



Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



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NOTIFICATION

Translation of the Biosafety Clearing-House into the six official languages of the United Nations

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am very pleased to announce that the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) is now accessible in all six of the official languages of the United Nations (i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish). The translation has been completed for all public pages of the BCH Central Portal (<http://bch.cbd.int/>). The pages of the BCH Management Centre, only accessible to BCH account-holders to create and manage information, are also expected to be translated, following the revamping of this last section, by the end of 2008.

This extensive translation was undertaken in response to a direct request from the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol in paragraph 13 of decision BS-III/2 of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP).

I further express our gratitude to the UNEP-GEF BCH Project team for its commitment in producing the “Help” section of the BCH which is available in the Central Portal to help facilitate the use of the BCH. It is noted that the product is an output of the effective collaboration of the Secretariat and the BCH Project. This integrated new “Help” section has also been fully translated into the six official languages of the United Nations.

The Secretariat is committed to making the BCH as accessible and user-friendly as possible to Parties, as well as all other BCH users, and I am confident that this translation and the new “Help” section will be of enormous benefit to Parties in their efforts to exercise their rights and fulfill their obligations under the Cartagena Protocol.

Accordingly, I would invite all Parties, and other BCH users, to access the BCH in a UN language other than English and provide the Secretariat with any feedback you may have.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaf
Executive Secretary

To All National Focal Points to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB)
All National Focal Points to the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH)



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