



Convention on Biological Diversity

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ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE
NAGOYA – KUALA LUMPUR SUPPLEMENTARY
PROTOCOL ON LIABILITY AND REDRESS TO THE
CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY
New Delhi, 17-18 November 2011

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

1. After several years of negotiations through a process established in the context of Article 27 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Parties to the Protocol adopted, at their fifth meeting, the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. The Supplementary Protocol was adopted in Nagoya, Japan, on 15 October 2010, through decision BS-V/11. The decision, among other things, calls upon Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to sign the Supplementary Protocol at their earliest opportunity from 7 March 2011 to 6 March 2012, and to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval or instruments of accession, as appropriate, as soon as possible.
2. Following the generous financial support from the Government of Japan, the Secretariat is organizing this Asia-Pacific regional workshop. The workshop will take place at Hotel Samrat, Kautilya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, from 17 to 18 November 2011. The workshop will be conducted back-to-back with another workshop on capacity-building for research and information exchange on socio-economic impacts of living modified organisms under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, scheduled to take place immediately before this workshop at the same venue.
3. The workshop is expected to bring together participants from countries in the Asia-Pacific region that are Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and representatives from relevant regional and sub-regional organizations.
4. The objective of the workshop is to exchange some basic information and views about the Supplementary Protocol and experiences in addressing issues related to liability and redress, with a view to creating awareness and increasing understanding that facilitate signature and ratification or accession to the Supplementary Protocol by Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.
5. The workshop will also consider issues related to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety adopted by decision BS-V/16 and the submission of second national reports on the implementation of obligations under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, which were due by the end of September of 2011 (decision BS-V/14).

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ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP

6. The workshop will be opened by the representative of the Indian Government at 9 a.m. on Thursday, 17 November 2011.
7. The representative of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will make welcoming remarks and highlight the objective and programme of the workshop.
8. Participants will be invited to adopt the agenda and programme of the workshop. The provisional agenda is available in document UNEP/CBD/BS/L&R/RW-APAC/1/1. The proposed programme of work for the workshop has been provided in annex I below.
9. Participants will also be invited to indicate their expectations.
10. A list of documents for the workshop is contained in annex II below.

ITEM 2. THE NAGOYA – KUALA LUMPUR SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL ON LIABILITY AND REDRESS

2.1 Basic concepts and facts relevant to liability and redress

11. A presentation will be made on some basic concepts and facts relevant to the field of liability and redress. These include the concepts of liability, types of liability, elements common in establishing liability rules, and some examples of existing international environmental liability rules.

2.2 Overview of the Supplementary Protocol

12. Under this item, the Supplementary Protocol will be introduced and its core provisions discussed.
13. Representatives from the region who negotiated the Supplementary Protocol will be invited, if they are available, to provide their assessment of the negotiations and the conclusions of the negotiations as regards some of the key issues.
14. A representative of the Secretariat will introduce the Supplementary Protocol and outline its core provisions.

2.3 Stakeholders' perspective on the significance of the Supplementary Protocol

15. Under this item, representatives of non-governmental organizations and of the industry group, respectively, who have been following and contributing to the negotiations process of the past several years, will each have the opportunity to share their views of assessment of the negotiations process and their understanding of the Supplementary Protocol.

2.4 Group exercise on scenarios of damage and cases of liability

16. At this stage, participants will be invited to review some hypothetical cases in small groups, in order to further their understanding of the scope and provisions of the Supplementary Protocol.

2.5 Experience/approaches within the region in providing rules on liability and redress

17. Under this item, participants will be invited to present their own national experience with the development and implementation of liability and redress laws, in particular liability rules, if any, addressing environmental damage. Participants may share any information on ongoing processes towards signing and/or ratifying the Supplementary Protocol. Participants will be provided with a compilation of national laws and regulations that deal with biosafety and related liability and redress rules as gathered from the Biosafety Clearing-House.

2.6 Signature and ratification

18. Participants will be introduced to the procedural steps in the process of signature, on the one hand, and ratification, approval, acceptance or accession, on the other, including the status of signature

and ratification of the Supplementary Protocol. A representative of the Secretariat will also highlight some of the possible advantages of signature, ratification or accession to the Supplementary Protocol.

ITEM 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF OTHER DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

3.1 Strategic Plan

19. At their fifth meeting, the Parties to the Protocol adopted a Strategic Plan covering the period from 2011 to 2020. The Strategic Plan is the first attempt by the Parties to identify priority areas that they need to concentrate on for the next decade. It consists of a vision, a mission and five strategic objectives. For each strategic objective there are a number of expected impacts, operational objectives, outcomes and indicators. Progress in the achievement of these focal areas and operational objectives are expected to be measured using the indicators identified in the Strategic Plan. A representative of the Secretariat will present an overview of the Strategic Plan, taking into account, as examples, the operational objectives pertinent to liability and redress.

3.2 Second national report on the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

20. The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety requires each Party to monitor the implementation of its obligations under the Protocol and to periodically report to the Parties to the Protocol. The Parties to the Protocol, at their fifth meeting, adopted a format for the second national report. The submission of national reports and obtaining complete information through these reports are considered fundamental for the undertaking of a meaningful assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol by 2012 in accordance with Article 35 of the Protocol. Information from second national reports is also critical to measuring progress in the achievement of the operational objectives of the Strategic Plan. The submission of second national reports was due by the end of September of 2011. A number of Parties have already submitted their reports while a number of others have yet to do so.

21. Under this item, a representative of the Secretariat will outline the requirements and importance of national reporting and inform participants of the status of submission of second national reports. Following that, participants will, in turn, be invited to update the workshop on the status of the preparation and submission of second national report of their respective countries.

ITEM 4. CONCLUSIONS AND EVALUATION OF THE WORKSHOP

22. Under this item, participants will be invited to identify and agree on the main conclusions of the workshop. They will also be invited to evaluate the outcome of the workshop by completing a questionnaire taking into account the expectations that they will have indicated at the beginning of the workshop.

ITEM 5. CLOSURE OF THE WORKSHOP

23. The workshop is expected to end at 5 p.m. on Friday, 18 November 2011.

Annex I

PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE WORKSHOP

Date and time	Agenda item	Facilitator/Presenter
Thursday, 17 November 2011		
9.30 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.	1. Opening of the workshop	<i>Facilitator:</i> Mr. Charles Gbedemah (SCBD)
9.45 a.m. – 10.15 a.m.	2. The Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress 2.1. Basic concepts and facts relevant to liability and redress	<i>Facilitator:</i> Ms. Ranjini Warriar (India) <i>Presenter:</i> Mr. Worku Damena Yifru (SCBD)
10.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	<i>Discussion</i>	
10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.	<i>Coffee/Tea Break</i>	
11 a.m. – 12 noon 12 noon – 1 p.m.	2.2. Overview of the Supplementary Protocol: Background to the negotiations and core provisions of the Supplementary Protocol <i>Discussion</i>	<i>Presenter:</i> Mr. Worku Damena Yifru (SCBD)
1 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
2.30 p.m. – 2.40 p.m.	2.3. Stakeholders' perspective on the significance of the Supplementary Protocol	<i>Facilitator:</i> Ms. Ranjini Warriar (India)
2.40 p.m. – 3.10 p.m.	2.3.1 Biotech industry	<i>Presenter:</i> Mr. Tom Carrato (CropLife International)
3.10 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	2.3.2 Non-governmental organizations	<i>Presenter:</i> Ms. Lim Li Ching (Third World Network)
3.30 p.m. – 3.45 p.m.	<i>Discussion</i>	
3.45 p.m. – 4 p.m.	<i>Coffee/Tea Break</i>	
4 p.m. – 5 p.m.	2.4 Group exercise on scenarios of damage and cases of liability <i>Discussions in small groups</i>	<i>Facilitator:</i> Mr. Worku Damena Yifru (SCBD) <i>Workshop participants</i>

Date and time	Agenda item	Facilitator/Presenter
<i>Friday, 18 November 2011</i>		
9 a.m. – 9.30 a.m.	2.4 Group exercise on scenarios of damage and cases of liability <i>(continued)</i>	<i>All workshop participants</i>
9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	<i>Reports from the small groups and discussion</i>	<i>Group rapporteurs</i>
10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.	<i>Coffee/Tea Break</i>	
11 a.m. – 12 noon	2.5 Experience/approaches within the region in providing rules on liability and redress	<i>Facilitator:</i> Ms. Ranjini Warriar (India) <i>Presenters:</i> Workshop participants
12 noon – 12.30 p.m.	2.6 Signature and ratification	<i>Presenter:</i> Mr. Worku Damena Yifru (SCBD)
12.30 p.m. – 1 p.m.	<i>Discussion</i>	
1 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
2.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	3. Implementation of other decisions adopted by the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 3.1 Strategic plan 3.2 Second national report on the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	<i>Facilitator:</i> Ms. Ranjini Warriar (India) <i>Presenter:</i> Ms. Kathryn Garforth (SCBD)
3.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.	<i>Discussion</i>	
4 p.m. – 4.15 p.m.	<i>Coffee/Tea Break</i>	
4.15 p.m. – 4.50 p.m.	4. Conclusions of the workshop and evaluation	<i>Facilitator:</i> Mr. Charles Gbedemah (SCBD)
4.50 p.m. – 5 p.m.	5. Closure of the workshop	Ms. Ranjini Warriar (India)

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

<i>Symbol or link</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/BS/L&R/RW-APAC/1/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/BS/L&R/RW-APAC/1/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/BS/L&R/RW-APAC/1/2	Domestic biosafety or environmental laws and regulations which include provisions on liability and redress
UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/5/17	Report of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb_art27_doc.shtml	The Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: An introductory note in preparation for signature and ratification

Copies of PowerPoint presentations will be made available during the workshop.
