



Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



Ref.: SCBD/BS/CG/jh/64414

14 July 2008

NOTIFICATION

Decisions of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP/4) requesting action from relevant organizations

Dear Madam/Sir,

At its fourth meeting, held from 12 to 16 May 2008 in Bonn, Germany, the COP-MOP adopted a number of decisions requesting action from relevant organizations engaged in the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety process for their consideration.

Please find attached herewith a summary list of the requests and decisions addressed to relevant organizations together with the submission dates where appropriate. Please refer to the report, for the full text of the requests and decisions.

In order to allow the Secretariat to report to the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP/5), I would appreciate it if you could keep us updated on the actions undertaken by your organization for the implementation of the relevant recommendations, and if you could forward to our Secretariat, views on issues addressed by COP-MOP that are of relevance to your organization, at the earliest opportunity but **no later than 1 March 2010**, so as to allow the Secretariat to prepare the relevant document well in advance of the fifth COP-MOP meeting to be held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan, on 11-15 October 2010.

I take this opportunity to thank you for the support your organization has provided so far to the work of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and I look forward to our continued cooperation.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary

Enclosures

To : Relevant organizations



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COP 9 MOP 4 Bonn Germ

ATTACHMENT 1
SUMMARY OF REQUESTS AND DATES FOR SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION TO THE SECRETARIAT
(as derived from the decisions of COP-MOP/4 contained in annex I to UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/4/18)

Decision	Requested action/information	Date of submission (as appropriate)
Decision BS-IV/3 - Capacity-Building	<i>Action plan</i> <i>Para. 2 Urges Parties, other Governments, donors and relevant organizations to provide new and additional financial and technical support to developing countries, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition to address their capacity-building needs;</i>	
	Para. 4 Invites Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to provide information on their capacity-building activities to the Secretariat and the Biosafety Clearing-House at least six months before the regular meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, in order to facilitate more comprehensive reporting on the implementation of the capacity-building Action Plan and the sharing of experiences in capacity-building activities;	Sept 08 onwards
	Para. 6 Welcomes the offer of UNEP to undertake an expert review of capacity-building activities under GEF funding, in collaboration with GEF, its agencies and the Executive Secretary, with a view to assessing the effectiveness of various approaches to capacity-building and developing lessons learned and invites Parties, other Governments, donors and relevant organization to provide additional support to extend the review to non-GEF activities and submit the review to the BCH.	ToR Oct 08 Study Feb – Sept 09
	Para. 9 Invites developed country Parties, other Governments, GEF, bilateral and multi-lateral agencies to provide financial and other support to enable universities and relevant institutions to develop and/or expand existing biosafety academic programmes and provide scholarships to students from developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition;	
	Para. 10 Invites Parties other Governments and relevant organizations to share through BCH the existing academic and training materials;	
	Coordination mechanism Para. 14 Requests the Executive Secretary to continue encouraging relevant organizations and bilateral and multilateral donor agencies to support and participate actively in the Coordination Mechanism;	Ongoing

Decision	Requested action/information	Date of submission (as appropriate)
	<p>Indicators</p> <p>Para. 17 Invites Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to submit to the Executive Secretary, at least six months before the sixth meeting of the Parties, information on their experiences with, and lessons learned from, the use of the revised set of indicators;</p>	June 2011
	<p>Para. 18 Invites also Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to take into account, when selecting or using indicators for monitoring their capacity-building initiatives, the experiences and lessons learned from relevant processes, including those described in the note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/4/4/Add.1);</p>	
<p>Decision BS-IV/4 - Roster of Biosafety Experts</p>	<p>Voluntary Fund for the Roster of Experts</p> <p>Para. 13 Invites developed country Parties and other donors to make contributions to the Voluntary Fund and reminds parties that without funds the roster cannot operate</p>	
<p>Decision BS-IV/8 - Handling, Transport, Packaging and Identification (HTPI) of Living Modified Organisms: Paragraphs 2(B) and (C) of Article 18</p>	<p>Para. 1. Requests Parties and encourages other Governments and relevant international organizations to continue to implement the requirements under paragraphs 2(b) and 2(c) of Article 18 and associated decisions by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol;</p>	
<p>Decision BS-IV/9 - HTPI of Living Modified Organisms: Paragraph 2(A) of Article 18</p>	<p>Sampling And Detection Standards & BCH</p> <p>Para. 2. Requests Parties and encourages other Governments and relevant international organizations to ensure that information related to rules and standards on the sampling of living modified organisms and detection techniques, including experience with such techniques are made available via the Biosafety Clearing-House;</p>	Sept 08
	<p>Activities For Parties And Others On Sampling & Detection</p> <p>Para. 1. Notes the important work that is being done by relevant international organizations such as the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the International Organization for Standardization and encourages Parties to participate in and share information with these and other relevant international standard-setting bodies, and utilize, as appropriate, criteria or methods for sampling and detection of living modified organisms published by them;</p>	

Decision	Requested action/information	Date of submission (as appropriate)
	<p>Para. 3. Requests Parties, and encourages other Governments, relevant international organizations as well as the Global Environment Facility, to cooperate with and support developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, in their efforts to build their capacities in the area of sampling and detection of living modified organisms, including the setting up of laboratory facilities and training of local regulatory and scientific personnel;</p> <p>Para. 4. Underlines the importance of accreditation of laboratories involved in sampling and detection of living modified organisms;</p> <p>Para. 5. Encourages those in possession of reference materials to provide access for those agencies that may need such materials for the purpose of detection of living modified organisms.</p>	
<p>Decision BS-IV/10 - HTPI of Living Modified Organisms: Paragraph 3 of Article 18</p>	<p>Continued Experience With Art. 18 & Continued Collaboration by Executive Secretary</p> <p>Para. 1. Decides to continue to gain experience in the implementation of the Protocol's provisions regarding handling, transport, packaging and identification, and requests the Executive Secretary to continue to collaborate with relevant international organizations in this regard;</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
	<p>Handling, Transport, Packaging and Identification (HTPI) Standards and Biosafety Clearing-House</p> <p>Para. 2. Requests Parties and encourages other Governments and international organizations to ensure that information related to standards on the identification, handling, packaging and transport of living modified organisms is available through the Biosafety Clearing-House;</p>	<p>Sept 09</p>
	<p>Parties To Participate In Work On HTPI Standards In Other Fora & Consideration Of Need For & Modalities Of Developing Standard(S) If Gap Identified</p> <p>Para. 3. Encourages Parties to participate in ongoing work on standards on handling, transport, packaging and identification of living modified organisms taking place in other relevant international organizations and, decides that if a gap in such standards has been identified, to consider the need for and modalities of developing the necessary standards, in particular by referring such gaps to other relevant international organizations;</p>	

Decision	Requested action/information	Date of submission (as appropriate)
	<p>Online Conference On HTPI Standards</p> <p>Para. 5. Invites Parties, other Governments and relevant international organizations to provide the Executive Secretary with guiding questions for this online conference and requests the Executive Secretary to finalise the list of questions in consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.</p>	Sept 09
Decision BS-IV/11 - Risk Assessment and Risk Management	<p>Further guidance on specific aspects of risk assessment and risk management</p> <p>Para. 5. Invites Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to submit to the Executive Secretary, prior to the first meeting of the ahteg, information relevant to the work of the ahteg, particularly on existing guidance documents on risk assessment;</p>	15 Nov 08
	<p>Para. 7. Urges Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to make funds available to the Executive Secretary for the organization of the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group, prior to the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol;</p>	Dec 09
	<p>Collaboration in identifying living modified organisms that may have an adverse effect on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health</p> <p>Para. 8. Requests Parties and invites other Governments and relevant organizations to submit to the Executive Secretary, not later than three months prior to the first AHTEG meeting, scientifically sound information available at that time, on the identification of 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;</p>	Oct 08
	<p>Capacity-building relevant to risk assessment and risk management</p> <p>Para. 12. Requests the Executive Secretary to convene, in cooperation with relevant regional organizations, at the earliest convenient date and subject to the availability of financial resources, a sub-regional workshop on capacity-building and exchange of experiences on risk assessment and risk management of living modified organisms in the Pacific sub-region;</p>	Sept 08
	<p>Para. 13. Requests the Executive Secretary, subject to availability of funds, to coordinate and facilitate, along with other relevant United Nations bodies and other international organizations, the development of training on risk assessment and risk management in relation to living modified organisms,</p> <p>and to convene prior to the fifth meeting of the COP-MOP, regional or sub-regional training courses to enable countries to gain hands-on experience in preparing and evaluating risk assessment reports in accordance to the articles and Annex III of the protocol.</p>	<p>Jul 08 – Dec 09</p> <p>Oct 09 – Mar 10</p>

Decision	Requested action/information	Date of submission (as appropriate)
Decision BS-IV/16 - Socio-Economic Considerations (Article 26, Paragraph 2)	Sharing of Socio-Economic Information through BCH Para. 4. Invites Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to continue to share, through the Biosafety Clearing-House, their research, research methods and experience in taking into account socio-economic impacts on living modified organisms where it could be retrievable using the search term “socio-economic”;	
Decision BS-IV/17 - Public Awareness, Education and Participation	Para. 2. Invites Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to submit to the Executive Secretary, at least twelve months before the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, their views on the possible elements of a programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms;	Sept 09
	Para. 4 Invites Parties, Governments and relevant organizations to make available through the BCH, materials and information on opportunities for supporting projects related to Public Awareness, Education and Participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms;	Ongoing
	Para. 7. Invites Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to cooperate with, and support, the Executive Secretary in the implementation of the Outreach Strategy;	
Requests from previous meetings		
Decision BS-III/16 – Other Issues (Transit)	Invites Parties, Governments and relevant organizations to provide further views and experience on the rights and/or obligations of Parties of transit including whether or not a Party acting only as a Party of transit takes on the obligations of a Party of export under the Protocol, not later than six months prior to the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.	April 2010