



Convention on Biological Diversity

Secretariat

Ref.: SCBD/BS/RH/jh/39043

16 September 2003

Re: Submission of information to the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) on existing decisions related to (i) import of living modified organisms (LMOs) for intentional introduction into the environment and (ii) domestic use of LMOs intended for direct use as food or feed, or for processing that may be subject to transboundary movement

Madam/Sir,

As you are aware, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety entered into force on 11 September 2003.

As highlighted in the recent notification of the Secretariat dated 5 September 2003, one of the obligations of Parties to the Protocol is to make available a range of information required under various provisions of the Protocol.

The provision of information pertaining to decisions on the release or import of LMOs taken prior to the entry into force of the Protocol is not strictly required under the Protocol. Nevertheless, in order to maximize the usefulness of the BCH and to build experience with the BCH prior to the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, Parties and other Governments are encouraged to provide to the BCH such information related to the transboundary movement of LMOs, in particular, any relevant decisions taken prior to 11 September 2003 related to: (i) import of LMOs for intentional introduction into the environment; and (ii) domestic use of LMOs intended for direct use as food or feed, or for processing that may be subject to transboundary movement.

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

[Signed]

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

To: National Focal Points of Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and other Governments



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