and have sufficient budgets to operationalise their national biosafety frameworks, including trained staff in competent national authorities on case-by-case risk assessment, and on risk management in the administration of the biosafety regulatory system.*

**A.3. Full information on the implementation of the Protocol is made available by Parties in a timely manner**

We suggest adding a point to capacity building activity (ii):

(ii) Develop tools to assist Parties in preparing and submitting their national reports, *including cooperation among Parties to assist parties with inadequate resources in the preparation and submission of their national reports.*

**A.4. Parties are in full compliance with the requirements of the Protocol**

we suggest the amendment of Indicator (a) to:

“Percentage of Parties that comply with their obligations under the Protocol, *as indicated in their national reports*”.

**A.5. Parties carry out scientifically sound risk assessments of LMOs, and manage and control identified risks to prevent adverse effects of LMOs on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity**

We suggest the addition of a new objective:

*A.5.3. “Parties build appropriate human capability (ie trained staff) in case-by-case risk assessment, risk management, and detection capacity”*.

We suggest adding a new indicator relevant to the objective above:

Indicator (e): Percentage of Parties that provide training to build risk assessment capacity for case-by-case risk and benefit assessment of LMOs.

We suggest adding a key area for capacity-building:

(5) Access to trained staff for risk assessment and risk management and detection capacity.

**A.8. Parties are able to detect and identify LMOs**

We suggest the addition of another Indicator:

Indicator (b): Percentage of Parties that have access to trained staff, infrastructure, certified reference material and budget for detection capacity.