

15 March 2001

NOTIFICATION

Dear Madam/Sir,

**Re: Liaison Group Meeting of Technical Experts on the Biosafety Clearing-House
19-20 March 2001, Montreal**

I am pleased to convey herewith the composition of the liaison group meeting of technical experts on the Biosafety Clearing-House to be convened pursuant to the ICCP-1 recommendation mandating the ICCP Bureau to draw upon appropriate technical advisory expertise to facilitate the development and implementation of the pilot phase of the Biosafety Clearing-House.

The composition of the liaison group meeting was determined by the Secretariat in consultation with the Bureau of the ICCP, taking into account the participants' demonstrated expertise and experience (in the fields of information-sharing systems and database-management, and management of biosafety-related issues); a balanced geographical distribution within and between regions; and fair representation of relevant stakeholders.

The composition of the expert meeting and the provisional agenda for the meeting are attached.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

To: ICCP National Focal Points
CBD National Focal Points (where ICCP NFPs have not yet been nominated)

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Composition of the liaison group meeting of technical experts on the
Biosafety Clearing-House, 19-20 March 2001, Montreal, Canada

Technical Experts

Mr. Chengshou Bai (China)
Ms. Barbara Bauldock (USA)
Ms. Dora Ann Canhos (Brazil)
Mr. Asghar Fazel (Iran)
Ms. Elaine Fischer (Jamaica)
Mr. Alexander Golikov (Russia)
Mr. Eric Mata (Costa Rica)
Ms. Mary Fosi Mbantekhu (Cameroon)
Mr. Gabor Nechay (Hungary)
Mr. Guy Rochon (Canada)
Ms. Grace Thitai (Kenya)
Mr. Guy Van Den Eede (EC)

Industry and NGO Representatives

Mr. Willy De Greef, Global Industry Coalition
Ms. Li Lin Lim, Third World Network

IGO Observers

Mr. Decio Ripandelli, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology
Mr. Peter Kearns, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
Mr. George Tzotzos, United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Provisional Agenda

Liaison group meeting of technical experts on the Biosafety Clearing-House
19-20 March 2001, Montreal, Canada

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Overview of the recommendations on information-sharing from the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (ICCP), contained in the report of the meeting (document UNEP/CBD/ICCP/1/9, Annex 1)
3. Opportunities for collaboration with other international organizations (invited presentations from OECD, UNIDO and ICGEB)
4. Status of implementation of the pilot phase of the Biosafety Clearing-House
 - Draft work plan for implementation of the pilot phase
 - Progress report on implementation of the work plan
5. Discussion of technical issues associated with the implementation of the pilot phase
6. Recommendations for future action
7. Other matters
8. Closure of the meeting