

Ref.: SCBD/BS/CS/jh

24 October 2001

**NOTIFICATION**

**Need for further preparatory work by the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety before the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol**

(Recommendation 2/13 of the second meeting of the ICCP)

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that, pursuant to recommendation 2/13 of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (attached), the joint meeting of the Bureaux of COP-5 and ICCP took place on 6 October 2001, in Nairobi. The COP-5 Bureau endorsed the recommendation calling for a third meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, to be held in The Hague, from 22 to 26 April 2002, back-to-back with the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-6), in the event that the fiftieth instrument of ratification, accession, approval or acceptance of the Protocol is not deposited by 8 January 2002.

The ICCP Bureau will meet on 6 November 2001 to discuss a provisional agenda for the third meeting of the ICCP (ICCP-3) and the decision of the Bureau will be communicated to all Governments in due course.

I take this opportunity to thank you for the support your Government has provided so far to the work of the ICCP and I look forward to your continued cooperation.

Accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Hamdallah Zedan  
Executive Secretary

To ICCP National Focal Points  
CBD National Focal Points (where ICCP National Focal Points have not yet been designated)



**2/13. *Need for further preparatory work by the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety before the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol***

*The Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Recalling* its mandate given in decision EM-I/3 of the Conference of the Parties to undertake, with the support of the Executive Secretary, the preparations necessary for the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, at which time the Intergovernmental Committee will cease to exist, taking into account the budgetary provisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties,

*Recalling also* its work plan set out in decision V/1 of the Conference of the Parties, in which it notes that all issues that the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol might wish to address at its first meeting should be reflected, and emphasizes the necessity to complete as early as possible the preparations for the entry into force of the Protocol,

*Having held* two meetings to consider the issues identified in its work plan,

*Taking note* that substantive progress has been made on several issues identified in its work plan, which provides the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol with a basis for decision taking at its first meeting,

*Noting* that some issues in its work plan will require further consideration with a view to facilitating decision-making by the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties,

1. *Mandates* the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, in consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, to explore jointly the possibility of having a third meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to further consider issues taken in the mandate of the Committee, including the possibility of holding that meeting in conjunction with the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in the event that the fiftieth instrument of ratification, accession, approval or acceptance is not deposited by 8 January 2002;

2. *Requests* that these consultations referred to in paragraph 1 above take place as soon as possible, but no later than 8 January 2002, with a view to making appropriate arrangements with regard to convening of a third meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, as the case may be.

*Annex II*

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE PROTOCOL**

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters:
  - 2.1. Election of officers;
  - 2.2. Adoption of the agenda;
  - 2.3. Organization of work.
3. Adoption of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.
4. Report of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (ICCP).
5. Report on the credentials of representatives to the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.
6. Substantive issues:
  - 6.1 Decision procedure (Article 10, para.7);
  - 6.2 Information-sharing and the Biosafety Clearing-House (Article 20, para.4);
  - 6.3 Capacity-building (Article 22; Article 28, para.3);
  - 6.4 Handling, transport, packaging and identification (Article 18);
  - 6.5 Compliance (Article 34).
  - 6.6 Liability and redress (Article 27);
  - 6.7 Monitoring and reporting (Article 33);
  - 6.8 Secretariat (Article 31, para.3);
  - 6.9 Guidance to the financial mechanism (Article 28, para. 5, Article 22);
  - 6.10 Consideration of other issues necessary for the effective implementation of the Protocol (e.g., Article 29, para.4).
7. Medium-term programme of work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.
8. Date and venue for the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.
9. Other matters.
10. Adoption of the report.
11. Closure of the meeting.

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