



Ref.: SCBD/BS/KGM/jh/45068

19 October 2004

NOTIFICATION

**Informal Advisory Committee on the Biosafety Clearing-House
Montreal, Canada , 9-10 November 2004**

As you may be aware, Article 20 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity establishes a Biosafety Clearing-House as part of the clearing-house mechanism under Article 18, paragraph 3, of the Convention, in order to facilitate the exchange of scientific, technical, environmental and legal information on, and experience with, living modified organisms; and to assist Parties to implement the Protocol.

At its first meeting, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP/MOP) adopted the modalities of operation of the Biosafety Clearing-House, which *inter alia*, noted that the Secretariat would seek assistance from an informal advisory committee. Pursuant to this decision, we are convening the informal advisory committee of technical experts on the Biosafety Clearing-House in Montreal on 9 to 10 November 2004.

I am pleased to convey herewith the list of invited experts. The composition was determined by the Secretariat taking into account the participants' demonstrated expertise and experience with the Biosafety Clearing-House, while ensuring regional and gender balance on the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

cc: Cartagena Protocol National Focal Points
BCH National Focal Points
CBD National Focal Points (where biosafety focal points have not yet been designated)



BCH-IAC Members

- Mr José Rodríguez Duenas (Cuba)
- Mr Ossama El-Tayeb (Egypt)
- Ms Nasrin Esmail-Zadeh (Iran)
- Ms Perla Godoy (Argentina)
- Mr Alexander Golikov (Russian Federation)
- Ms Qongqong Hoohlo (Lesotho)
- Mr Jiri Hradec (Czech Republic)
- Mr Yoshihiro Natori (Japan)
- Mr Williander Ngotel (Palau)
- Ms Donna Roy (United States)
- Mr Albert Spielmann (Switzerland)
- Ms Darja Stanic Racman (Slovenia)
- Mr Louis Traore (Burkina Faso)
- Mr Guy Van-Den-Eede (European Commission)
- Mr Victor Manuel Villalobos Arambula (Mexico)