



Convention on Biological Diversity

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COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE UNDER THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

Sixth meeting

Montreal, 4-6 November 2009

Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Note by the Executive Secretary

INTRODUCTION

1. The Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety held its fifth meeting from 19 to 21 November 2008 in Kuala Lumpur. The Committee reviewed the outcomes of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety as they relate to compliance and the Committee. It agreed on a work plan for the sixth and seventh meetings of the Committee. The Committee reviewed some general issues of compliance based on an analysis (revised) of the first national reports prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the request of the fourth meeting of the Parties to the Protocol. The Committee also addressed other issues arising from its previous meetings.

2. The provisional agenda of the present meeting has been developed taking into account the work plan agreed upon by the Committee at its fifth meeting.

3. The sixth meeting of the Committee is planned to be held in Montreal 4 to 6 November 2009. It will be held in open session as agreed by members of the Committee at their fourth meeting (UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/4/3, para. 28). The venue is Boardroom A, Suite 200 in the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) at 393 St-Jacques Street West.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

4. The meeting will be opened by the Executive Secretary at 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 4 November 2009.

* UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/6/1.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. Election of officers

5. According to rule 12 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Committee (decision BS-II/1), the Committee shall elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair for a term of two years with a possibility of re-election for one further two-year term. The former Chair, Mr. Veit Koester, and Vice-Chair, Ms. Mary Fosi Mbantekhu, were re-elected, for a second consecutive term, by the Committee at its third meeting in March 2007. The term as well as the membership of the Chairperson ended at the end of last year. The second two-year term of the Vice Chairperson has also ended. The Committee will, therefore, be invited to elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson who may serve for the next two-year term.

2.2. Adoption of the agenda

6. The Committee may wish to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda proposed by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chair of the Committee (UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/6/1).

2.3. Organization of work

7. The Committee may wish to consider the proposed organization of work as contained in annex I below. The language of the meeting will be English.

8. A list of documents for the meeting is contained in annex II below. The documents will be made available on the Secretariat's website at <http://www.cbd.int>.

9. An information note will also be made available for members of the Compliance Committee containing details of registration and logistical arrangements for the meeting, including information on travel, visa requirements, accommodation and other similar matters.

ITEM 3. REVIEW OF INFORMATION ON REPORTING RATES UNDER OTHER MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

10. At its fourth and fifth meetings, the Compliance Committee noted that the number of national reports submitted by Parties to the Protocol was still low. As part of an effort to understand why a number of Parties failed to fulfil their reporting obligation regarding the implementation of the Protocol at the domestic level, the Compliance Committee decided to look at the situation in other multilateral environmental agreements as regards national reporting with a view to draw lessons, if any. The Committee requested the Secretariat to compile experience on the reporting rates under other multilateral environmental agreements and to make that information available.¹ Accordingly, the Secretariat has compiled information on the reporting rates under a number of other multilateral environmental agreements (UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/6/2). The Committee may wish to review this information and make recommendations towards improving the reporting rate under the Protocol.

ITEM 4. REVIEW OF GENERAL ISSUES OF COMPLIANCE BASED ON THE REVISED ANALYSIS OF THE FIRST NATIONAL REPORTS

11. The functions of the Compliance Committee specified in section III of the annex to decision BS-I/7 include reviewing general issues of compliance of Parties with their obligations under the Protocol taking into account information that may be made available through national reports or the Biosafety Clearing House (paragraph (d)). The Committee considered, in its last three meetings, general issues of

¹ See paragraph 14 of the report of the fourth meeting of the Committee (UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/4/3) and paragraph 20 of the report of the fifth meeting of the Committee (UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/5/4).

compliance based on information submitted by Parties through their interim national reports and the Biosafety Clearing-House.

12. The Committee agreed at its fifth meeting, to have a standing agenda item on “review of general issues of compliance” at its future meetings (UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/5/4, para. 23). In this regard, the Secretariat intends to identify some gaps in the implementation of the Protocol on the basis of a review of records in the Biosafety Clearing-House and make the information available to the Committee for its consideration.

13. The Committee may also wish to consider in the context of this agenda item, the submission recently made by a non-governmental organization alleging the non-compliance of a Party in fulfilling its obligations under the Protocol. It is to be noted that the Secretariat has circulated copy of the submission for members of the Compliance Committee for their information and preparation for possible review of the matter at the present meeting.

ITEM 5. OTHER MATTERS

14. Under this item, the members of the Compliance Committee may wish to raise and discuss other relevant matters.

ITEM 6. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

15. The Compliance Committee will consider and adopt its report. The reports of the fifth and sixth meetings of the Committee will be consolidated and submitted to the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol for its consideration and appropriate action.

ITEM 7. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

16. It is expected that the meeting will be closed at 5 p.m. on Friday, 6 November 2009.

Annex I

**PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE
COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE UNDER THE BIOSAFETY PROTOCOL**

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
4 November 2009 9.30 a.m. to 9.45 a.m.	1. Opening of the meeting. 2. Organizational matters: 2.1. Election of officers.
9.45 a.m. to 10 a.m.	2. Organizational matters: 2.2 Adoption of the agenda; 2.2. Organization of work.
10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	3. Review of information on reporting rates under other multilateral environmental agreements.
2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.	Continuation of agenda item 3.
5 November 2009 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	4. Review of general issues of compliance.
2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.	Continuation of agenda item 4.
6 November 2009 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	5. Other matters.
2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.	6. Adoption of the report. 7. Closure of the meeting.

*Annex II***LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE
UNDER THE BIOSAFETY PROTOCOL**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/6/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/6/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/6/2	Information on reporting rates under other multilateral environmental agreements and experience relevant to national reporting
UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/6/3	Review of general issues of compliance: information sharing
