



# Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



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## NOTIFICATION

### Registration for Online Forum on Standards for LMO Shipments (paragraph 3 of Article 18 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety)

Madam/Sir,

The Secretariat is pleased to announce that registration for the Online Forum on Standards for LMO Shipments is now open. You are invited to register to participate in the Forum here: [https://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/registration\\_art18.shtml](https://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/registration_art18.shtml).

As you will recall, decision BS-IV/10 of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Biosafety Protocol requested the CBD Executive Secretary to, *inter alia*, organize an online conference (referred to herein as 'forum') on paragraph 3 of Article 18. The online forum is intended to: (i) identify the relevant standards with regard to handling, transport, packaging and identification of living modified organisms; (ii) identify where gaps exist; and (iii) suggest possible modalities to fill the gaps. In line with the request of the Parties, a summary of the outcome of the forum, reflecting the full range of views expressed, will be prepared and submitted to the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol for its consideration.

The Online Forum will run from **Monday, 18 May 2009 to Friday, 29 May 2009**. The Online Forum will consist of a number of discussion groups organized around the guiding questions prepared in accordance with paragraph 5 of decision BS-IV/10. It will also include an 'ask an expert' component whereby experts from different international organizations that work in areas related to standards for the handling, transport, packaging and identification of living modified organisms will be available online to answer questions from participants. Experts from the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention, the Dangerous Goods and Special Cargoes Section of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's Transport Division and the Secretariat of the World Trade Organization have already confirmed their participation.

We encourage you to circulate information about this Online Forum to others who may be interested.

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

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif  
Executive Secretary

To: Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB) National Focal Points  
CBD National Focal Points (where CPB focal points have not yet  
been designated)  
Biosafety Clearing House National Focal Points  
Relevant Organizations



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