



Twenty-sixth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-26)
13–18 May, 2024
Nairobi, Kenya

AGENDA ITEM 7: Detection and identification of Living Modified Organisms

DATE: 14 MAY 2024

Statement on behalf of the **International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB)** delivered by: Kamal Kumar Rai, Nepal Indigenous Forum for Biodiversity.

Madam Chair

I am speaking on behalf of the IIFB. We thank the Secretariat for preparation of the document.

The detection techniques and identification methods of living modified organisms (LMO) are more complex, sophisticated and are not well known by Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

We are aware that the LMO related information, the new detection and, the identification techniques are limited and lack a clear mechanism for authorization. Such technologies may cause adverse impacts to biodiversity and on Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

Therefore, the IIFB proposes that the **Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines** related to cultural, environmental, social and ethics impact assessments and Article 26 under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety related to socioeconomic impacts are taken into account. We also propose that the human right based approach, Free, Prior and Informed Consent, full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and other precautionary approach are taken into consideration.

Recommendations

The *Biosafety Technical Series 05* is still relevant and useful to the detection and identification of living modified organisms, and there is no need to update the training manual at this time but there is need to have cultural appropriated material related it.

Noting the limited information available on new techniques for detecting and identifying living modified organisms and the limited experience with detecting and identifying newly developed and unauthorized living modified organisms, **WITH POTENTIAL NEGATIVELY IMPACTS ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

1. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations, **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES** and the Network of Laboratories for the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms to share through the Biosafety Clearing-House technical reference materials and publications related to digital polymerase chain reaction and next-generation sequencing in order to complement Biosafety Technical Series 05: Training Manual on the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms in the Context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
3. *Urges* Parties, and invites international organizations, to provide financial resources to laboratories to strengthen the infrastructure for the detection and identification of living modified organisms, the formation of regional networks of laboratories and **AS CULTURAL**



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APPROPRIATE capacity-building activities; **WITH FULL AND EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES.**

4. *Requests* that the Secretariat:

(d) Continue efforts to collaborate with relevant organizations and provide capacity-building support to Parties **AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, LOCAL COMMUNITIES, WOMEN, AND YOUTH** in the field of detection and identification of living modified organisms.

The relevant inputs made on the draft recommendation will be submitted to the Secretariat.

We request Parties support.

Thank you very much Madam