



CBD

# Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

22 May 2007  
International Day for Biological Diversity



Biodiversity and Climate Change

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27 September 2007

## NOTIFICATION

### **Submission of views and/or information in preparation for the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Biosafety Protocol**

Madam/Sir,

I would like to draw your attention to the following decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Biosafety Protocol (COP-MOP) where the COP-MOP has invited or requested the submission of views and information not later than six months prior to the date of its fourth meeting:

**1) *Handling, Transport, Packaging and Identification of living modified organisms (Article 18):***

- (a) Paragraph 2 (a), Article 18, Living modified organisms for direct use as food, feed or for processing:* The COP-MOP requests, Parties and invites other Governments, regional and international organizations and interested stakeholders, to submit to the Executive Secretary, information on experience gained with the use of sampling of living modified organisms and detection techniques and on the need for and modalities of developing criteria for acceptability of, and harmonizing, sampling and detection techniques (decision BS-III/10, paragraph 11);
- (b) Paragraphs 2(b) and 2 (c), Article 18, Living modified organisms for contained use and Living modified organisms for intentional introduction into the environment:* The COP-MOP requests Parties and invites other Governments and relevant international organizations to submit to the Executive Secretary further information on experience gained with the use of a commercial invoice or other documents required or utilized by existing documentation systems, or pursuant to national requirements (decision BS-III/8, paragraph 1);
- (c) Paragraph 3, Article 18:* The COP-MOP invites Parties, other Governments and relevant international organizations to submit views and information on: (i) the adequacy of existing rules and standards for identification, handling, packaging and transport of goods and substances to address concerns relating to living modified organisms that are subject to transboundary movement, and (ii) on gaps that may exist that may justify a need to develop new rules and standards, or to call upon relevant international bodies to modify or expand their existing rules and standards, as appropriate (decision BS-III/9, paragraph 1).

To: Cartagena Protocol National Focal Points (or CBD Focal Points where Biosafety Focal Points have not yet been nominated)



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**2) *Assessment and review (Article 35):***

The COP-MOP invites Parties, other Governments as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders to submit their views to the Secretariat which:

- (a) Evaluate the effectiveness of the Protocol, including an assessment of procedures and annexes, taking into account the items specified in paragraph 6 (b) of the medium-term programme of work contained in the annex to decision BS-I/12;
- (b) Assess the procedures and annexes under the Protocol, with a view to identifying difficulties arising from implementation as well as suggestions for appropriate indicators and/or criteria for evaluating effectiveness and ideas on the modalities of the evaluation (Decision BS-III/15, paragraph 1).

Those Parties that already submitted their views in this regard along with their national reports may ignore this section.

**3) *Socio-economic Considerations:***

At its second meeting, the COP-MOP requested Parties, other Governments and relevant international organizations to submit their views and case-studies, where available, concerning socio-economic impacts of living modified organisms (Decision BS-II/12, paragraph 5).

I would greatly appreciate if the submissions addressing the items outlined above reach the Secretariat as soon as possible, but **no later than 30 November 2007**.

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