



**CONVENTION ON
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MEETING OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS ON HANDLING,
TRANSPORT, PACKAGING AND IDENTIFICATION
OF LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS

Paris, 13-15 June 2001

Item 2.2 of the provisional agenda*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Annotations to the provisional agenda

INTRODUCTION

1. At its first meeting, held in Montpellier, France, from 11 to 15 December 2000, the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (ICCP) recommended that a number of different actions be taken inter-sessionally. It invited, among other things, Parties to the Convention, Governments and relevant international organizations to provide to the Executive Secretary information on their existing practices, rules and standards relevant to Article 18 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. The ICCP also requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a synthesis report of the information and to convene a meeting of government-nominated technical experts in the handling, packaging, transport and identification to consider, based on the synthesis report, the needs and modalities for developing measures for Parties to the Protocol to meet their obligations under paragraphs 2 (b) and 2 (c) of Article 18 of the Protocol.

2. Accordingly, and following the generous offer made by the Governments of France and of Canada to provide financial support for the convening of the meeting of technical experts and the further offer of France to host and Canada to co-host it, the meeting will be held at Centre de Conférences Internationales (CCI), Paris, from 13 to 15 June 2001.

3. The experts will discuss the issues included in the agenda and make recommendations for consideration by the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its second meeting, which will be held in Nairobi, from 1 to 5 October 2001.

* UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-HTPI/1/1.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

4. The meeting will be opened by the Executive Secretary at 9 a.m. on Wednesday 13 June 2001. Other opening and welcoming remarks may be made by, among others, representatives of the host and the co-host countries, namely France and Canada.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. Election of officers

5. In accordance with past practice, the Meeting of Experts may wish to consider inviting the representative of France, the host country, to chair the meeting. The Meeting will be invited to elect a Rapporteur from among the participating experts.

2.2. Adoption of the agenda

6. The Meeting will be invited to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda circulated as document UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-HTPI/1/1.

2.3. Organization of work

7. The Meeting may wish to consider the proposed organization and programme of its work as contained in annex I below.

8. The Meeting will be invited to discuss issues relevant to Article 18 of the Biosafety Protocol with particular emphasis on measures that may be required in connection with documentation accompanying:

(a) LMOs destined for contained use; and

(b) LMOs intended for intentional introduction into the environment under paragraphs 2 (b) and 2 (c) of Article 18 respectively.

9. The proposed organization of work as contained in annex I below provides for the formation of two groups to advance the discussions under this item.

10. As requested the ICCP at its first meeting and in order to assist the Meeting in its discussion of the issues, the Executive Secretary has prepared the note containing a synthesis of information received on existing practices, rules and standards relevant to handling, packaging, transport and identification of LMOs (UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-HTPI/1/2). The note also includes information on the latest developments with regard to the adoption and implementation of rules and standards in the identification and transportation of goods, including LMOs, under various relevant regional and international organizations. This information essentially updates the note by the Executive Secretary on handling, transport, packaging and identification (UNEP/CBD/ICCP/1/6) prepared for the first meeting of ICCP. The document also attempts to propose options on a future process to address the issues.

11. A complete list of documents for the meeting is attached as annex II below. In addition to normal distribution, documents are available on the Secretariat's website at <http://www.biodiv.org>.

ITEM 3. OVERVIEW OF THE SYNTHESIS OF INFORMATION ON EXISTING PRACTICES, RULES AND STANDARDS RELEVANT TO ARTICLE 18 OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

12. The Secretariat will introduce the synthesis of information it has received from different Parties to the Convention, Governments and relevant international organizations. The experts will be invited to make comments and to briefly discuss issues relevant to Article 18 of the Protocol in general. The full texts of the information submitted to the Executive Secretary are compiled in an information document (UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-HTPI/1/INF/1).

ITEM 4. CONSIDERATION OF THE NEEDS AND MODALITIES FOR DEVELOPING MEASURES FOR DOCUMENTATION ACCOMPANYING LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS

13. The Meeting will be invited to consider the needs and modalities that may be required for developing measures by Parties to the Protocol regarding the identification of LMOs destined for contained use, on the one hand, and LMOs intended for intentional introduction into the environment on the other. In line with the proposed organization of work, the two groups may be formed, one for issues under Article 18, paragraph 2 (b), of the Protocol (agenda item 4.1), and the other for paragraph 2 (c) (agenda item 4.2). It is expected that each group will prepare recommendations for consideration in plenary under agenda item 5.

ITEM 5. RECOMMENDATIONS

14. In considering this agenda item, the Meeting will be invited to formulate its recommendations to the ICCP based on its deliberations and the outcome of the discussions in the two groups.

ITEM 6. OTHER MATTERS

15. Under this item, the Meeting may wish to consider any other matters of relevance raised by participants.

ITEM 7. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

16. The Meeting will consider and adopt its report on the basis of its draft report to be prepared and presented to it by the Rapporteur.

ITEM 8. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

17. The meeting is expected to be closed at 6 p.m. on Friday 15 June 2001.

*Annex I***PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE MEETING OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS ON HANDLING, TRANSPORT, PACKAGING AND IDENTIFICATION OF LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS**

	<i>Plenary</i>	<i>Group I</i>	<i>Group II</i>
<i>Wednesday</i> <i>13 June 2001</i> 9 a.m to 10 a.m.	<i>Agenda item:</i> 1. Opening of the meeting.		
11 a.m to 1 p.m.	<i>Agenda item:</i> 2. Organizational matters: 2.1. Officers; 2.2. Adoption of the agenda; 2.3. Organization of work.		
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	<i>Agenda item:</i> 3. An overview of the synthesis of existing practices, rules and standards relevant to Article 18 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.		

	<i>Plenary</i>	<i>Group I</i>	<i>Group II</i>
<p><i>Thursday</i> <i>12 July 2001</i> 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Agenda item:</i> 4. Consideration of the needs and modalities for developing measures for documentation accompanying living modified organisms</p>	<p><i>Agenda item:</i> 4.1. Consideration of the needs and modalities for developing measures for documentation accompanying living modified organisms that are destined for contained use (Article 18, paragraph 2 (b))</p>	<p><i>Agenda item:</i> 4.2. Consideration of the needs and modalities for developing measures for documentation accompanying living modified organisms that are intended for intentional introduction into the environment (Article 18, paragraph 2 (c)).</p>
<p>3 p.m. to 6 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Agenda item:</i> 5. Recommendations</p>		
<p><i>Friday</i> <i>13 July 2001</i> 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. <i>and</i> 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.</p>	<p><i>Agenda items:</i> 6. Other matters. 7. Adoption of the report. 8. Closure of the meeting.</p>		

Annex II

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE MEETING OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS ON
HANDLING, TRANSPORT, PACKAGING AND IDENTIFICATION OF
LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-HTPI/1/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-HTPI/1/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-HTPI/1/2	Synthesis report on existing practices, rules and standards relating to handling, transport, packaging and identification of living modified organisms
UNEP/CBD/BS/TE-HTPI/1/INF/1	Compilation of information on existing practices, rules and standards relevant to Article 18 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
UNEP/CBD/ICCP/1/6*	Handling, transport, packaging and identification (Article 18)

* Prepared for the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.