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LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
REGIONAL MEETING ON THE BIOSAFETY
CLEARING-HOUSE
Lima, 4-6 September 2001

REPORT OF THE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN REGIONAL MEETING ON THE BIOSAFETY CLEARING-HOUSE

INTRODUCTION

A. Background

1. At its first meeting, held in Montpellier from 11 to 15 December 2000, the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (ICCP), recommended the development and implementation of the pilot phase of the Biosafety Clearing House and urged Governments to submit to the Executive Secretary their priority needs regarding capacities to participate in the pilot phase. ICCP requested the Executive Secretary to analyse the identified capacity-building and financial requirements of the developing countries, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition, as well as countries that are centres of origin and centres of genetic diversity, to enable their active participation in the pilot phase of the Biosafety Clearing-House.

2. The Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Meeting on the Biosafety Clearing-House was held in Lima from 4 to 6 September 2001 in support of this objective, to provide countries of the region with an opportunity to articulate their needs and expectations with regard to the implementation of this pilot phase.

3. This meeting was also intended to provide hands-on training on the operation of the pilot phase of the Biosafety Clearing House to familiarize participants with its operation.

B. Attendance

4. Each country Party to the Convention in Latin America and the Caribbean was invited to nominate one participant, preferably qualified in the fields of management of biosafety-related issues (such as notifications for decision-making); information-sharing systems and database-management; and/or experience with the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention. In response to that invitation, participants from the following countries were nominated by their respective focal points and attended the meeting: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Lucia, Uruguay and Venezuela.

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5. Representatives of the following bilateral donors and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations participated in the meeting as observers and/or resource persons:

(a) *Bilateral donors:* Canada, United States of America;

(b) *Intergovernmental organizations active in biosafety and/or information-exchange issues:* the Community of Andean Nations, the International Potato Center, United Nations Environment Programme/Global Environment Facility (UNEP/GEF Geneva).

(c) *Non-governmental organizations:* Peruvian Society of Environmental Lawyers (SPDA).

6. A representative of the ICCP Bureau also participated in the meeting.

7. The full list of participants is contained in annex II to the present report.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

8. The meeting began at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, 4 September 2001. Opening statements were made by Ms. Kirsty Galloway McLean, Scientific and Technical Programme Officer in the Biosafety Unit of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and also by the Honourable Dr. Diego Garcia Sayan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru.

9. On behalf of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Ms. Galloway McLean welcomed the participants and gave a brief introduction to the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH). She announced that, as recommended by the ICCP at its first meeting in Montpellier, the pilot phase of the BCH had been launched in April 2001 and was now operational. A toolkit had been prepared to assist countries to input data and in the establishment of national databases. She invited countries to use the meeting to identify their priority needs regarding capacities to participate in the BCH. Recalling that the BCH was established as part of the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, she informed participants that a regional capacity-building meeting on the clearing-house mechanism would follow directly after the current meeting on the BCH, in response to decision V/14 of the Conference of the Parties, in order to strengthen the synergies between the two mechanisms.

10. In conclusion, Ms. Galloway-McLean thanked the Minister for Foreign Affairs for coming to open the meeting and the participants for attending. She also thanked the Government of Peru for hosting the meeting and the Government of the United States for providing financial support.

11. In his opening remarks, the Mr. Garcia Sayan welcomed the participants to the two meetings. He noted that the meetings would provide the Latin America and the Caribbean region an opportunity to assess the current situation with regard to the implementation of the Biosafety Protocol and to express its specific needs and experiences to enable countries in the region to fulfil their commitments under the Protocol. He also noted that the Convention on Biological Diversity encouraged countries to exchange information, including results of scientific and socio-economic research, to enable effective management of their genetic resources and ensuring equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of those resources.

12. Mr. Garcia Sayan observed that Peru, as a developing country with a diversity of biological resources, needed to exchange information with other countries to enhance biosafety in the region. Likewise, training and improvement in access to modern technologies are needed to support the regional efforts to promote sustainable development. He emphasized that countries in the region needed to benefit from the scientific and technological advances in the developed countries. He observed that if the Latin America and the Caribbean region was to make optimum use of modern biotechnology, individual
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countries, regions and subregions would need to develop local scientific and technological expertise and institutions with an adequate biosafety regulatory capacity. It would also be critical to design and execute cooperative programmes to train and exchange experts and to promote joint research programmes, including joint ventures to develop appropriate technologies. He further observed that in the current era of globalization, the region faced a significant challenge to strengthen cooperation on environmental matters.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. Election of officers

13. At the 1st session of the meeting, on 4 September 2001, Ms. Antonietta Gutiérrez Rosati of Peru was elected to serve as Chair and Ms. Esther Argote of Cuba to serve as Rapporteur.

2.2. Adoption of agenda

14. The Regional Meeting adopted the following agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda proposed in document UNEP/CBD/BCH/LAC.Reg/1/1:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters:
 - 2.1. Election of officers;
 - 2.2. Adoption of the agenda;
 - 2.3. Organization of work.
3. Issues for in-depth consideration:
 - 3.1. Information exchange under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
 - 3.2. Existing biodiversity and biosafety information-exchange mechanisms in Latin America and the Caribbean;
 - 3.3. Building capacity for information exchange under the Protocol;
 - 3.4. Implementation of the pilot phase of the Biosafety Clearing-House.
4. Preparation of regional needs assessments and priorities for action.
5. Other matters.
6. Conclusions and recommendations.
7. Adoption of the report.
8. Closure of the meeting.

2.3. Organization of work

15. At its 1st session, on 4 September, the Regional Meeting approved the proposed programme of work as contained in annex II to the annotations to the provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/BCH/LAC.Reg/1/1/Add.1).

16. The Meeting agreed that it would work in plenary session, with contact groups being formed for a more in-depth discussion of particular issues if required.

ITEM 3. ISSUES FOR IN-DEPTH CONSIDERATION

3.1. Information exchange under the Biosafety Protocol

17. Agenda item 3.1 was considered at the 1st session of the meeting, on 4 September. Introducing the item, Ms. Galloway McLean highlighted the relevant issues to be discussed under the item, based on documents prepared for the first meeting of the ICCP, and proposed that the meeting should consider the following elements:

(a) Information exchange requirements under the Biosafety Protocol and outcomes of the first meeting of the ICCP;

(b) Outcomes of the African Regional Meeting on the Biosafety Clearing-House and the Clearing-House Mechanism, and possible implications for Latin America and the Caribbean.

18. She drew attention to two ICCP documents (UNEP/CBD/ICCP/1/3 and UNEP/CBD/ICCP/1/9) and also to the report of the African regional meeting (UNEP/CBD/Afr.Reg/1/2), which elaborated upon those issues. She then made a presentation on information-exchange requirements under the Biosafety Protocol.

19. Mr. Marcos Silva, Programme Officer, Clearing-House Mechanism of the Convention Secretariat, gave a presentation on the outcomes of the African regional meeting and highlighted the main recommendations.

Discussion

20. In the ensuing discussion, comments were made by the participants from Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Grenada, and Peru.

21. There was general agreement regarding the need for capacity-building, including institutional and human and financial resources, to enable countries to manage the procedures required under the Protocol, in order for effective use of the Biosafety Clearing-House. One participant raised the issue of the capacity for countries to manage confidential information as required under the Protocol. It was noted that there would also be a need for countries to manage the issue of intellectual property rights arising from the creation of new information systems. Participants also discussed the importance of reviewing existing technical infrastructures and assessing capacities to access and use information technologies and telecommunications.

22. There was also general agreement regarding the importance of providing financial resources to establish the infrastructure required to implement an Internet-based Biosafety Clearing-House. One participant also noted the need to include alternative technologies in the development of information-exchange mechanisms.

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3.2. Biodiversity and biosafety information-exchange mechanisms in Latin America and the Caribbean

23. Agenda item 3.2 was considered at the 1st session of the meeting, on 4 September. The item was introduced by the Chair, who invited participants to review issues relating to the status of existing mechanisms of biodiversity and biosafety information exchange in Latin America and the Caribbean. Presentations were made by representatives of three organizations, namely: Ms. Luisa Elena Guinand, Program Coordinator, Environment and Sustainable Development Program of the Andean Community Secretariat; Dr. Esther Argote, Cuban Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment; and Ms. Maria Luisa del Rio of the Peruvian National Council of Environment.

24. Ms. Guinand made a presentation on the Andean Biosafety Strategy. She outlined the objectives of the subregional group comprised of the Andean nations (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela) and discussed the strategic guidelines under preparation. Dr. Argote described the national programme being implemented in Cuba for the management of biosafety. Ms. del Rio outlined the deliberations of the Working Group established to implement actions related to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Discussion

25. In the ensuing discussion, comments were made by the participants from Colombia, Costa Rica and Grenada.

26. The importance of using standardized formats and procedures for exchanging information was emphasized during the discussion. It was agreed that specific indicators would need to be identified to ensure that the specific objectives identified at this meeting are being realized. One participant noted the importance of improving communication among national focal points and competent national authorities. It was suggested that this could be accomplished through a regional meeting of national focal points and competent national authorities. Additionally, it was suggested that technical cooperation could be improved by the exchange of specialists within the region.

3.3. Building capacity for information exchange under the Convention and the Protocol

27. Agenda item 3.3 was considered at the 1st session of the meeting, on 4 September. The item was introduced by the Chair, who invited participants to consider issues relevant to building capacity for information-exchange under the Cartagena Protocol.

28. A presentation was made by Mr. Giovanni Ferraiolo of UNEP/GEF Geneva, who outlined the objectives of the UNEP/GEF project on Development of National Biosafety Frameworks, which would support national projects to establish biosafety frameworks, using a country-driven process. He noted that the Global Project had started in June 2001 and would run for three years. He also outlined a suggested flow chart for the development of national biosafety frameworks, and discussed the project components. He concluded with an explanation of how countries could apply for funding under the project.

Discussion

29. In the ensuing discussion, comments were made by the participants from Colombia, Costa Rica and Grenada.

30. One participant raised the importance of reviewing subregional initiatives to catalogue lessons learned and gain from experience. One participant raised the question of whether subregional and

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regional projects could be funded under the UNEP/GEF project. Mr. Ferraiolo responded that such projects could not be funded directly under the current project on development of national biosafety frameworks. Participants then highlighted the importance of regional initiatives being funded, such as those initiated by the Community of Andean Nations and the small island developing States, and noted that the meeting should request that funding organizations, such as the GEF, should support such initiatives.

31. The Chair was requested to prepare a summary of the main issues highlighted during the discussion under the preceding two agenda items, to be tabled for consideration at the next session of the meeting.

32. This agenda item was further discussed at the 2nd session of the meeting. Comments were made by the participants from Barbados, Colombia, Costa Rica, Grenada, Peru, and UNEP/GEF Geneva. The Chair agreed to revise the text on the basis of these discussions.

3.4. Implementation of the pilot phase of Biosafety Clearing-House

33. Agenda item 3.4 was considered at the 2nd session of the meeting, on 5 September. The item was introduced by the Chair. Mr. Silva from the Convention Secretariat made a presentation on the elements of the central portal and the management centre of the pilot phase of the Biosafety Clearing-House.

34. He described each category within the central portal, paying special attention to search and information retrieval mechanisms. Participants were invited to use the system and familiarize themselves with its operation.

35. Mr. Silva then described the operation of the management centre of pilot phase of the Biosafety Clearing-House, the mechanism that allows for remote registration of information. Special attention was paid to the development of controlled vocabularies and to the authentication and validation of registered information. Participants were invited to register information on a demonstration database that had been created for use during the meeting.

Discussion

36. During the training session, comments were made by the participants from Antigua and Barbuda, Chile, Colombia, Grenada, Mexico, Jamaica, Peru and the representative of UNEP/GEF Geneva.

37. Opening the discussion on the above agenda item, several participants noted with satisfaction the progress made in operationalizing the pilot phase of the Biosafety Clearing-House.

38. One participant asked if information registered in the BCH was required to be in English. The Secretariat clarified that the language of the pilot phase of the BCH was in the language of the other international biosafety information-exchange mechanisms with which it should be interoperable. However, the architecture of the system was designed to accommodate the six official United Nations languages.

39. One participant inquired as to the procedure required to gain access to the BCH. A representative of the Secretariat replied that the BCH is a transparent and open system, and that the only component of the BCH with restricted access is the management centre, the mechanism where Governments were able to register information.

40. The issue of the development of controlled vocabularies was raised by one participant. In reply, the Secretariat described the ongoing work to establish terminology for use with the BCH.

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41. Another issue raised was that of security, including the authentication and validation of registered information. The Secretariat noted that secure systems of data exchange had been implemented and that, during the pilot phase, information registered onto the BCH would receive final authentication and validation by the Secretariat prior to being available in public mode.

ITEM 4. PREPARATION OF REGIONAL NEEDS ASSESSMENTS AND PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

42. Agenda item 4 was considered at the 2nd session of the meeting, on 5 September. Comments were made by the participants from Antigua and Barbuda, Chile, Colombia, Grenada, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Peru and Venezuela.

43. Following the short discussion, an open-ended contact group, chaired by Ms. Ana Maria Hernández Salgar of Colombia, was established to further develop the Chair's summary.

44. At the 3rd session of the meeting, Ms. Hernández Salgar presented the results of the work completed to further develop the Chair's summary. The Chair opened the floor for discussion on finalizing the revised draft of the recommendations with the aim of producing an action plan.

45. In the ensuing discussion, comments were made by the participants from Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Grenada, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Peru.

ITEM 5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

46. Agenda item 5 was considered at the 3rd session of the meeting, on 6 September. The item was introduced by the Chair, who invited the Rapporteur to present the revised draft of the action plan.

47. Following a short discussion, the Meeting adopted the action plan, which is attached to the present report as annex I.

ITEM 6. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

48. The present report was adopted at the 3rd session of the meeting, on 6 September, on the basis of the draft report of the Meeting (UNEP/CBD/BCH/LAC.Reg/1/L.1).

ITEM 7. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

49. The Chair declared the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Meeting on the Biosafety Clearing-House and the Clearing-House Mechanism closed at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, 6 September 2001.

Annex I

ACTION PLAN TO IMPLEMENT NEEDS AND PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED BY THE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN REGION

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

- In order to use the Biosafety Clearing-House effectively, GRULAC countries require the capacity, including institutional, human and financial resources, to implement the procedures required under the Protocol.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- GRULAC to recommend that the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, at its second meeting, request each country to assess its needs and capacities with relation to the implementation of the toolkit
- Each country to include evaluation and monitoring in national projects

1. Capacity Building

(i) Human resources

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Capacity Needs</i>	<i>Activities/actions/Recommendations</i>	<i>Time-frames</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Responsible agency (national/regional level)</i>	<i>Outputs</i>
To create necessary human resources required for the adequate management of the BCH	Adequate personnel at various levels, e.g. specialists, database managers, etc.	(i) Training in use of databases, information and new information technologies (ii) Support and promotion in the national academic sector by starting human resource training programmes (iii) Organizing courses, workshops, etc. in biosafety	Ongoing, first workshop held in next semester	All countries to hold regular courses, workshops, etc. within the identified timeframe	National and regional (universities through alliance with foreign institutions, organizations, etc.)	Trained professionals
	Maintenance of the BCH, ensuring the availability of time and personnel to maintain BCH	Establish pool of individuals able to carry out these tasks	Ongoing, first workshop held in next semester	All countries to hold regular courses, workshops, etc. within the identified timeframe	National and regional (universities through alliance with foreign institutions, organizations, etc.)	Trained professionals
Safe handling of information	Manage information security	Organization of courses and workshops on secure data management	Before entry into force of Protocol	All countries to hold regular courses, workshops, etc. within the identified timeframe	Regional level – competent national authorities with international agencies	Skilled technical staff at national levels

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Capacity Needs</i>	<i>Activities/actions/Recommendations</i>	<i>Time-frames</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Responsible agency (national/regional level)</i>	<i>Outputs</i>
Information flow to facilitate decision making under the Protocol	(i) Training in risk assessment and risk management to allow the supply of information to the BCH (ii) Ensure synergism, support and articulate communication among the actors generating data for risk assessment, management and monitoring and the decision makers	(i) Training on monitoring of LMOs and regional ecosystems, traceability, concrete cases in the region, etc. (ii) Create ongoing and transparent paths of communication	During 2002	At least one regional, or sub-regional meeting, held during 2002	Regional level, national and international multilateral funding agencies	National expertise

(ii) *Infrastructure*

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Capacity needs</i>	<i>Activities/actions and recommendations</i>	<i>Time-frames</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Responsible agency</i>	<i>Outputs</i>
To ensure the effective implementation and functioning of the BCH, including maintenance and updating	Create appropriate infrastructure to implement the BCH.	Review existing technical infrastructures and assess capacities to access and use information technologies and telecommunications, at the national, sub-regional and regional levels.	1 year	100% diagnostic capabilities of the infrastructure and capacities	National, subregional, regional NFPs	Creating such listing or diagnosis of the technical infrastructure and of the capacity to access and use information and telecommunication technologies

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Capacity needs</i>	<i>Activities/actions and recommendations</i>	<i>Time-frames</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Responsible agency</i>	<i>Outputs</i>
		Development of the information systems	2 years (dependent on level of development)	Existence of these information systems and web pages	NFPs and CNAs in cooperation with national or international institutions as appropriate	All countries have appropriate access to the BCH. All countries would be able to communicate
		Creation of alternatives to non-Internet based technologies	Before Protocol comes into effect	Existence of these information systems	NFPs and CNAs in cooperation with national or international institutions as appropriate	All countries have appropriate access to the BCH. All countries would be able to communicate
	Establishment of regional and sub-regional networks for information-exchange	Establish regional and sub-regional focal points	Three years	Regional and sub-regional networks	NFPs in conjunction with international agencies, with assistance of GEF	Closer coordination at regional and sub-regional levels

(iii) *Development of institutional synergies*

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Capacity needs</i>	<i>Activities/actions and recommendations</i>	<i>Time-frames</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Responsible agency</i>	<i>Outputs</i>
Ensure consensus on the use and support of the BCH.	Create synergies and cooperation between National Focal Points and Competent National Authorities and relevant stakeholders	(i) Identify National Focal Points for liaising with the BCH, and Competent National Authorities.	Before entry into force of the Protocol	NFPs and CNAs identified and communicated to the Secretariat	Biosafety Protocol NFPs in coordination with the Secretariat	Responsibilities and roles to relevant institutions and agencies assigned
		(ii) A series of national and regional meetings of NFPs and CNAs and relevant stakeholders	Before entry into force of the Protocol, and ongoing	Countries have held at least one coordinating meeting before entry into force of the Protocol and one GRULAC meeting	NFPs and CNAs	National and regional reports produced by countries

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Capacity needs</i>	<i>Activities/actions and recommendations</i>	<i>Time-frames</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Responsible agency</i>	<i>Outputs</i>
Improve technical cooperation	Identify and facilitate mechanisms for technology transfer	(i) Exchange specialists and technology within the region.	(i) Before entry into force of the Protocol	At least one meeting held	Different technology supplying agencies with logistic support from Parties through the Secretariat	Reports on meetings held and strategic alliances
		(ii) Development of negotiating groups for those supplying and demanding technology	Ongoing	At least one meeting held	Different technology supplying agencies with logistic support from Parties through the Secretariat	Reports on meetings held and strategic alliances

2. Information and communication

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Capacity needs</i>	<i>Activities/actions and recommendations</i>	<i>Time-frames</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Responsible agency</i>	<i>Outputs</i>
Adequate management of confidential information and respect of IP rights	Build the capacity for countries to manage the issue of confidential information and intellectual property rights specified under the Protocol.	Provide training to enable countries to manage the issue of confidentiality and intellectual property rights.	Continuing	All countries be well informed with regard to managing confidential information and intellectual property rights Countries with strengthened systems for management of confidential information and intellectual property rights.	Authorities in charge of national intellectual property rights in collaboration with the WIPO	Technicians with training in management of confidential information and intellectual property rights

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Capacity needs</i>	<i>Activities/actions and recommendations</i>	<i>Time-frames</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Responsible agency</i>	<i>Outputs</i>
Establishment of national, subregional and regional databases	Identify and fill existing information gaps	Develop projects at the national, regional and sub-regional level to allow the creation of specific databases such as information on unique and fragile ecosystems	By 2005	(i) Region has a number of databases covering information gaps (ii) operational mechanisms in place to identify information gaps	Agencies and institutions responsible for national, regional and subregional projects	Updated databases
Facilitate the exchange of information under the Protocol	(i) Development of standardized formats for all types of information submitted to the BCH for inclusion in the Toolkit	National and regional workshops involving the database managers, ICCP recommendations, and other activities	Before the entry into force of the Protocol	(i) Improved sharing of information (ii) wider establishment of databases (iii) effective electronic and non-electronic mechanisms	NFPs, Secretariat and regional bodies Parties to provide training and advise on access to software through the Secretariat	(i) Frequent and continuous updating of information in the BCH (ii) interoperable databases
	(ii) Ensure that relevant stakeholders are familiar with procedures and instruments established under the Protocol for information-exchange	Review the BCH toolkit and determine requirements and existing capacities to establish and use the BCH, and submit recommendations to the Secretariat	By December 2001, to enable incorporation of recommendations before COP-6, and continuously thereafter	Standardized formats and mechanism for continuous improvement of the toolkit	NFPs and CNAs in coordination with the CBD Secretariat	Mechanism for continuous improvement of the toolkit
Gain experience from, and catalogue, lessons learned	Share experiences at sub-regional and regional levels, such as the Central American Environmental Development Commission	(i) Making catalogue of experiences (ii) develop workshops for exchange of experiences	Before the entry into force of the Protocol	(i) Catalogue prepared (ii) Workshops have been conducted	NFPs and regional and sub-regional organisations	Benefiting from the experiences of others and preventing duplication of efforts

3. *Financing*

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Capacity needs</i>	<i>Activities/actions and recommendations</i>	<i>Time-frames</i>	<i>Indicators</i>	<i>Responsible agency</i>	<i>Outputs</i>
Ensure financial viability and sustainability of activities to implement and maintain the BCH	Need for adequate financial resources to enable countries to implement and maintain the BCH.	(i) Request funding organizations, such as GEF and others, to support national, sub-regional and regional projects e.g. those initiated by the Community of Andean Nations, Small Island Developing States, etc.	Continuing activity	National, sub-regional and regional projects implemented	Regional, sub-regional and multilateral levels, e.g. GEF and other funding organisations	Support from implementing agencies for the initiatives
		(ii) Create awareness and political support for continuous funding from national governments	Continuing activity	Incorporate biosafety in national budgets	Implementing agencies, national institutions	National budgets to include financial allocations relating to biosafety

Annex II

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