Integrating National Measures for Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity into NBSAPs

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BACKGROUND TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

• CPB has its roots in the 1992 Earth Summit and Agenda 21 (Chapter 16) and the CBD
• Negotiated under CBD pursuant to Art. 19.3
• Adopted by CBD Ex-COP in January 2000
• Entered into force: 9 September 2003
• 166 ratifications/ accessions
• Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the CPB adopted in October 2010
• Strategic Plan for the CPB (2011-2020)
CBD AND THE CPB

- CPB is the first Protocol under the CBD
- CPB is a tool for implementing the CBD, esp. with regard to Art. 8(g) and 19(4) relating to LMOs and to some extent Art. 8(h) on alien invasive species
- Art. 8(g) requires Parties to establish or maintain means to regulate, manage or control the risks associated with the use and release of LMOs likely to have adverse environmental impacts that could affect biodiversity
CBD AND THE CPB

- Article 19.4 requires Parties to provide available information about the use & safety regulations required in handling LMOs, as well as information on potential adverse impact of specific LMOs, to Parties into which LMOs are to be introduced.
- Pursuant to Art. 19.3, Parties to the CBD negotiated the CPB with the objective to contribute to ensuring the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on the biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health.
RATIONALE FOR INTEGRATION OF NATIONAL MEASURES

• Both the CPB & CBD aim at ensuring the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity
• CPB focuses on the transboundary movement aspect of the effort of ensuring the safety of LMOs
• Implementation of the Protocol ultimately contributes to realization of the CBD objectives
• National measures for implementing the CPB and CBD obligations should be complementary/mutually supportive (cost effectiveness, maximisation of scientific and technical human resources, etc.)
RATIONALE FOR INTEGRATION OF NATIONAL MEASURES

• National measures for implementing the CPB could be useful for fulfilling CBD obligations, e.g.
  • Principles, procedures and guidelines developed under the CPB for risk assessment and risk management useful in implementation of Art. 8(h) on alien invasive species
  • Information sharing through BCH essential in facilitating implementation of Article 8(g), 19.4 and 8(h) of the CBD
  • Capacity-building and awareness raising activities under the CPB and CBD could be mutually supportive
  • Research activities and facilities could be shared
• Need for synergetic implementation at all levels
Strategic Plan for the CPB (2011-2020)

- Adopted in Decision BS-V/16
- Paragraph 2 of Decision BS-V/16 invites Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to:
  (a) Review and align, as appropriate, their national action plans and programmes relevant to the implementation of the Protocol, including their NBSAPs, with the Strategic Plan and;
  (b) Allocate adequate human and financial resources necessary to expedite the implementation of the Strategic Plan
Overall objective:
To strengthen global, regional & national action and capacity in ensuring the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs that may have adverse effects on biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health

Five strategic objectives
1. Establishment and further development of systems for the implementation of the Protocol;
2. Capacity-building;
3. Compliance and review;
4. Information sharing; and
5. Outreach and cooperation
Strategic Plan for the CPB (2011-2020)

- There are a number of linkages between the CPB Strategic Plan and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets
- Implementation of the CPB Strategic Plan will contribute to Aichi Targets 1-4, 13, 15, 17-20
- Need for careful and appropriate consideration of the biosafety aspects in implementation of the Aichi Targets
  - The demand for sustainable production of food, fuel and fibre to meet the current and future human needs;
  - The growing use of LMOs in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and other biodiversity-related sectors
  - Call for use of LMO trees for climate change and biofuels
WAY FORWARD

• Need to take concrete steps to strengthen coherence between CBD and the CPB at national, regional & international levels
• NBSAPs should systematically integrate biosafety issues - identify and pursue appropriate entry points for integration
• NBFs should be an integral component of NBSAPs
• Maximize use of existing tools and guidelines (e.g. BCH & CHM, risk assessment guidelines)
• Foster regional and international cooperation (including through regional organizations & networks)
WAY FORWARD

- Share information on experiences and lessons learned in integrating biosafety into NBSAPs and other sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, plans and programmes (through the CHM and BCH)

- Both the CPB and CBD have moved to an enhanced phase implementation guided by the respective Strategic Plans which have the same timeframe (2011-2020) – joint monitoring and evaluation

- Foster synergetic implementation at the national level using the NBSAPs as the primary national instrument
At the side event on Wednesday, we will further:

- Share practical experiences and lessons learned in development of NBFs and the integration of biosafety issues in NBSAPs and other national processes, including challenges encountered

- Explore potential entry points for integrating biosafety into NBSAPs

- Discuss capacity-building needs for integration
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