



## **Convention on Biological Diversity**

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### **LIAISON GROUP ON CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR BIOSAFETY**

Eighth meeting  
Chisinau, 7–8 April 2011

### **ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

1. At its first meeting, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol established a Liaison Group on Capacity-building for Biosafety, as part of the Coordination Mechanism, to provide expert advice to the Executive Secretary on avenues to enhance the implementation and coordination of the Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol and other issues (decision BS-I/5, annex IV).

2. To date, seven Liaison Group meetings have taken place as follows: 4-5 November 2002 in Montreal; 26-27 January 2005 in Montreal; 21-22 January 2006 in Tromsø, Norway; 29-30 February 2007 in Lusaka; 14-15 February 2008 in New Delhi, India; 12-13 March 2009 in San Jose, Costa Rica; and 4-5 February 2010 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. These meetings provided advice on a wide range of capacity-building issues, including: advice on improvement of roster of biosafety experts, review of the Action Plan for Building Capacities, development of indicators for monitoring implementation of the Action Plan, and input into the draft Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (2011-2020).

3. The present meeting of the Liaison Group will, pursuant to paragraph 27 of decision BS-V/3, give advice on the organization of the workshop on capacity-building for research and information exchange on socio-economic impacts of living modified organisms. It will also provide advice on the process for the next comprehensive review of the Action Plan for Building Capacities.

#### **ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

4. The meeting will be opened by a representative of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity at 9 a.m. on Thursday, 7 April 2011.

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## **ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

### **2.1 Election of officers**

5. The Liaison Group will be invited to elect its Chair and Rapporteur from among the participants in the meeting.

### **2.2 Adoption of the agenda**

6. The meeting will be invited to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/8/1).

### **2.3 Organization of work**

7. The Liaison Group will be invited to decide on its organization of work on the basis of suggestions made by the Executive Secretary, contained in annex I below. Participants will also be invited to raise any other relevant issues under the agenda on other matters.

## **ITEM 3. ISSUES FOR IN-DEPTH CONSIDERATION**

### **3.1 Organization of the workshop on capacity-building for research and information exchange on socio-economic impacts of living modified organisms and other related activities**

8. In their decision BS-V/3, the Parties, taking into account recommendations of the sixth Coordination Meeting for Governments and Organizations Implementing or Funding Biosafety Capacity-Building Activities,<sup>1</sup> agreed on a number of actions to be undertaken on the issue of socio-economic considerations within the context of Article 26 of the Protocol. Among other things, the Secretariat was requested to convene before the sixth meeting of the Parties a regionally-balanced workshop on capacity-building for research and information exchange on socio-economic impacts of living modified organisms to: (i) analyse the capacity-building activities, needs and priorities of Parties regarding socio-economic considerations and identify options for cooperation in addressing those needs; and (ii) exchange and analyse information on the use of socio-economic considerations. In paragraph 27 of the decision, the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety was requested to give advice to the Executive Secretary on the organization of that workshop.

9. In response, the Secretariat has initiated a process comprising a number of activities to be undertaken in preparation for the workshop. Among other things, an Online Portal on Socio-Economic Considerations has been created on the Biosafety Clearing-House,<sup>2</sup> where a series of online discussion groups will be conducted to facilitate initial exchange of information, views and experiences on the issue of socio-economic considerations, help build an understanding of the different perspectives on the issue, and generate ideas that might facilitate the discussions at the workshop.

10. Accordingly, under this item, the Liaison Group members will be invited to provide advice on the organization of the above-mentioned workshop and on the preparatory activities proposed by the Secretariat.

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<sup>1</sup> UNEP/CBD/BS/CM-CB/6/2. paras.33-35.

<sup>2</sup> The Online Portal on Socio-Economic Considerations is accessible at: [http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb\\_art26/portal.shtml](http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb_art26/portal.shtml).

### **3.2 *Second comprehensive review of the Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol***

11. At their third meeting, held in March 2006 in Curitiba, Brazil, the Parties to the Protocol in decision BS-III/3 adopted an updated Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol. In paragraph 5 of the decision, they agreed to conduct a comprehensive review of the Action Plan every five years based on an independent evaluation of the capacity-building initiatives carried out to implement the Action Plan. At their most recent meeting, held in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2010, the Parties adopted in decision BS-V/3 the terms of reference for the next comprehensive review of the Action Plan, which will be conducted during 2011-2012. The report of the comprehensive review will be considered by the Parties at their sixth meeting, to be held in October 2012.

12. Under this agenda item, the Liaison Group will be invited to provide advice on the proposed process for the comprehensive review of the Action Plan. They will also be invited to share views and suggestions on the possible improvements to the Action Plan and its Coordination Mechanism as well as a framework for its monitoring and evaluation.

#### **ITEM 4. OTHER MATTERS**

13. Under this item, the Liaison Group will be invited to consider any other matter of relevance that may be raised by participants.

#### **ITEM 5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

14. The Liaison Group will be invited to formulate its general conclusions and recommendations, which may be used by the Executive Secretary in preparing relevant documents for the sixth meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.

#### **ITEM 6. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

15. The meeting of the Liaison Group will be closed on Friday, 8 April 2011 at 5 p.m.

*Annex I***PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK**

	<i>Plenary</i>
<i>Thursday</i> <i>7 April 2011</i> 9 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.	<i>Agenda item:</i> 1. Opening of the meeting.
9.30 a.m. to 10 a.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 2. Organizational matters: 2.1. Election of officers 2.2. Adoption of the agenda; 2.3. Organization of work.
10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 3. Issues for in-depth consideration: 3.1 Organisation of the workshop on capacity-building for research and information exchange on socio-economic impacts of living modified organisms and other related activities
2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.	Agenda item 3.1 ( <i>continued</i> )
<i>Friday</i> <i>8 April 2011</i> 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 3.2 Second comprehensive review of the Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol.
2 p.m. to 5 p.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 4. Other matters 5. Conclusions and recommendations 6. Closure of the meeting

*Annex II*

**DOCUMENTS FOR THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE LIAISON GROUP ON  
CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR BIOSAFETY**

**A.        *Working documents***

UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/8/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/8/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda

**B.        *Information documents***

UNEP/CBD/BS/LG-CB/7/2	Report of the seventh meeting of the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety
UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/5/INF/10	Summary report on the survey on the application of and experience in the use of socio-economic considerations in decision-making on living modified organisms.

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