



Ref.: SCBD/BS/CS/jh/46042

17 January 2005

NOTIFICATION

Madam/Sir,

**Re: LIAISON GROUP ON CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR BIOSAFETY
27-28 January 2005; Montreal, Canada.**

At its first meeting, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol in its decision BS-1/5, adopted an Action Plan for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and a Coordination Mechanism for the implementation of the Action Plan to facilitate exchange of information with a view to promoting partnerships and maximizing complementarities and synergies between various capacity building initiatives. A Liaison Group on Capacity-building for Biosafety was established as one of the elements of the Coordination Mechanism.

The Liaison Group meeting will be held at the premises of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Montreal, Canada, from 27 to 28 January 2005, to provide advice to the Executive Secretary on ways and means to enhance coordination and international cooperation in implementation of the Action Plan. It will also assist the Executive Secretary in developing guidance and tools to promote capacity-building for biosafety and in preparation of relevant documentation, including provision of input and peer-review of the draft pre-session documents.

I am pleased to convey herewith the composition of the Liaison Group. The composition was determined by the Secretariat taking into account the participants' demonstrated expertise and experience in the field of capacity-building, a balanced geographical distribution between regions, and fair representation of relevant stakeholders.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

To: Cartagena Protocol National Focal Points
CBD National Focal Points (where CPB have not yet been nominated)
Relevant international organizations



LIAISON GROUP ON CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR BIOSAFETY

LIST OF INVITEES

1. Alejandra Sarquis, Ministry of Agriculture, Argentina
2. Donald Cooper, Bahamas Environment Science and Technology Commission
3. Ana Lucia Assad, Ministry of Science and Technology, Brazil
4. Atanas Atanassov, AgroBioInstitute, Bulgaria
5. Sergiy Gubar, Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine
6. Chris Viljoen, University of Free State, South Africa
7. Gado Tchangbedji, Togo
8. Charles Mugoya, National Council of Science and Technology, Uganda
9. Zhuang Guotai, State Environmental Protection Administration, China
10. S.R. Rao, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, India
11. Koichi Ito, Global Environment Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan
12. Julia Kaiser, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
13. François Pythoud, Agency for Environment, Forests and Landscape, Switzerland
14. Marcus Ballinger, Environment Canada
15. Mario Ramos, GEF Secretariat
16. Christopher Briggs, UNEP-GEF Biosafety Unit
17. Andrea Sonnino, Senior Agricultural Research Officer, FAO
18. Niek van der Graff, International Plant Protection Convention, IPPC
19. Decio Ripandelli, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)
20. Emile Frison, Director-General, IPGRI
21. Li Lin Lim, Third World Network
22. L. Val Giddings, Global Industry Coalition (GIC)
23. M.T. Mahdavi, The Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS)