



Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



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NOTIFICATION

Announcement: Fifth Coordination Meeting for Governments and Organizations Implementing or Funding Biosafety Capacity-Building Activities; 9 to 11 March 2009, San José, Costa Rica

Madam/Sir,

In its decision BS-I/5, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP) established a coordination mechanism to facilitate the exchange of information and experience regarding capacity-building for the effective implementation of the Protocol and to promote partnerships, complementarities and synergies between various capacity-building initiatives.

Pursuant to the above decision, four coordination meetings for Governments and organizations implementing or funding biosafety capacity-building activities have been held since 2004. The reports of the meetings are available at: <http://www.cbd.int/biosafety/issues/meetings.shtml>.

I am pleased to inform you that the Government of Costa Rica, in collaboration with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), has kindly offered to co-organise and host the fifth Coordination Meeting from **9 to 11 March 2009 in San José** at the IICA Headquarters. The meeting will focus on sharing experiences and discuss ways to strengthen national capacities for addressing the following issues: (a) environmental risk assessment and post-release monitoring of living modified organisms; and (b) integration of biosafety into national development plans, strategies and programmes, such as Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) and national programmes for achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

The provisional agenda and annotations to the provisional agenda are available on the website of the Secretariat at: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=BSCMCB-05>.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary

To: National Focal Points to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
CBD National Focal Points (where CPB-NFPs have not yet been designated)
Biosafety Clearing-House National Focal Points
Relevant Organizations



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