



CBD

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

22 May 2007
International Day for Biological Diversity



Biodiversity and Climate Change

Ref.: SCBD/BS/WDY/ABw/58011

16 April 2007

NOTIFICATION

Submission of First Regular National Reports

Madam/Sir,

Reference is made to decision BS-III/14, paragraph 3, of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP), which requests Parties to submit their first regular national reports on the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, as called for under Article 33 (Monitoring and Reporting) of the Protocol. Further reference is made to paragraph 28 of the report of the third meeting of the Compliance Committee (UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/3/3) in which the Committee requested the Secretariat to urge Parties to submit their national reports not only as an important input for planning future work by the COP-MOP, but also as an essential compliance issue in itself.

Accordingly, Parties are reminded that first regular national reports are to be submitted to the Secretariat no later than **11 September 2007**, in an official language of the United Nations, in both hard copy and electronic Word format, and using the reporting format annexed to decision BS-III/14. The reporting format is available on the Secretariat's website at: <http://www.biodiv.org/biosafety/issues/monitoring.shtml>.

In addition, Parties, other Governments, relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders have been invited by COP-MOP to evaluate the effectiveness of the Protocol in accordance with Article 35 on assessment and review, and to provide their views as specified in decision BS-III/15 and decision BS-III/1. In that regard, additional questionnaire containing those questions specified in the relevant decisions of COP-MOP in the context of **assessment and review**, is attached herewith. The Secretariat kindly asks each Party to complete the questionnaire and forward its submission, preferably, as part of or as an addendum to the first regular national report.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support towards the work of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary

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



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Attachment
**QUESTIONS DERIVED FROM THE DECISIONS OF COP-MOP RELATING
TO ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE
PROTOCOL**

Assessment and Review (Article 33, dscision BS-I/12, annex, paragraph 6; BS-III/15)

1. Please evaluate the effectiveness of the Protocol. Include an assessment of the Protocol's procedures (e.g. the advance informed agreement (AIA) procedure (Articles 7-10), the procedure for LMOs intended for direct use food or feed, or for processing (Article 11), mechanisms (e.g. the compliance mechanism), and annexes (Anexes I, II and III of the Protocol). (paragraph 1(a), decision BS-III/15)

2. Please identify any difficulties arising from the implementation of the procedures, mechanisms and annexes under the Protocol. (paragraph 1(b), decision BS-III/15)

3. Please provide any suggestions for appropriate indicators and/or criteria for evaluating the effectiveness of the Protocol and ideas on the modalities of the evaluation. (paragraph 1(b), decision BS-III/15)

4. Within the framework of your overall evaluation of the effectiveness of the Protocol above, please assess the effectiveness of the procedures and mechanisms on compliance under the Protocol as provided for in the annex to decision BS-I/7 (available at <http://www.biodiv.org/biosafety/cop-mop/result.aspx?id=8289>). Please include your views on measures concerning cases of repeated non-compliance and on rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the Copmpliance Committee regarding voting. (paragraph 1, decision BS-III/1)