

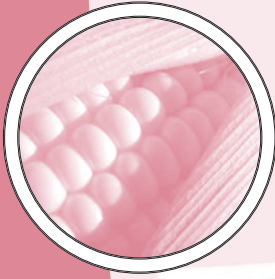
# Biosafety

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR  
CONCRETE ACTIONS



*Decisions of the Eighth Meeting of the  
Conference of the Parties to the Convention  
on Biological Diversity serving as the  
meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena  
Protocol on Biosafety*

*Cancun, Mexico,  
4 to 17 December 2016*







# **BIOSAFETY: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR CONCRETE ACTIONS**

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Conference of the Parties to the Convention on  
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**DECISIONS OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF  
THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY  
SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE  
CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY**

*Cancun, Mexico, 4 to 17 December 2016*

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## FOREWORD

The eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP 8) was held in Cancun, Mexico, from 4 to 17 December 2016. This was the first time that the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol was held concurrently with the meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and with the meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The decisions of the eighth meeting of the Parties, presented in this booklet, show, on the one hand, that much progress has been made towards the implementation of biosafety measures at national and global levels. On the other hand, they show that much remains to be done while reaffirming the importance of continuing to dedicate the necessary resources to support the full implementation of the Cartagena Protocol. In this regard, this COP-MOP in general aimed to setting strategic priorities for concrete action. The following are some of the highlights from the meeting.

The third assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Cartagena Protocol was carried out in conjunction with the mid-term evaluation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol, and Parties were invited to prioritize, for the remainder of the Strategic Plan, operational objectives relating to the development of biosafety legislation, risk assessment, risk management, detection and identification of living modified organisms as well as public awareness, education and participation in view of their critical importance in facilitating the implementation the Cartagena Protocol.

With regards to capacity-building, the status of implementation of the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity Building was reviewed at the meeting. Parties decided to maintain the Framework, and urged the prioritization and focus on the priorities identified during the third assessment and review of the Cartagena Protocol.

The programme of work on public awareness, education and participation regarding LMOs, including access to information, was extended until 2020 with new priority areas and activities, such as advancing legal and/or policy frameworks and mechanisms; communicating biosafety to wider audiences; and strengthening biosafety education at all levels.

With regards to matters of compliance, the Parties welcomed the activities undertaken by the Compliance Committee in the previous biennium, in line with its supportive role in the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol, and the progress made by Parties in complying with their obligations under the Cartagena Protocol.

With regards to the information-sharing mechanism under the Protocol, the Secretariat was requested to migrate the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) to a new platform and to develop joint modalities of operation between the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, the BCH and the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-

House to enhance coherence in the implementation and operation of the common elements of all components of the central clearing-house mechanism of the Convention.

To facilitate the work on border control of LMOs, Parties adopted operational definitions for the terms “unintentional transboundary movement” and “illegal transboundary movement”. Also, Parties were invited to provide border control officials and laboratories with the appropriate mandates to sample, detect and identify living modified organisms and the need for capacity-building activities was emphasized.

With regards to tools for risk assessment of LMOs, the meeting of the Parties took note of the voluntary Guidance on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms and invited interested Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to take the Guidance into account as a voluntary tool to assist in conducting risk assessment in accordance with the Cartagena Protocol while acknowledging that other guidance documents and national approaches can also assist in conducting risk assessment in accordance with the Cartagena Protocol. Parties also set up a process to look into possible gaps in existing guidance materials on risk assessment of living modified organisms, and called for proposals to address any gaps identified. In the wake of enhancing integration among the Convention and its Protocols, for the first time, the meeting of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to review the information provided and to recommend a way forward to address the needs, priorities and gaps identified by Parties for consideration by the meeting of the Parties at its ninth meeting.

In relation to socio-economic considerations, the Parties welcomed the progress made during the past intersessional period and extended the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group to work on the guidelines envisaged in the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol.

The eighth meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol was a success and an important stepping stone towards the full implementation of the Cartagena Protocol and concrete measures towards the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Cristiana Paşca Palmer  
Executive Secretary



## VIII/1. COMPLIANCE

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Welcoming* the activities undertaken by the Compliance Committee in the last biennium, in line with its supportive role in the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and *taking note* of its recommendations as contained in the annex to its report,<sup>1</sup>

*Noting* the useful role that regional cooperation may play in supporting compliance with the Protocol,

1. *Welcomes* the progress made by Parties in complying with their obligations under the Protocol, yet *notes* with concern that, 13 years after the entry into force of the Protocol, a large number of Parties are not in full compliance in relation to most obligations under the Protocol;

2. *Urges* Parties to make use of all available means of support to assist them in fulfilling their obligations;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of continuous and predictable support by the Global Environment Facility to eligible Parties to support their compliance with obligations under the Protocol;

4. *Urges* Parties that have not yet completely put in place legal, administrative and other measures to implement their obligations under the Protocol to do so, paying particular attention to the importance of putting in place monitoring systems as a prerequisite for effective reporting;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, as appropriate and following guidance provided by the Committee, to continue following up with Parties that have not yet fully complied with their obligations under the Protocol, and *requests* Parties to collaborate fully in this regard;

6. *Notes* with regret that one Party has not submitted its interim, first, second or third national reports;

7. *Also notes* that the Compliance Committee and the Executive Secretary have contacted the Party referred to in paragraph 6 above on numerous occasions, in accordance with decision BS-V/1, including by offering support in preparing its reports;

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<sup>1</sup> UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/2.

8. *Urges* the Party referred to in paragraph 6 above, as a matter of urgency, to submit its third national report to fulfil its obligation;

9. *Encourages* the Party referred to in paragraph 6 above to accept the offers of assistance of the Compliance Committee and any other assistance, should it require support to prepare its report.

## VIII/2. OPERATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE BIOSAFETY CLEARING-HOUSE

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Welcoming the Web Strategy for the Convention and its Protocols,<sup>2</sup>*

*Welcoming also the cooperative activities among the focal points in Asia which were undertaken during the intersessional period in partnership among the Republic of Korea, China and the United Nations Environment Programme in an effort to enhance compliance with the Protocol,*

1. *Notes with concern* the decline in the number of records related to capacity-building activities that were registered in the Biosafety Clearing-House, and urges Parties and invites other Governments and relevant organizations to register in the Biosafety Clearing-House their capacity-building activities, projects and opportunities;

2. *Recalls* decision BS-VII/2 urging Parties and inviting other Governments to register in the Biosafety Clearing-House all their final decisions on the first intentional transboundary movement of living modified organisms for intentional introduction into the environment of the Party of import and related risk assessments as requested under the Protocol, with special emphasis on the first intentional transboundary movement of living modified organisms intended for field trials, since this category is currently underrepresented in the Biosafety Clearing-House, while recalling paragraph 1(a) of decision BS-V/2;

3. *Reminds* Parties of their obligation to notify affected or potentially affected States, the Biosafety Clearing-House and, where appropriate, relevant international organizations, when it knows of an occurrence under its jurisdiction resulting in a release that leads, or may lead, to an unintentional transboundary movement of a living modified organism that is likely to have significant adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health in such States;

4. *Urges* Parties that have not yet completely done so to make all required information available to the Biosafety Clearing-House and keep the records up-to-date focusing in particular on information related to: (a) national biosafety frameworks, legislation, regulations and guidelines; (b) summaries of risk assessments; (c) final decisions regarding living modified organisms and living modified organisms intended for direct use as food or feed, or for processing; (d) national focal points and national points of contact; and (e) information on bilateral, regional or multilateral agreements or arrangements into which they have entered and which have relevance for biosafety;

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<sup>2</sup> See UNEP/CBD/COP/13/14/Add.1.

5. *Invites* Parties in a position to do so to provide funds to enable the translation of training materials and other resources into all of the official languages of the United Nations after the migration of the Biosafety Clearing-House to the new platform;

6. *Invites* the governing bodies of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development to strengthen the collaboration between their biosafety databases and the Biosafety Clearing-House;

7. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to continue to make funds available in support of activities related to the Biosafety Clearing-House;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue collaborating with other biosafety databases and platforms, including those of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development;

(b) To continue making improvements to the central portal of the Biosafety Clearing-House, taking into account the needs of its users with a view to facilitating the submission of information and processes for validation by the respective Biosafety Clearing-House focal points, as well as following up on the recommendations of the Informal Advisory Committee on the Biosafety Clearing-House at its tenth meeting;

(c) To carry out the full migration of the Biosafety Clearing-House to its new platform with a view to enabling the Informal Advisory Committee on the Biosafety Clearing-House to test the new platform before its face-to-face meeting in 2018 while ensuring that information continues to be available to users of the Biosafety Clearing-House during the migration process and to send to the Biosafety Clearing-House focal points a chronogram detailing the migration and follow up processes;

(d) To continue organizing regional online discussions, and use other means of information exchange, for focal points through the Biosafety Clearing-House to facilitate integration and synergisms;

(e) To promote collaboration among Biosafety Clearing-House focal points at the regional and subregional levels;

(f) To create additional tools for facilitating statistical analysis of information contained in the Biosafety Clearing-House with a view to enabling Parties to analyse and better use the information;

(g) To create a portal through the Biosafety Clearing-House whereby tools, guidance and experience gained in the contained use of living modified organisms could be compiled and easily retrieved;

(h) To develop joint modalities of operation between the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, the Biosafety Clearing-House and the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its ninth meeting and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing at its third meeting with a view to enhancing coherence in the implementation and operation of the common elements of all components of the central clearing-house mechanism of the Convention.

### VIII/3. CAPACITY-BUILDING

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Recalling* decision BS-VI/3,

*Taking note* of the report on the status of implementation of the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol submitted by the Executive Secretary,<sup>3</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* efforts by various Parties and national, regional and international organizations that contributed to the progress made in the implementation of the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building, in particular with respect to focal areas 1, 2 and 5 on national biosafety frameworks, risk assessment and risk management, and public awareness, education and participation, respectively,

*Recognizing* that more work is needed to achieve the expected outcomes of the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building within the remaining time until the end of the Framework and Action Plan,

*Underscoring* the need to prioritize capacity-building needs in order to facilitate efficient use of the limited available resources and to maximize the implementation of the Protocol and its Strategic Plan in the remaining period until 2020,

*Underlining* the need to undertake activities in an effective and efficient manner and to promote synergies, especially with capacity-building activities carried out under the Convention,

1. *Decides* to maintain the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol as adopted in decision BS-VI/3;
2. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to continue efforts to enhance the implementation of the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building;
3. *Urges* Parties, for the remaining period until 2020, to prioritize and focus, as appropriate, on operational objectives relating to the development of national biosafety legislation, risk assessment, detection and identification of living modified organisms, and public awareness, education and participation in view of their importance in facilitating the implementation of the Protocol;

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<sup>3</sup> UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/3.

4. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations in a position to do so, to provide additional financial and technical support to enable developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition to further implement the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building;

5. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to continue to provide financial support to enable developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition to further implement the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building;

6. *Urges* Parties and other Governments to integrate biosafety in their national biodiversity strategies and actions plans and broader national development strategies in order to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals;<sup>4</sup>

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources and in collaboration with relevant organizations, to facilitate and support implementation of the priority capacity-building activities for supporting the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety contained in the annex hereto and as reflected in the Short-term Action Plan (2017-2020) to Enhance and Support Capacity-Building for the Implementation of the Convention and its Protocols as annexed to decision XIII/23 of the Conference of the Parties.

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<sup>4</sup> See United Nations General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

*Annex*

**SHORT-TERM ACTION PLAN (2017-2020) TO ENHANCE AND SUPPORT CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR THE CONVENTION AND ITS PROTOCOLS**

**CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY<sup>5</sup>**

Activity	COP-MOP decisions	Timeline	Expected output/outcome	Possible set of indicators	Possible partners
1. * Develop capacity-building materials and guidelines on mainstreaming biosafety into NBSAPs and national development plans	BS-VII/5 para. 10; BSVII/1, para. 5	2017-2018	An e-learning module and a toolkit on mainstreaming biosafety developed and made available in English, French and Spanish Parties' capacity to integrate biosafety issues into NBSAPs and national development plans and sectoral policies and programmes enhanced	Trends in the number of Parties accessing and using e-learning module and toolkit to promote the integration of biosafety into their NBSAPs	Strathclyde University
2. * Organize subregional trainings on mainstreaming biosafety into NBSAP and development plans, making use of the above e-learning module and toolkit (Activity 97), in collaboration with partners	BS-VII/5 para. 10; BSVII/1, para. 5	2017-2018	Parties' capacity to integrate biosafety issues into NBSAPs and national development plans and programmes enhanced	Number persons participating in the trainings and using materials to promote the integration of biosafety into their NBSAPs Trends in the number of countries with biosafety integrated in their NBSAPs	UNEP, UNDR, FAO

5 The priority activities are marked with shading and an asterisk.



Activity	COP-MOP decisions	Timeline	Expected output/outcome	Possible set of indicators	Possible partners
<p>3. * Support selected developing countries to implement pilot projects to develop and apply practical measures and approaches for integrated implementation of the Cartagena Protocol and the CBD at the national level and share emerging good practices and lessons learned</p>	<p>XII/29 para.9-11, BS-VII/5 para 12, 18 BS-VI/3 para. 9</p>	<p>2017-2020</p>	<p>At least 20 countries develop practical actions to promote integrated national implementation of the CPB and the CBD and prepare case studies on their experiences and lessons learned</p>	<p>Number of country case studies on the integrated implementation of the CPB and the CBD available Number of countries sharing their experiences and lessons learned</p>	<p>UNEP, UNDP, FAO</p>
<p>4. * Organize training courses in risk assessment of LMOs</p>	<p>BS-VII/12, paras. 11-14</p>	<p>2017-2020</p>	<p>Improved capacity of Parties to conduct risk assessment of LMOs in accordance with the Protocol</p>	<p>Number of regional training courses successfully carried out Number of people trained in risk assessment</p>	<p>To be determined</p>
<p>5. * Develop e-learning modules on risk assessment of LMOs</p>	<p>BS-V/12, para. 9 (d)</p>	<p>2017-2020</p>	<p>Interactive e-learning modules made available to Parties as a more cost-effective way of delivering training</p>	<p>Number of e-learning modules available Number of downloads and use of the e-learning modules</p>	<p>To be determined</p>
<p>6. * Organize regional and subregional training courses to enable Parties to implement the LMO identification requirements of paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18 and related decisions</p>	<p>BS-III/10</p>	<p>2017-2020</p>	<p>Parties are better equipped to take measures to ensure that shipments of LMOs intended for direct use as food or feed or processing (LMOs-FFP) are identified through accompanying documentation and to prevent and penalize illegal transboundary movements of LMOs</p>	<p>Number of Parties taking domestic measures to ensure that all LMOs-FFP shipments are identified in accompanying documentation Number of Parties with domestic measures to prevent and penalize illegal transboundary movements</p>	<p>To be determined</p>

Activity	COP-MOP decisions	Timeline	Expected output/outcome	Possible set of indicators	Possible partners
7. * Organize workshops on sampling, detection and identification of LMOs	BS-VII/10, para. 5 (d); CP-VIII/16, para.10 (b)	2017-2020	Parties are trained and equipped for sampling, detection and identification of LMOs Parties are assisted in fulfilling the requirements under Article 17 of the Cartagena Protocol	Number of regional capacity-building workshops successfully organized Number of participants taking part in the workshops	EU-JRC, and reference laboratories in each region
8. * Organize online discussions and knowledge-sharing sessions through the Network of Laboratories on the detection and identification of LMOs	BS-V/9, para. 5; CP-VIII/16, para.10 (a)	2017-2020	Technical tools for the detection of illegal/ unauthorized LMOs are compiled and made available to Parties	Number of Parties using tools for detecting unauthorized LMOs Number of downloads from BCH	Network of LMO Detection and Identification Laboratories, and reference laboratories in each region, UNEP
9. * Organize subregional workshops on public awareness and education concerning LMOs	BS-V/13	2017-2020	Parties' capacity to promote and facilitate public awareness, education and participation concerning LMOs enhanced	Number of workshops successfully conducted Number of individuals participating in the workshops	UNEP, Aarhus Convention
10. * Organize training courses on public participation and public access to information, to advance the implementation of the Programme of Work on public awareness, education, and public participation concerning LMOs	CP-VIII/18, para. 6	2017-2020	Parties' capacity to promote and facilitate access to biosafety information and public participation concerning LMOs enhanced	Number of training courses successfully conducted Number of Parties participating in the training courses and having access to information	Aarhus Convention

Activity	COP-MOP decisions	Timeline	Expected output/outcome	Possible set of indicators	Possible partners
11. Develop, in collaboration with relevant organizations, training materials on sampling, detection and identification of LMOs	BS-VII/10, para. 5 (d)	2017-2020	Parties are trained in LMO sampling, detection and identification	Number of collaborations established on the development of capacity-building curricula	Network of LMO Detection and Identification Laboratories, and reference laboratories in each region, UNEP
12. Develop learning materials on public awareness and education concerning LMOs	BS-V/12, BS-V/13	2017-2020	Learning materials readily and widely accessed and used by Parties to improve their capacity to raise public awareness and education concerning LMOs	Number of toolkits and best practices handbooks produced Number of downloads of the materials made through the BCH	UNEP, Aarhus Convention
13. Support online networks and communities of practice to facilitate exchange of knowledge, experiences and lessons learned on PAEP	BS-V/13	2017-2020	Parties are sharing experience and lessons learned on public awareness, education and participation	Trends in the number of individuals participating in discussion forums and communities of practice	UNEP, Aarhus Convention
14. Organize workshops to raise awareness of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress	CP-VIII/11, para. 4	2017-2020	Parties' awareness and understanding of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress enhanced	Number of capacity-building workshop organized Number of Parties in attendance	To be determined

## VIII/4. ROSTER OF BIOSAFETY EXPERTS

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Recalling* decision BS-VI/4,

*Recognizing* the importance of the roster of experts as a useful tool for capacity-building,

1. *Invites* Parties and other Governments that have not yet done so to nominate experts to the roster and those that have done so to invite the experts nominated to the roster to update their records;

2. *Reiterates* its invitation to developed country Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to make voluntary contributions in order to fully operationalize the roster, so as to facilitate implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol for the period 2011-2020;<sup>6</sup>

3. *Decides* to expand the roster to include experts nominated by Parties and other Governments to participate in ad hoc technical expert groups and networks under the Cartagena Protocol;

4. *Encourages* Parties and other Governments to consider nominating experts in areas where there is a lack of expertise on the current roster, for example, in the areas of management of data related to biosafety and biodiversity, socio-economic analysis and trade, synthetic biology, and public awareness, education and participation;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to revise and streamline the nomination form for the roster of biosafety experts to facilitate the submission and retrieval of information;

6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to incorporate a functionality through the Biosafety Clearing-House that would allow users to search the roster of experts and sort the results by the category in which the experts were nominated, including expert groups or networks under the Protocol, as well as the experts actively participating in such groups or networks;

7. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to explore the possibility of linking the roster of experts on biosafety to tools being developed under other initiatives, such as the Bio-Bridge Initiative and the Codex Alimentarius, in order to facilitate the matching of biosafety needs identified by Parties with available funding and technical assistance.

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<sup>6</sup> Decision BS-VI/4, paragraph 8.

## VIII/5. FINANCIAL MECHANISM AND RESOURCES

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Recalling* Article 28 of the Cartagena Protocol,

*Having considered* the information on biosafety in the report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its thirteenth meeting,<sup>7</sup>

*Having also considered* the information on biosafety contained in the report of the expert team on a full assessment of the funds needed for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols for the seventh replenishment of the Global Environment Facility,<sup>8</sup>

*Bearing in mind* the previous decisions on guidance to the financial mechanism regarding programme priorities to support the ratification and implementation of the Cartagena Protocol,

1. *Takes note* of the consolidated previous guidance to the financial mechanism related to the Cartagena Protocol;<sup>9</sup>

2. *Recommends* to the Conference of the Parties that it include the following elements in the four-year (2018-2022) outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the seventh replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund:

(a) Outcome 1: Increased number of ratifications of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress;

(b) Outcome 2: National implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress enhanced;

(c) Outcome 3: Parties deliver their reporting obligations under the Protocol, through submission of national reports and of relevant information through the Biosafety Clearing-House;

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7 UNEP/CBD/COP/13/12/Add.1.

8 UNEP/CBD/COP/13/12/Add.2.

9 See UNEP/CBD/COP/13/12, annex II, section B.

3. *Also recommends* to the Conference of the Parties that it:

(a) Give full consideration to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in the terms of reference to be adopted for the fifth review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism under the Convention;

(b) Invite Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to respond proactively to the survey for the fifth review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism under the Convention;

4. *Further recommends* to the Conference of the Parties, in adopting its guidance to the financial mechanism, with respect to support for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, that it invite the Global Environment Facility:

(a) To continue to make specific funding available to eligible Parties to put in place their national biosafety frameworks;

(b) To continue to fund projects and capacity-building activities on issues identified by the Parties to facilitate further implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, including regional cooperation projects with a view to facilitating the sharing of experiences and lessons learned, and harnessing associated synergies;

(c) To ensure that the policy, strategy, programme priorities and eligibility criteria adopted in annex I to decision I/2 of the Conference of the Parties are duly followed in an efficient manner in relation to access and utilization of financial resources.

## VIII/6. COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, CONVENTIONS AND INITIATIVES

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Recalling* its decisions BS-II/6, BS-V/6, BS-VI/6 and BS-VII/6,

*Welcoming* the information provided by the Executive Secretary on activities undertaken to improve cooperation with other organizations, conventions and initiatives,<sup>10</sup>

*Also welcoming* the cooperation of the Executive Secretary, over the last intersessional period, with, *inter alia*, the World Trade Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Plant Protection Convention, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (the Aarhus Convention), the European Union Reference Laboratory for GM Food and Feed of the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, the Green Customs Initiative, the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), the African Union Commission, the Mexican National Centre of Reference for the Detection of Genetically Modified Organisms (CNRDOG) and the National Institute of Biology of Slovenia,

*Underlining* the importance of cooperation and coordination among relevant organizations, multilateral agreements and initiatives for the effective implementation of the Protocol and the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020, adopted at the fifth meeting of the Parties to the Protocol,<sup>11</sup>

1. *Urges* Parties to improve and strengthen collaboration at the regional and national levels among focal points of organizations, conventions and initiatives relevant to the implementation of the Biosafety Protocol, as appropriate;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of funds, to continue cooperation with other relevant organizations, conventions and initiatives, including relevant entities at the national and regional levels, and involving, where applicable, experts from indigenous peoples and local communities, with a view to meeting the strategic objective in focal area 5, on outreach and cooperation, of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

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<sup>10</sup> See UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/6.

<sup>11</sup> See decision BS-V/16.

## **VIII/7. BUDGET FOR THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE SECRETARIAT**

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Recalling* its decision VII/7, and decision XII/32 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as decision I/13 of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing,

1. *Decides* to adopt an integrated programme of work and budget for the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources;

2. *Also decides* to share all costs for Secretariat services among the Convention, the Cartagena Protocol and the Nagoya Protocol on a ratio of 76:16:8 for the biennium 2017-2018;

3. *Approves* a core (BG) programme budget for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety of 2,937,900 United States dollars for the year 2017 and of 3,007,100 United States dollars for the year 2018, representing 16 per cent of the integrated budget of 18,361,600 United States dollars for the year 2017 and 18,794,200 United States dollars for the year 2018 for the Convention and the Protocols, for the purposes listed in the tables 1a and 1b below;

4. *Adopts* the scale of assessments for the apportionment of expenses for 2017 and 2018 as contained in the table 3 below;

5. *Decides* to endorse the merger of the Trust Funds for additional voluntary contributions in support of approved activities of the Convention and its Protocols (BE, BH, BX) so that resources may be used for projects targeted at more than one instrument and, in this regard, decides that new voluntary contributions for activities should be put in the BE Trust Fund, and requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to seek the approval of the United Nations Environment Assembly to change the name of the merged Trust Fund to “Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Contributions in Support of Additional Approved Activities of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols”;

6. *Acknowledges* the funding estimates for the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BH) for Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities of the Cartagena Protocol for the period 2017-2020 included in table 2 below;

7. *Notes* that the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BH) for Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities of the Cartagena Protocol should



be extended for a period of four years beginning 1 January 2018 and ending 31 December 2021 to allow the Executive Secretary to process the administrative closing of the Trust Fund, and requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to seek the approval of the United Nations Environment Assembly for this extension;

8. *Decides* to apply, *mutatis mutandis*, paragraphs 4, 6 to 20 and 24 to 47 of decision XIII/32 of the Conference of the Parties.

**Table 1a. Integrated biennium budget for the Trust Funds of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols 2017-2018**

<i>Expenditures</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>(US\$ thousands)</i>		
<b>I. Programmes</b>			
Office of the Executive Secretary	2,114.2	2,215.1	4,329.3
Scientific and Policy Support	5,156.9	5,252.6	10,409.5
Mainstreaming, Cooperation and Outreach Support	2,057.1	2,098.8	4,155.9
Implementation Support	2,838.2	3,322.7	6,160.9
Administration, Finance and Conference Services	3,974.1	3,742.9	7,716.9
<b>Sub-total (I)</b>	<b>16,140.5</b>	<b>16,632.1</b>	<b>32,772.5</b>
<b>II. Programme support charge 13%</b>	2,098.3	2,162.2	4,260.4
<b>GRAND TOTAL (I + II)</b>	<b>18,238.8</b>	<b>18,794.2</b>	<b>37,033.0</b>
<b>III. Working capital reserve</b>	122.8		122.8
<b>GRAND TOTAL (II + III)</b>	<b>18,361.6</b>	<b>18,794.2</b>	<b>37,155.8</b>
Cartagena Protocol share of Integrated Budget (16%)	2,937.9	3,007.1	5,944.9
Replenishment of working capital from reserve (16%)	(19.7)		(19.7)
Less contribution from the host country (16%)	(196.1)	(197.0)	(393.2)
Set aside delegated to Executive Director of UNEP (16%)	(24.0)	(39.2)	(63.2)
Less savings from previous years (16%)	(95.5)	(95.9)	(191.4)
<b>NET TOTAL (amount to be shared by Parties)</b>	<b>2,602.6</b>	<b>2,675.0</b>	<b>5,277.5</b>

**Table 1b. Integrated biennium budget for the Trust Funds of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols 2017-2018 (by object of expenditure)**

<i>Expenditures</i>	2017	2018 (US\$ thousands)	Total
A. Staff costs	11,329.4	11,586.0	22,915.4
B. Bureau meetings	150.0	215.0	365.0
C. Travel on official business	450.0	400.0	850.0
D. Consultants/subcontracts	75.0	75.0	150.0
E. Meetings <sup>1/ 2/ 3/</sup>	1,416.8	2,016.8	3,433.6
F. Public awareness materials	50.0	50.0	100.0
G. Temporary assistance/Overtime	100.0	100.0	200.0
H. Rent and associated costs	1,239.7	1,257.6	2,497.3
I. General operating expenses	979.6	726.6	1,706.2
J. Training	5.0	5.0	10.0
K. Expert Meetings	280.0	135.0	415.0
L. Translation of BCH/CHM and ABS CH websites	65.0	65.0	130.0
<b>Sub-total (I)</b>	<b>16,140.5</b>	<b>16,632.1</b>	<b>32,772.5</b>
<b>II. Programme support charge 13%</b>	<b>2,098.3</b>	<b>2,162.2</b>	<b>4,260.4</b>
<b>SUB-TOTAL (I + II)</b>	<b>18,238.8</b>	<b>18,794.2</b>	<b>37,033.0</b>
<b>III. Working capital reserve</b>	<b>122.8</b>		<b>122.8</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL (II + III)</b>	<b>18,361.6</b>	<b>18,794.2</b>	<b>37,155.8</b>
Cartagena Protocol share of integrated budget (16%)	2,937.9	3,007.1	5,944.9
Replenishment of working capital from reserve (16%)	(19.7)		(19.7)
Less contribution from the host country (16%)	(196.1)	(197.0)	(393.2)
Set aside delegated to Executive Director of UNEP (16%)	(24.0)	(39.2)	(63.2)
Less use of reserves from previous years (16%)	(95.5)	(95.9)	(191.4)
<b>NET TOTAL (amount to be shared by Parties)</b>	<b>2,602.6</b>	<b>2,675.0</b>	<b>5,277.5</b>

1/ Priority meetings to be funded from the core budget:

Tenth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Article 8(j).

Twenty-first and twenty-second meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice.

Second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.

Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention/Ninth meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety/Third meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing held concurrently.

2/ SBSTTA-21 (3 days), Art 8(j)-10 (3 days) back-to-back in 2017. SBSTTA-22 (6 days), SBI-2 (5 days) back-to-back in 2018.

3/ Budget for the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the ninth meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the third meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing divided equally between both years of the biennium.

**Table 2. Resource requirements from the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BH) for Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2017-2020**

*(Thousands of United States dollars)*

I. Description	2017-2020
<b>1. EXPERT MEETINGS</b>	
<b>Scientific and Policy Support Division</b>	
AHTEG on Risk Assessment and Risk Management	70.0
AHTEG on Socio-economic Considerations	80.0
<b>2. CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOPS</b>	
<b>Scientific and Policy Support Division</b>	
<b>Biosafety and Biosecurity Unit</b>	
Sampling, detection and identification of LMOs	300.0
Mainstreaming biosafety into NBSAP and development plans	360.0
Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol and the Convention at the national level	350.0
Risk assessment of LMOs	300.0
Implementation the LMO identification	420.0
Workshops on public awareness, education, and public participation concerning LMOs	300.0
Training courses on public participation and public access to information	200.0
Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress	300.0
<b>3. CONSULTANTS</b>	
<b>Scientific and Policy Support Division</b>	
<b>Biosafety and Biosecurity Unit</b>	
Unintentional transboundary movements of LMOs	10.0
Mainstreaming biosafety into NBSAPs and national development plans	65.0
Risk assessment of LMOs	80.0
Sampling, detection and identification of LMOs	80.0
Public awareness concerning LMOs	50.0
Cooperation with other relevant organizations	10.0
<b>4. STAFF TRAVEL</b>	
<b>Scientific and Policy Support Division</b>	
<b>Biosafety and Biosecurity Unit</b>	
Mainstreaming biosafety into NBSAPs and national development plans	30.0
Cooperation with other relevant organizations	15.0
<b>Sub-total I</b>	<b>3,020.0</b>
<b>II. Programme support costs (13%)</b>	<b>392.6</b>
<b>TOTAL COST (I + II)</b>	<b>3,412.6</b>

Table 3. Contributions to the Trust Fund for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the biennium 2017-2018

Member Country	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2017 US\$	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2018 US\$	Total Contributions 2017-2018 US\$
Afghanistan	0.006	0.009	227	0.006	0.009	233	460
Albania	0.008	0.012	303	0.008	0.012	311	614
Algeria	0.161	0.234	6,093	0.161	0.234	6,262	12,355
Angola	0.01	0.01	260	0.01	0.01	267	528
Antigua and Barbuda	0.002	0.003	76	0.002	0.003	78	153
Armenia	0.006	0.009	227	0.006	0.009	233	460
Austria	0.72	1.047	27,247	0.72	1.047	28,005	55,252
Azerbaijan	0.06	0.087	2,271	0.06	0.087	2,334	4,604
Bahamas	0.014	0.02	530	0.014	0.02	545	1,074
Bahrain	0.044	0.064	1,665	0.044	0.064	1,711	3,377
Bangladesh	0.01	0.01	260	0.01	0.01	267	528
Barbados	0.007	0.01	265	0.007	0.01	272	537
Belarus	0.056	0.081	2,119	0.056	0.081	2,178	4,297
Belgium	0.885	1.287	33,491	0.885	1.287	34,423	67,914
Belize	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Benin	0.003	0.004	114	0.003	0.004	117	230
Bhutan	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	0.012	0.017	454	0.012	0.017	467	921

Member Country	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2017 US\$	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2018 US\$	Total Contributions 2017-2018 US\$
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.013	0.019	492	0.013	0.019	506	998
Botswana	0.014	0.02	530	0.014	0.02	545	1,074
Brazil	3.823	5.559	144,674	3.823	5.559	148,701	293,375
Bulgaria	0.045	0.065	1,703	0.045	0.065	1,750	3,453
Burkina Faso	0.004	0.006	151	0.004	0.006	156	307
Burundi	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Cabo Verde	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Cambodia	0.004	0.006	151	0.004	0.006	156	307
Cameroon	0.01	0.015	378	0.01	0.015	389	767
Central African Republic	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Chad	0.005	0.007	189	0.005	0.007	194	384
China	7.921	11.518	299,755	7.921	11.518	308,098	607,854
Colombia	0.322	0.468	12,185	0.322	0.468	12,525	24,710
Comoros	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Congo	0.006	0.009	227	0.006	0.009	233	460
Costa Rica	0.047	0.068	1,779	0.047	0.068	1,828	3,607
Cote d'Ivoire	0.009	0.013	341	0.009	0.013	350	691
Croatia	0.099	0.144	3,746	0.099	0.144	3,851	7,597
Cuba	0.065	0.095	2,460	0.065	0.095	2,528	4,988
Cyprus	0.043	0.063	1,627	0.043	0.063	1,673	3,300

Member Country	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2017 US\$	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2018 US\$	Total Contributions 2017-2018 US\$
Czech Republic	0.344	0.5	13,018	0.344	0.5	13,380	26,398
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0.005	0.007	189	0.005	0.007	194	384
Democratic Republic of the Congo	0.008	0.01	260	0.008	0.01	267	528
Denmark	0.584	0.849	22,100	0.584	0.849	22,715	44,816
Djibouti	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Dominica	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Dominican Republic	0.046	0.067	1,741	0.046	0.067	1,789	3,530
Ecuador	0.067	0.097	2,535	0.067	0.097	2,606	5,142
Egypt	0.152	0.221	5,752	0.152	0.221	5,912	11,664
El Salvador	0.014	0.02	530	0.014	0.02	545	1,074
Eritrea	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Estonia	0.038	0.055	1,438	0.038	0.055	1,478	2,916
Ethiopia	0.01	0.01	260	0.01	0.01	267	528
European Union		2.5	65,064	0	2.5	66,875	131,939
Fiji	0.003	0.004	114	0.003	0.004	117	230
Finland	0.456	0.663	17,256	0.456	0.663	17,737	34,993
France	4.859	7.065	183,880	4.859	7.065	188,998	372,877
Gabon	0.017	0.025	643	0.017	0.025	661	1,305
Gambia	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77

Member Country	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2017 US\$	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2018 US\$	Total Contributions 2017-2018 US\$
Georgia	0.008	0.012	303	0.008	0.012	311	614
Germany	6.389	9.29	241,780	6.389	9.29	248,509	490,289
Ghana	0.016	0.023	605	0.016	0.023	622	1,228
Greece	0.471	0.685	17,824	0.471	0.685	18,320	36,144
Grenada	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Guatemala	0.028	0.041	1,060	0.028	0.041	1,089	2,149
Guinea	0.002	0.003	76	0.002	0.003	78	153
Guinea-Bissau	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Guyana	0.002	0.003	76	0.002	0.003	78	153
Honduras	0.008	0.012	303	0.008	0.012	311	614
Hungary	0.161	0.234	6,093	0.161	0.234	6,262	12,355
India	0.737	1.072	27,890	0.737	1.072	28,667	56,557
Indonesia	0.504	0.733	19,073	0.504	0.733	19,604	38,677
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.471	0.685	17,824	0.471	0.685	18,320	36,144
Iraq	0.129	0.188	4,882	0.129	0.188	5,018	9,899
Ireland	0.335	0.487	12,677	0.335	0.487	13,030	25,708
Italy	3.748	5.45	141,836	3.748	5.45	145,784	287,620
Jamaica	0.009	0.013	341	0.009	0.013	350	691
Japan	9.68	14.075	366,321	9.68	14.075	376,517	742,838
Jordan	0.02	0.029	757	0.02	0.029	778	1,535

Member Country	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2017 US\$	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2018 US\$	Total Contributions 2017-2018 US\$
Kazakhstan	0.191	0.278	7,228	0.191	0.278	7,429	14,657
Kenya	0.018	0.026	681	0.018	0.026	700	1,381
Kiribati	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Kyrgyzstan	0.002	0.003	76	0.002	0.003	78	153
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.003	0.004	114	0.003	0.004	117	230
Latvia	0.05	0.073	1,892	0.05	0.073	1,945	3,837
Lebanon	0.046	0.067	1,741	0.046	0.067	1,789	3,530
Lesotho	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Liberia	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Libya	0.125	0.182	4,730	0.125	0.182	4,862	9,592
Lithuania	0.072	0.105	2,725	0.072	0.105	2,801	5,525
Luxembourg	0.064	0.093	2,422	0.064	0.093	2,489	4,911
Madagascar	0.003	0.004	114	0.003	0.004	117	230
Malawi	0.002	0.003	76	0.002	0.003	78	153
Malaysia	0.322	0.468	12,185	0.322	0.468	12,525	24,710
Maldives	0.002	0.003	76	0.002	0.003	78	153
Mali	0.003	0.004	114	0.003	0.004	117	230
Malta	0.016	0.023	605	0.016	0.023	622	1,228
Marshall Islands	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Mauritania	0.002	0.003	76	0.002	0.003	78	153



Member Country	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2017 US\$	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2018 US\$	Total Contributions 2017-2018 US\$
Mauritius	0.012	0.017	454	0.012	0.017	467	921
Mexico	1.435	2.087	54,305	1.435	2.087	55,816	110,121
Mongolia	0.005	0.007	189	0.005	0.007	194	384
Montenegro	0.004	0.006	151	0.004	0.006	156	307
Morocco	0.054	0.079	2,044	0.054	0.079	2,100	4,144
Mozambique	0.004	0.006	151	0.004	0.006	156	307
Myanmar	0.01	0.01	260	0.01	0.01	267	528
Namibia	0.01	0.015	378	0.01	0.015	389	767
Nauru	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Netherlands	1.482	2.155	56,083	1.482	2.155	57,644	113,728
New Zealand	0.268	0.39	10,142	0.268	0.39	10,424	20,566
Nicaragua	0.004	0.006	151	0.004	0.006	156	307
Niger	0.002	0.003	76	0.002	0.003	78	153
Nigeria	0.209	0.304	7,909	0.209	0.304	8,129	16,039
Niue	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Norway	0.849	1.235	32,129	0.849	1.235	33,023	65,152
Oman	0.113	0.164	4,276	0.113	0.164	4,395	8,672
Pakistan	0.093	0.135	3,519	0.093	0.135	3,617	7,137
Palau	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Panama	0.034	0.049	1,287	0.034	0.049	1,322	2,609

Member Country	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2017 US\$	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2018 US\$	Total Contributions 2017-2018 US\$
Papua New Guinea	0.004	0.006	151	0.004	0.006	156	307
Paraguay	0.014	0.02	530	0.014	0.02	545	1,074
Peru	0.136	0.198	5,147	0.136	0.198	5,290	10,437
Philippines	0.165	0.24	6,244	0.165	0.24	6,418	12,662
Poland	0.841	1.223	31,826	0.841	1.223	32,712	64,538
Portugal	0.392	0.57	14,835	0.392	0.57	15,247	30,082
Qatar	0.269	0.391	10,180	0.269	0.391	10,463	20,643
Republic of Korea	2.039	2.965	77,162	2.039	2.965	79,310	156,472
Republic of Moldova	0.004	0.006	151	0.004	0.006	156	307
Romania	0.184	0.268	6,963	0.184	0.268	7,157	14,120
Rwanda	0.002	0.003	76	0.002	0.003	78	153
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Saint Lucia	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Samoa	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Saudi Arabia	1.146	1.666	43,368	1.146	1.666	44,575	87,943
Senegal	0.005	0.007	189	0.005	0.007	194	384
Serbia	0.032	0.047	1,211	0.032	0.047	1,245	2,456
Seychelles	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Slovakia	0.16	0.233	6,055	0.16	0.233	6,223	12,278

Member Country	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2017 US\$	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2018 US\$	Total Contributions 2017-2018 US\$
Slovenia	0.084	0.122	3,179	0.084	0.122	3,267	6,446
Solomon Islands	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Somalia	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
South Africa	0.364	0.529	13,775	0.364	0.529	14,158	27,933
Spain	2.443	3.552	92,451	2.443	3.552	95,024	187,475
Sri Lanka	0.031	0.045	1,173	0.031	0.045	1,206	2,379
State of Palestine	0.007	0.01	265	0.007	0.01	272	537
Sudan	0.01	0.01	260	0.01	0.01	267	528
Suriname	0.006	0.009	227	0.006	0.009	233	460
Swaziland	0.002	0.003	76	0.002	0.003	78	153
Sweden	0.956	1.39	36,178	0.956	1.39	37,185	73,363
Switzerland	1.14	1.658	43,141	1.14	1.658	44,342	87,483
Syrian Arab Republic	0.024	0.035	908	0.024	0.035	934	1,842
Tajikistan	0.004	0.006	151	0.004	0.006	156	307
Thailand	0.291	0.423	11,012	0.291	0.423	11,319	22,331
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0.007	0.01	265	0.007	0.01	272	537
Togo	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Tonga	0.001	0.001	38	0.001	0.001	39	77
Trinidad and Tobago	0.034	0.049	1,287	0.034	0.049	1,322	2,609

Member Country	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2017 US\$	UN scale of assessments 2017 (per cent)	Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (per cent)	Contributions per 1 Jan. 2018 US\$	Total Contributions 2017-2018 US\$
Tunisia	0.028	0.041	1,060	0.028	0.041	1,089	2,149
Turkey	1.018	1.48	38,524	1.018	1.48	39,597	78,121
Turkmenistan	0.026	0.038	984	0.026	0.038	1,011	1,995
Uganda	0.009	0.01	260	0.009	0.01	267	528
Ukraine	0.103	0.15	3,898	0.103	0.15	4,006	7,904
United Arab Emirates	0.604	0.878	22,857	0.604	0.878	23,493	46,351
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	4.463	6.49	168,894	4.463	6.49	173,595	342,488
United Republic of Tanzania	0.01	0.01	260	0.01	0.01	267	528
Uruguay	0.079	0.115	2,990	0.079	0.115	3,073	6,062
Venezuela	0.571	0.83	21,608	0.571	0.83	22,210	43,818
Viet Nam	0.058	0.084	2,195	0.058	0.084	2,256	4,451
Yemen	0.01	0.01	260	0.01	0.01	267	528
Zambia	0.007	0.01	265	0.007	0.01	272	537
Zimbabwe	0.004	0.006	151	0.004	0.006	156	307
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>67.078</b>	<b>100.000</b>	<b>2,602,554</b>	<b>67.078</b>	<b>100.000</b>	<b>2,674,991</b>	<b>5,277,545</b>

## **VIII/8. SUBSIDIARY BODIES (ARTICLE 30)**

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Recalling* decision BS-VI/9 and *taking note* of the experience gained and lessons learned in handling scientific and technical issues through the establishment of ad hoc technical expert groups and online discussion forums, such as the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment and Risk Management, the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the Second Assessment and Review of the Protocol and the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-Economic Considerations,

*Considering* that, at the current stage, there is no need to establish an open-ended subsidiary body for scientific and technical advice under the Protocol,

1. *Decides* to continue establishing, as needed and subject to the availability of funds, ad hoc technical expert groups with specific mandates to provide advice on one or more scientific and technical issues;

2. *Also decides* to take into account the experience gained and lessons learned from ad hoc technical expert groups when establishing similar expert groups in the future, including the convening, as appropriate, of open-ended online expert forums prior to any face-to-face meetings of future ad hoc technical expert groups;

3. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to provide adequate funds to enable the ad hoc technical expert groups to carry out their mandates effectively.

## **VIII/9. MODUS OPERANDI OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety*

1. *Endorses* the modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in decision XIII/25;
  
2. *Decides* that the modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation should apply, *mutatis mutandis*, when the Subsidiary Body serves the Cartagena Protocol.

## **VIII/10. INTEGRATION AMONG THE CONVENTION AND ITS PROTOCOLS**

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety*

1. *Decides* to use the following criteria for reviewing experience with the holding of concurrent meetings in accordance with decision BS-VII/9, paragraph 5:

(a) Full and effective participation of representatives of developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, in the meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol;

(b) Effective development of the outcomes of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol;

(c) Increased integration among the Convention and its Protocols;

(d) Cost-effectiveness, including with respect to the need to have experts on matters related to the Cartagena Protocol present during the entire two-week period of the concurrent meetings;

(e) Number of Parties reporting improved consultations, coordination and synergies among their national focal points of the Convention and the Protocols;

(f) Evaluation by the host Governments of the logistical and technical burdens of the concurrent meetings they hosted;

2. *Reiterates* its call to developed country Parties to increase their contributions to the relevant voluntary trust funds in order to ensure the full and effective participation of representatives of developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, in the concurrent meetings;

3. *Urges* cooperation and integrated work between the different existing and future expert groups under the Convention and its Protocols in order to make efficient use of human and financial resources.

## VIII/11. NAGOYA-KUALA LUMPUR SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL ON LIABILITY AND REDRESS

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety*

1. *Welcomes* those Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety that have deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress and *welcomes also* the efforts undertaken by some of those Parties towards the implementation of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol;

2. *Calls upon* other Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to expedite their internal processes and to deposit their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol as soon as possible with a view to ensuring the expeditious entry into force of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol;

3. *Calls upon* States that are Parties to the Convention but not Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Cartagena Protocol, as appropriate, without further delay, so that they can also become Parties to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of funds, to develop capacity-building materials and undertake further awareness-raising activities in order to expedite the entry into force and implementation of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol.



## VIII/12. RISK ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety*

1. *Acknowledges* the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment and Risk Management, having completed its mandate, as well as the Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management;<sup>12</sup>
2. *Takes note* of the voluntary Guidance on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms as the outcome of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group with input from the Online Forum;<sup>13</sup>
3. *Invites* interested Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to take the Guidance into account as a voluntary tool to assist in conducting risk assessment in accordance with the Cartagena Protocol while acknowledging that other guidance documents and national approaches can also assist in conducting risk assessment in accordance with the Protocol;
4. *Invites* interested Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations that have used the Guidance and/or other guidance documents and national approaches to share an assessment of their applicability and usefulness through the Biosafety Clearing-House;
5. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to continue to provide funding for a global capacity-building project and other projects on risk assessment and risk management;
6. *Invites* Parties to submit to the Executive Secretary (a) information on their needs and priorities for further guidance on specific topics of risk assessment of living modified organisms, (b) proposals on criteria, including the technical justification, that may facilitate the selection of topics for the development of further guidance, and (c) views on perceived gaps in existing guidance materials;
7. *Decides* to extend the Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management to exchange experiences on risk assessment, provide information and views on, and perceived gaps in existing guidance materials, and proposals to address any gaps identified;
8. *Invites* the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol to appoint a lead moderator for the online discussions and reporting on discussions, for the next intersessional period, ensuring regional rotation;

<sup>12</sup> See UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/8.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To assist the lead moderator of the online discussions referred to in paragraph 7 above in preparing a report of the online discussions and submitting it for peer review by the Online Forum before final presentation;

(b) To compile the views referred to in paragraph 6 above;

(c) To submit the results of (a) and (b) above to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice;

10. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to review the information provided and to recommend a way forward to address the needs, priorities and gaps identified by Parties for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its ninth meeting, including the possible establishment of a new ad hoc technical expert group, with the understanding that new guidance proposals should only be presented upon approval by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol;

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to support, upon invitation by a Party, regional and subregional capacity-building activities on risk assessment of living modified organisms.

## VIII/13. SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS (ARTICLE 26)

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Recalling* decisions BS-VI/13 and BS-VII/13,

*Noting with regret* that a face-to-face meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-Economic Considerations could not be held due to the lack of sufficient funds and that, as a consequence, certain elements of its mandate could not be addressed,

*Welcoming* the online discussion of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-Economic Considerations and the progress made,

*Taking note* of the conclusions of the online discussion of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-Economic Considerations,<sup>14</sup>

*Recognizing* that a face-to-face meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-Economic Considerations would be required for addressing the outstanding parts of its mandate,

*Acknowledging* that the continued work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-Economic Considerations towards achieving operational objective 1.7 of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety may also contribute to further conceptual clarity,

*Taking note* of national and regional activities on socio-economic considerations,

1. *Takes note* of the revised Framework for Conceptual Clarity;<sup>15</sup>
2. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-Economic Considerations, replacing any experts, as needed, including indigenous peoples and local communities as observers, and in accordance with the consolidated modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>16</sup> to allow it to meet face-to-face, subject to the availability of funds, to work on the guidelines envisaged under the outcomes for operational objective 1.7 of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
3. *Urges* Parties to provide the necessary funds for a face-to-face meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-Economic Considerations, ensuring

<sup>14</sup> See UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/13, annex.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>16</sup> Decision VIII/10 of the Conference of the Parties, annex III.

the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, supported by such online discussions as may be necessary to achieve its mandate;

4. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-Economic Considerations to submit a report for consideration by the Conference of Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its ninth meeting.

## VIII/14. MONITORING AND REPORTING (ARTICLE 33)

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Taking note of the third national reports submitted by Parties and welcoming the analysis thereof prepared by the Executive Secretary,<sup>17</sup>*

*Considering the challenges with the reporting format for the third national report identified by the Liaison Group on Capacity-building at its eleventh meeting<sup>18</sup> and the Compliance Committee at its thirteenth meeting,<sup>19</sup>*

1. *Expresses concern about the lower rate of submission of the third national reports in comparison to the previous reporting cycle, and notes with concern that third national reports are still due from 37 Parties, including 4 Parties that have accessed funds from the Global Environment Facility for the preparation of their third national reports;*

2. *Welcomes the financial support provided by the Global Environment Facility to a number of eligible Parties to support the preparation of their national reports, but notes with concern that 39 Parties that were eligible for Global Environment Facility funding to complete their national reports either did not apply for that funding or were unable to access the financial support;*

3. *Also welcomes the efforts made by the Secretariat to assist Parties in submitting national reports and to ensure their completeness;*

4. *Notes the effect of the challenges posed by new administrative changes within the United Nations and its impact on the current reporting cycle, such as delays in the submission of the third national reports;*

5. *Urges Parties that have not yet submitted their third national report to do so as soon as possible;<sup>20</sup>*

6. *Also urges Parties that have not submitted a complete third national report to do so as soon as possible;*

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<sup>17</sup> UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/11 and Add.1.

<sup>18</sup> See UNEP/CBD/BSLGC/11/3.

<sup>19</sup> See UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/13/6.

<sup>20</sup> Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belize, Cabo Verde, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Fiji, Greece, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Libya, Malta, Marshall Islands, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Somalia, State of Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turkmenistan.

7. *Requests* the Compliance Committee to explore the reasons for the lower rate of submission of the third national reports;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To develop a revised format for the fourth national reports with a view to ensuring that complete and accurate information is captured while striving to ensure the applicability of the baseline information, as established in decision BS-VI/15, in particular by:

- (i) Improving the formulation of questions for their clarity, providing further explanation where necessary;
- (ii) Eliminating the redundancy observed in the questions used for the third national report;
- (iii) Adding questions that address mainstreaming of biosafety into national biodiversity strategies and action plans, other policies and legislation;

(b) To submit the revised format for the fourth national reports for review by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its ninth meeting.

## VIII/15. THIRD ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY AND MID-TERM EVALUATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Recalling* decision BS-VII/3,

*Also recalling* decision BS-VI/15, paragraphs 1 and 2,

*Taking note* of the comparative analysis prepared by the Executive Secretary<sup>21</sup> and reviewed by the Subsidiary Body at its first meeting with input from the Compliance Committee and a contribution from the Liaison Group on Capacity Building,

1. *Welcomes* the work of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation in undertaking the third assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol and the midterm evaluation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020;<sup>22</sup>
2. *Also welcomes* the input of the Compliance Committee to the assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol and the mid-term evaluation of the Strategic Plan,<sup>23</sup> and *requests* the Committee to continue providing inputs to the final evaluation of the Strategic Plan;
3. *Further welcomes* the contribution from the Liaison Group on Capacity Building;<sup>24</sup>
4. *Welcomes further* the Compliance Committee's supportive role, carried out pursuant to decision BS-V/1, as a contribution to the progress reported, and *requests* the Committee to continue carrying out this supportive role in accordance with its mandate;
5. *Notes with concern* the lower rate of submission of the third national reports in comparison with the previous reporting cycle, and *urges* the Parties that have not yet submitted their third national report to do so as soon as possible;
6. *Notes* the absence of clear linkages between some of the outcomes and indicators in the current Strategic Plan, and *agrees* to improve such linkages in a follow-up to the present Strategic Plan;

<sup>21</sup> UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/12/Add.1.

<sup>22</sup> UNEP/CBD/COP/13/6, sect. I, recommendation 1/3.

<sup>23</sup> UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/34.

<sup>24</sup> UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/35.

7. *Also notes* that, in the follow-up to the present Strategic Plan, indicators should be simplified, streamlined and made easily measurable with a view to ensuring that progress towards achieving operational objectives can be readily tracked and quantified;

8. *Further notes* the slow progress in: (a) the development of modalities for cooperation and guidance in identifying living modified organisms or specific traits that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health; (b) capacity-building for risk assessment and risk management; (c) socioeconomic considerations; and (d) capacity-building to take appropriate measures in cases of unintentional release of living modified organisms that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health;

9. *Notes with concern* that, to date, only approximately half of the Parties have fully put in place legal, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the Protocol, and *urges* Parties that have not yet fully done so to put in place their national biosafety frameworks, in particular biosafety legislation, as a matter of priority;

10. *Calls upon* Parties, for the remaining period of the Strategic Plan, to consider prioritizing the operational objectives relating to the development of biosafety legislation, risk assessment, risk management, detection and identification of living modified organisms, and public awareness, education and training in view of their critical importance in facilitating the implementation of the Protocol;

11. *Urges* Parties to undertake targeted capacity-building activities on biosafety and to share relevant experiences and lessons learned from these activities through the Biosafety Clearing-House in order to facilitate further development and implementation of the Protocol;

12. *Encourages* Parties to make use of the Biosafety Clearing-House to share experiences on national processes and best practices related to socioeconomic considerations in decision-making related to living modified organisms, as appropriate, and in accordance with national legislation;

13. *Also encourages* those Parties that have not yet done so to deposit their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Nagoya Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress as soon as possible;

14. *Further encourages* Parties to continue to enhance capacity for public awareness, education and participation regarding the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms, including for indigenous peoples and local communities, and to integrate training, public awareness, education and participation into national initiatives for communication, education and public awareness, initiatives for the Sustainable Development Goals, initiatives for climate change mitigation and adaptation and other environmental initiatives;



15. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties, in adopting its guidance to the financial mechanism with respect to support for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol, invite the Global Environment Facility to continue to assist eligible Parties that have not yet done so to put in place a national biosafety framework and to make funds available to this end;

16. *Notes* that a lack of awareness and political support for biosafety issues contributes to limited access to and uptake of funding for biosafety, and *urges* Parties to enhance efforts to raise awareness of key biosafety-related issues among policy- and decision makers;

17. *Urges* Parties to strengthen national consultative mechanisms among relevant government institutions regarding the programming of national Global Environment Facility allocations with a view to ensuring appropriate funding for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol;

18. *Invites* Parties in a position to do so and international organizations to provide support for the implementation of the Protocol, based on the expressed needs of Parties, especially for developing countries and, in particular, least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition;

19. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To undertake regional and subregional workshops and other relevant activities, subject to the availability of resources, in order to enhance the capacity of Parties to promote the integration of biosafety considerations into national biodiversity strategies and action plans, national development plans and national strategies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

(b) To carry out further capacity-building activities, subject to the availability of resources, including on the possible impact of living modified organisms on indigenous peoples and local communities, while ensuring gender balance, and considering the Short-term Action Plan (2017-2020) to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols;<sup>25</sup>

(c) To further enhance cooperation and collaboration in biosafety with relevant organizations.

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<sup>25</sup> Conference of the Parties decision XIII/23, annex.

## VIII/16. UNINTENTIONAL TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENTS AND EMERGENCY MEASURES (ARTICLE 17)

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety*

1. *Adopts* the operational definitions of the terms “unintentional transboundary movement” and “illegal transboundary movement”, as contained in the annex to the present decision, and *deems it appropriate* to use them for the purpose of facilitating the implementation of the Protocol;
2. *Encourages* Parties to make use of the operational definitions of the terms “unintentional transboundary movement” and “illegal transboundary movement” when completing their national reports;
3. *Urges* Parties to submit to the Biosafety Clearing-House information and available guidance on the mechanisms for emergency measures in case of a release that leads or may lead to an unintentional transboundary movement of a living modified organism that is likely to have significant adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health;
4. *Takes note* of the draft training manual on the detection and identification of living modified organisms;
5. *Invites* Parties to provide information regarding their capacity and needs in the detection and identification of living modified organisms, including a list of laboratories and their specific activities;
6. *Encourages* Parties to establish effective mechanisms to support the workflow for sampling, detection and identification by, for example, providing border control officials and laboratories with the appropriate mandates to sample, detect and identify living modified organisms, ensuring that laboratories remain functional and that they receive high-quality test samples;
7. *Also encourages* Parties to establish, support and participate in regional and subregional networks on the detection of living modified organisms in order to promote technical cooperation in the field and, subject to the availability of funds, for example through the roster of biosafety experts, provide the networks with opportunities to host training workshops, and *requests* the Global Environment Facility to provide funds for the hosting of such workshops;
8. *Invites* Parties to nominate experts in the field of living modified organism detection and identification to the roster of biosafety experts;

9. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to submit to the Biosafety Clearing-House information on methods for the detection and identification of living modified organisms, with special emphasis on validated methods;

10. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue organizing online discussions and face-to-face meetings, subject to the availability of resources, of the Network of Laboratories focusing on the detection and identification of living modified organisms;

(b) To continue convening, in cooperation with relevant organizations, subject to the availability of resources, regional and subregional capacity-building activities, such as online training and face-to-face workshops in the fields of sampling, detection and identification of living modified organisms with specific emphasis on the topics of (i) sampling at the border, including training, (ii) establishment and maintenance of quality assurance and quality control systems, (iii) interpretation of the results of living modified organism analysis reports, (iv) environmental sampling, (v) developing reference materials, (vi) validation procedures, and (vii) measurement of uncertainty;

(c) To continue working on the draft training manual, in an expeditious manner, in collaboration with the Network of Laboratories for the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms, and make a draft version available, in all official languages, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its ninth meeting with a view to its possible approval before its official final publication;

(d) To improve the user interface of the methods for the detection and identification of living modified organisms with a view to creating a searchable and indexed database and regularly update its content, as needed;

(e) To create in the Biosafety Clearing-House a system for the easy identification of capacity-building training opportunities related to detection and identification of living modified organisms;

(f) To align the language of the relevant questions in the draft format for the fourth national report with the operational definitions contained in the annex to the present decision.

*Annex*

**OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS OF THE TERMS  
“UNINTENTIONAL TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENT” AND  
“ILLEGAL TRANSBOUNDARY MOVEMENT”<sup>26</sup>**

*“Illegal transboundary movement”* is a transboundary movement of living modified organisms carried out in contravention of the domestic measures to implement the Protocol that have been adopted by the Party concerned.

*“Unintentional transboundary movement”* is a transboundary movement of a living modified organism that has inadvertently crossed the national borders of a Party where the living modified organism was released, and the requirements of Article 17 of the Protocol apply to such transboundary movements only if the living modified organism involved is likely to have significant adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health, in the affected or potentially affected States.

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<sup>26</sup> These operational definitions supersede any previous draft versions, including those proposed by the Compliance Committee.

## VIII/17. TRANSIT AND CONTAINED USE OF LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS (ARTICLE 6)

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety*

1. *Welcomes* the progress towards operational objective 1.8 of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the Period 2011-2020;<sup>27</sup>

2. *Encourages* Parties and *invites* other Governments to make available to the Biosafety Clearing-House their laws, regulations and guidelines regarding contained use and transit of living modified organisms;

3. *Notes* the limited number of final decisions related to transit and contained use that have been made available to the Biosafety Clearing-House;

4. *Also notes* the lack of clarity regarding the type of information that is to be submitted to the Biosafety Clearing-House when final decisions are taken regarding the importation of living modified organisms destined for contained use;

5. *Requests* the Compliance Committee to assess if information that has been submitted to the Biosafety Clearing-House under contained use is in accordance with Article 6 of the Cartagena Protocol, and make a recommendation in this regard for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its ninth meeting;

6. *Invites* Parties and other Governments, in the context of operational objective 1.8 of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020, to submit to the Biosafety Clearing-House practical guidance on specific measures for contained use that effectively limit the contact of living modified organisms with, and their impact on, the external environment;

7. *Encourages* Parties to further develop measures to manage living modified organisms in transit and to make available in the Biosafety Clearing-House information on such measures;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To compile the information submitted under paragraph 6 above for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its ninth meeting with a view to identifying areas where activities might be needed to support Parties in their efforts to develop national measures on contained use;

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<sup>27</sup> See UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/12/Add.1.

(b) To continue improving in the Biosafety Clearing-House the means to allow easy retrieval of information relating to transit and contained use, including the information submitted under paragraphs 4 and 6 above.

## VIII/18. PUBLIC AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION (ARTICLE 23)

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Recalling* decisions BS-IV/17 and BS-V/13 recognizing the need for a cohesive and focused approach to public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms,

*Welcoming* the progress made since the adoption, in decision BS-V/13, of the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms,

*Taking note* of the report on the status of implementation of the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms under the Protocol,<sup>28</sup>

1. *Extends* the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation at all levels concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms until 2020 with revised priority areas/activities as identified by the Parties and contained in the annex to the present decision, with due consideration to specific regional and subregional circumstances, to enable a streamlined strategic focus and foster further commitment to advancing the implementation of the programme of work;
2. *Urges* developed country Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to provide additional support, including financial resources, to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to implement the programme of work;
3. *Urges* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to implement the programme of work and actively share their experiences and lessons learned through the Biosafety Clearing-House, and relevant national and regional clearing-houses;
4. *Invites* Parties to participate in the biosafety theme in the Forum on National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs Forum)<sup>29</sup> in order to promote and facilitate the integration of the programme of work into national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
5. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to provide eligible Parties with financial resources to facilitate effective implementation of the programme of work;

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<sup>28</sup> UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/15.

<sup>29</sup> Available at: <http://nbsapforum.net/#categories/340>.

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of funds:

(a) To assist in the implementation of the priority areas and activities of the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms, including public participation and access to information concerning living modified organisms;

(b) To provide links to national websites and national biosafety clearing-houses on the website of the Protocol and the Convention;

(c) To continue and enhance cooperation with relevant organizations, as well as gender initiatives and other international, regional and national initiatives to further facilitate the implementation of the programme of work;

7. *Encourages* Parties to continue to enhance capacity for public awareness, education and participation, including access to information, regarding the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms, including for indigenous peoples and local communities, and to integrate training, public awareness, education and participation into national initiatives for communication, education and public awareness, initiatives for the Sustainable Development Goals, initiatives for climate change mitigation and adaptation and other environmental initiatives;

8. *Encourages* regional stakeholders and donors to play a greater role in supporting the integration of the programme of work into national initiatives to implement focal area 5 of the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety<sup>30</sup> in order to enhance capacity on public awareness, education and participation and Focal Area 5 of the Strategic Plan for Biosafety with a view to raising the profile of the Protocol through outreach and communication.

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<sup>30</sup> Decision BS-VI/3 of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, annex.



## Annex

## PRIORITY ACTIVITIES/AREAS FOR THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PUBLIC AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION CONCERNING THE SAFE TRANSFER, HANDLING AND USE OF LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS

<b>Programme element 1: Capacity-building for the promotion of public awareness, education and participation</b>			
<b>Goal: To strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of Parties to promote and facilitate public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms</b>			
Priority Area 1	Sub-activities	Time frame	Suggested actors
<b>Advance legal and/or policy frameworks and mechanisms</b>	Adopt, harmonize and implement legal and/or policy frameworks and mechanisms related to Article 23 of the Protocol, in particular the NBFs and incorporating general access to information laws into biosafety procedures (e.g. the Freedom of Information laws)	Within 2 years	-Parties -Relevant organizations -SCBD
	Integrate and promote the programme of work elements into awareness and education components in the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and other national initiatives to implement Focal Area 2 on capacity-building for Article 23 and 5 on outreach of the Strategic Plan for Biosafety as well as Focal Area 5 on public awareness, education and participation of the Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building for the effective implementation of the Protocol		
	Share and announce the availability of frameworks and mechanisms related to Article 23 in the Central Portal and national and regional Biosafety Clearing-House nodes		
	Integrate gender-perspectives in policies and frameworks related to Article 23		
	Identify a dedicated budget for the programme of work		
	Incorporate the communication plan template developed by the Secretariat and make use of draft communication plans developed in public awareness and participation workshops held by the Secretariat to ensure implementation of awareness/outreach programmes		
	Every quarter, systematically track, evaluate and proactively exchange information on the progress of the indicators in the programme of work in the Biosafety Clearing-House and with the Executive Secretary		

Priority Area 2	Sub-activities	Time frame	Suggested actors
<b>Build and maintain joint initiatives</b>	Organize joint awareness and educational activities	Within 2 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Parties</li> <li>-Relevant organizations</li> <li>-SCBD</li> <li>-Academia</li> </ul>
	Participate in international, regional and national events related to the Strategic Plan for Biosafety, the Convention on Biodiversity and the Food and Agriculture Organization to integrate the Programme of Work in other initiatives		
	Promote the ratification of the Cartagena Protocol and its Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress through joint regional and subregional cooperation		
Priority Area 3	Sub-activities	Time frame	Suggested actors
<b>Advance tools, resources and processes to broaden training activities</b>	Develop and make use of the Secretariat's e-learning modules on access to information, public participation and upcoming public education as well as upcoming training activities	Within 3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Parties (e.g. focal points, ministries)</li> <li>-Relevant organizations</li> <li>-SCBD</li> <li>-Media</li> </ul>
	Disseminate and make available templates and other resources		
	Facilitate training-of-trainers programmes related to Article 23, with a particular focus on women, indigenous peoples and local communities		
	Make use of relevant tools, guidelines and other related resources in developing training activities and materials		
	Nominate national biosafety education experts to facilitate biosafety education		
	Put in place a mechanisms targeted for women, indigenous peoples and local communities, and customs officials to participate in biosafety education (e.g. participating in workshops and accessing research centres)		
	Develop a media strategy (e.g. facilitating journalist training on biosafety issues)		
	Develop and exchange guidelines and other resources on a regional level related to Article 23		

<b>Programme element 2: Public awareness and education</b>			
<b>Goal: To promote broad public awareness and education of issues concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms</b>			
Priority Area 4	Sub-activities	Time frame	Suggested actors
<b>Communicate biosafety and empower a wider audience</b>	Set up an e-mail list serve as well as identify local areas (e.g. libraries and bulletin boards) and traditional methods to disseminate information (e.g. developing visual/graphic representation of biosafety information)	Within 2 years	-Parties (e.g. focal points, local and national government) -SCBD -Relevant organizations
	Organize awareness workshops, in particular for women and indigenous peoples and local communities		
	Disseminate information to United Nations bodies and other relevant international/regional bodies		
	Facilitate the translation of information materials through partners		
	Integrate communication activities with biodiversity, environment, sustainable development and other related agendas		
	Integrate biosafety issues into youth and gender-related awareness efforts held by other relevant programmes and other initiatives		
	Participate in national awareness-activities related to biodiversity, environment and related international days		
	Make use of the awareness survey template developed by the Secretariat and seek assistance by regional organizations to conduct national surveys online and/or offline in particular also ensuring that questions are targeted to women and indigenous peoples and local communities		
	Invite media to participate in the Biosafety Media Network <sup>31</sup>		
	Develop biosafety messages		
	Enhance the networking and communication among national focal points to the Cartagena Protocol		
	Train and assign scientists and media to communicate biosafety issues		
	Facilitate a high-level dialogue including Ministries and Heads of States and Governments to increase the level of public awareness, education and participation with regards to biosafety issues		
Nominate experts as communicators and educators			

31 The media network is available at [http://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/portal\\_art23/media\\_network.shtml](http://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/portal_art23/media_network.shtml).

Priority Area 5	Sub-activities	Time frame	Suggested actors
<p><b>Strengthen biosafety education at all levels</b></p>	<p>Develop tools and methods for public education on biosafety and promoting new learning methods/ technologies</p>	<p>Within 3 years</p>	<p>-Parties (e.g. focal points, Ministries) -Academia (e.g. school boards, committees/ districts, academic institutions, researchers, scientists, principals and teachers, education inspectors, publishers of educational materials, professional organizations of teachers and/ or curricula development institutions) -Relevant organizations and associations</p>
	<p>Develop procedures to integrate biosafety, in a harmonized way, into education including developing relations with various stakeholders involved in public education</p>		
	<p>Join networks with relevant educational focal points and integrate biosafety into biodiversity and other related environmental education at all levels</p>		
	<p>Promote exchange of programmes for scientist and public servants on a national and regional level</p>		
	<p>Integrate work on Article 23 with CEPA and use CEPA toolkit, as appropriate, including materials in particular for youth education</p>		
	<p>Make use of the Secretariat's educational package, as appropriate, on biosafety for education at all levels (in particular secondary schools), informal education and research institutes</p>		
	<p>Include youth, women and indigenous peoples and local communities in developing biosafety education at all levels</p>		
<p>Take a certificate by participating in the upcoming module on public education and developing procedures and practices of public education and curricula template, as appropriate, as well as training/education action plan template</p>			

<b>Programme element 3. Public access to information</b>			
<b>Goal: To improve public access to information concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms</b>			
<b>Priority Area 6</b>	<b>Sub-activities</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Suggested actors</b>
<b>Improve tools and procedures for access to information</b>	Define the public through stakeholder analysis and appropriate actions through situation analysis, including promoting the most inclusive stakeholder participation	Within 4 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Parties (e.g. focal points, ministers)</li> <li>-Media</li> <li>-Academia</li> <li>-SCBD</li> <li>-Relevant organizations</li> </ul>
	Establish a process to handle requests for information		
	Set up a procedure to actively notify the public of information and means of public access to the Biosafety Clearing-House		
	Facilitate workshops on access to information in particular to ensure the participation of women, indigenous peoples and local communities, and ministries, on discussions related to laws and rights		
	Make use of the summary of tools and checklist on access to information, <sup>32</sup> as appropriate		
	Regularly promoting up-to-date access to information of websites and traditional tools to a wider-audience		
	Promote access to information and best practices/awareness in particular to women and youth		
	Provide case studies in the Biosafety Clearing-House and through other means		
	Take a certificate by participating in the module on access to information and set up procedures for information upon request and active dissemination of information, including make use of the national action plan template and other resources		
	Use relevant tools and guidance materials produced by relevant organizations such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Culture Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, among others		
Provide training of government officials and the public, including women and indigenous peoples and local communities, on the right to access to information and to incorporate related laws			

<sup>32</sup> The checklist and the summary of tools are available at [http://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/portal\\_art23/pa\\_main.shtml](http://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/portal_art23/pa_main.shtml).

<b>Programme element 4. Public participation</b>			
<b>Goal: To promote public participation in decision-making regarding living modified organisms (best practices)</b>			
<b>Priority Area 7</b>	<b>Sub-activities</b>	<b>Time frame</b>	<b>Suggested actors</b>
<b>Mobilize the public and ensure gender-equality for a wider target audience to participate in the decision-making process</b>	Define the public through stakeholder analysis and appropriate actions through situation analysis, including promoting the inclusive stakeholder participation, with particular attention to women and indigenous peoples and local communities	Within 4 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Parties (e.g. focal points, local and national government)</li> <li>-Local and national organizations</li> <li>-Local leaders</li> <li>-Academia</li> <li>-Public institutions</li> <li>-Media</li> </ul>
	Use effective tools for public participation targeted in particular to marginalized groups and notify the public of these in a timely manner		
	Use effective mechanisms and procedures for public participation		
	Use local languages in public participation processes		
	Facilitate training on public participation, including for women and indigenous peoples and local communities		
	Enhance the incorporation of public inputs into decisions or make public criteria and reasons for limited incorporation of inputs		
	Enhance equal public participation in the decision-making process regarding LMOs, in particular ensuring participation of women and indigenous peoples and local communities		
	Take a certificate by participating in the module on public participation regarding LMOs and set in place tools, procedures and mechanism, including make use of the national action plan template and other resources		
Use relevant guidance materials on public participation			

**VIII/19.**  
**USE OF THE TERM “INDIGENOUS PEOPLES  
AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES”**

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Decides to apply, mutatis mutandis, decision XII/12 F of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity on the use of the terminology “indigenous peoples and local communities”.*

