

Annex I

**DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE
PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY**

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BS-VII/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, as contained in the reports on its tenth and eleventh meetings,¹ in line with its supportive role in the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,

Taking note of the recommendations of the Compliance Committee contained in the annex to its report,¹

1. *Encourages* Parties, when submitting to the Biosafety Clearing-House information required under the Protocol, to upload the actual documents that contain the information or, in cases where they provide a link to a website to access a document, ensure that the link is functional and up-to-date and the information is easily accessible;

2. *Also encourages* Parties to ensure that the information they make available to the Biosafety Clearing-House is up to date and consistent with their national reports;

3. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant international and regional organizations to undertake or support capacity-building initiatives aimed at assisting developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, in the use of the Biosafety Clearing-House and in putting in place facilities that will enable them to submit consistent, up-to-date and complete information through the Biosafety Clearing-House and their national reports and allow developing country Parties access to appropriate technologies for active participation in online activities;

4. *Encourages* Parties that are facing difficulties complying with one or more of their obligations under the Protocol to seek assistance from the Compliance Committee or the Secretariat in such areas as making information available to the Biosafety Clearing-House and the development or updating of national biosafety frameworks;

5. *Encourages* Parties to implement requirements under Article 23 of the Protocol within a mechanism appropriate to their national circumstances, which could include the integration of public awareness, education and participation in national biodiversity strategies and action plans, broader national frameworks for communication, education and public awareness (CEPA), or efforts to implement Aichi Biodiversity Target 1, taking into account relevant elements of the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation adopted in decision BS-V/13;

6. *Encourages* Parties to make effective use of the various tools, materials and mechanisms made available by the Secretariat and other sources, including the online forum and the online regional networks established through the Biosafety Clearing-House, to share information, experiences and lessons learned in the implementation of obligations under Article 23 of the Protocol.

¹ UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/7/2.

BS-VII/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,

Considering the general operation of the Biosafety Clearing-House, the ongoing implementation of its programme of work and the progress report on the implementation of the objectives of the Strategic Plan,²

Welcoming the improvements made to the central portal of the Biosafety Clearing-House,

Commending both the United Nations Environment Programme-Global Environment Facility BCH II project and the Secretariat for the support provided to Parties on their use of the Biosafety Clearing-House during the intersessional period,

Reiterating the need for capacity building in the use of the Biosafety Clearing-House,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To facilitate communication for the editing and updating of records submitted by Parties to the Biosafety Clearing-House;

(b) To continue developing the Biosafety Clearing-House, taking due account of the needs of its users and with special emphasis on activities relating to the harmonization of and capacity-building for monitoring of living modified organisms, for example through the Network of Laboratories for the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms;

(c) To continue its collaboration with other biosafety databases and platforms, including those of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, other clearing-houses of the Convention and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development;

(d) To improve the Biosafety Clearing-House search interfaces in a way that allows the grouping of results by thematic areas;

(e) To complete the translation of all decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties in all six official languages of the United Nations;

(f) To continue the development of online forums given their effectiveness in capacity-building in the implementation of the Biosafety Clearing-House;

2. *Urges* Parties and *invites* other Governments:

(a) To inform their representatives in other international forums of the possibility of retrieving electronically all data registered in the Biosafety Clearing-House in order to make them available through other related websites;

(b) 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. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant international and regional organizations:

² UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/7/3, Sect. II.

(a) To undertake or support capacity-building initiatives to assist developing country Parties in putting in place facilities enabling them to submit consistent, up-to-date and complete information through the Biosafety Clearing-House and their national reports;

(b) To provide funding and to strengthen and expand initiatives, as much as possible in a coordinated way, aimed at overcoming obstacles encountered by developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, in meeting their obligations under Article 20 of the Protocol, including capacity-building, training and the development of infrastructure necessary for facilitating the retrieval and submission of information to the Biosafety Clearing-House, while recalling paragraph 10 of decision BS-V/2;

4. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme, in its implementation of the BCH III project:

(a) To develop further guidance on the use of the Biosafety Clearing-House with special attention to (i) customs and border control officials and (ii) promotion of public awareness, education and participation;

(b) To promote, to the extent possible, regional synergies with Parties that have participated in the BCH II project;

5. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme and other Global Environment Facility implementing agencies to start assessing further needs of developing country Parties relating to the use of the Biosafety Clearing-House, taking into account the needs of the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, with the aim of promptly submitting to the Global Environment Facility proposals for new capacity-building projects, or project components, tailored to address national and regional needs in the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

6. *Invites* Parties, in consultation with the United Nations Environment Programme and other Global Environment Facility implementing agencies, to assess lessons learned from using the advisory system to build capacity in the effective participation in the Biosafety Clearing-House and the possibilities for using such a system to build the capacity for effective participation in other clearing-houses of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

BS-VII/3. Assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol (Article 35)

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

1. *Decides that:*
 - (a) The third assessment and review of effectiveness of the Protocol be combined with the mid-term evaluation of the Strategic Plan at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol;
 - (b) The evaluation should also draw upon available information from the third national reports as a primary source, the Biosafety Clearing-House and where appropriate, additional data may be collected through dedicated surveys;
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to collect, compile and analyse information on the implementation of the Protocol using the third national reports as a primary source, with a view to contributing to the third assessment and review of the Protocol in conjunction with the mid-term evaluation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020;
3. *Urges* Parties and invites other Governments to contribute effectively to the data collection process by completing and submitting their national reports in a timely manner and by providing adequate and complete information in their reports, in accordance with the relevant decisions on national reporting, especially with regard to timeframes for the submission of such reports;
4. *Urges* Parties and other Governments to make available all mandatory information in the Biosafety Clearing-House;
5. *Requests* the relevant subsidiary body entrusted with the task of reviewing the implementation of the Protocol, including contributions from the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building:
 - (a) To review the information gathered and analysed by the Executive Secretary with a view to contributing to the third assessment and review of the Protocol and the mid-term evaluation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020;
 - (b) To undertake the third assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol using a core set of identified information needs in the annex to this decision as may be adjusted by the group;
 - (c) To take into account the views of representatives of indigenous and local communities by ensuring their participation in the review process;
6. To submit its findings and recommendations to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for its consideration at its eighth meeting;
7. *Requests* the Compliance Committee to provide input into the third assessment and review of the Protocol and the mid-term evaluation of the Strategic Plan in the form of an evaluation of the status of implementation of the Protocol in meeting its objectives;

Annex

**POSSIBLE ELEMENTS AND CORRESPONDING CORE SET OF IDENTIFIED
INFORMATION NEEDS FOR THE THIRD ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MIDTERM EVALUATION
OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN**

A. Coverage

Element 1. Geographic coverage of the Protocol and Protocol's coverage of transboundary movements of LMOs:

- (a) Number of Parties to the Protocol;
- (b) Number of Parties that have designated national focal points;
- (c) Number of Parties submitting timely national reports on their implementation of the Protocol;
- (d) Number of Parties importing LMOs from non-Parties;
- (e) Number of Parties exporting LMOs to non-Parties;
- (f) Number of Parties that are developing LMOs in public and research centres.

B. Domestic implementation of core procedures and annexes

Element 2. AIA procedures (or domestic regulatory frameworks consistent with the Protocol), in accordance with the Protocol, are established for the transboundary movement of LMOs for intentional introduction into the environment:

- (a) Number of Parties that have put in place laws and regulations and/or administrative measures for operation of the AIA procedure;
- (b) Number of Parties that have adopted a domestic regulatory framework consistent with the Protocol as regards the transboundary movement of LMOs for intentional introduction into the environment;
- (c) Number of Parties that have designated competent national authorities;
- (d) Number of Parties importing or exporting LMOs that do not have relevant laws and regulations in place governing transboundary movements of LMOs for intentional introduction into the environment;
- (e) Regional trends in adopting AIA procedures or domestic regulatory frameworks consistent with the Protocol.

Element 3. AIA procedures (or domestic regulatory framework consistent with the Protocol) for the transboundary movement of LMOs for intentional introduction into the environment are operational and functioning:

- (a) Number of Parties with domestic institutional and administrative (decision-making) arrangements in place to deal with AIA applications;
- (b) Number of Parties with a budgetary allocation for the operation of their national biosafety framework;
- (c) Number of Parties with permanent staff in place to administer their national biosafety frameworks (including AIA applications);
- (d) Number of Parties that have processed AIA applications and reached decisions on import;
- (e) Regional trends in operation and functioning of AIA procedures.

Element 4. Procedures for decision-making in relation to transboundary movements of living modified organisms intended for direct use as food or feed, or for processing (LMO-FFPs) are established and operational:

- (a) Number of Parties that have taken final decisions regarding domestic use, including placing on the market, of LMO-FFPs that may be subject to transboundary movement;
- (b) Number of Parties with a decision-making procedure specific to the import of LMO FFPs.

Element 5. Risk assessment procedures for LMOs are established and operational:

- (a) Number of Parties with risk assessment guidance in place for LMOs;

(b) Number of Parties that have conducted risk assessments as part of a decision-making process regarding an LMO;

(c) Number of Parties with an advisory committee or other arrangements in place for conducting or reviewing risk assessment;

(d) Number of decisions in the Biosafety Clearing-House accompanied by a summary of the risk assessment of the LMO;

(e) Number of Parties with the necessary domestic capacity to conduct risk assessment;

(f) Number of Parties reporting having used Annex III of the Protocol or any other guidance on risk assessment agreed to by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol;

(g) Regional trends in relation to risk assessment capacity.

Element 6. Procedures for the establishment of appropriate LMO risk management measures and monitoring are established and operational:

(a) Number of Parties that have authorized introductions of LMOs into the environment and that have requirements and/or procedures in place and enforced to regulate, manage and control risks identified in risk assessments;

(b) Number of Parties with capacity to detect and identify the presence of LMOs;

(c) Regional trends in relation to risk management capacity.

Element 7. Procedures for identifying and addressing illegal transboundary movements of LMOs are in place and operational:

(a) Number of Parties with domestic measures to prevent and penalize illegal transboundary movements, including through the regulation of transit and contained use;

(b) Number of Parties reporting having received information concerning cases of illegal transboundary movements of an LMO to or from territories under its jurisdiction;

(c) Number of Parties with capacity to detect illegal transboundary movements of LMOs (e.g. personnel, technical capacity).

Element 8. Procedures for preventing, identifying and addressing unintentional transboundary movements of LMOs are established and operational, including notification procedures and emergency measures:

(a) Number of Parties having notified to the Biosafety Clearing-House their contact points regarding unintentional transboundary movement of LMOs in accordance with Article 17;

(b) Number of Parties with a mechanism in place for notifying potentially affected States of actual or potential unintentional transboundary movements of LMOs;

(c) Number of instances of unintentional transboundary movements identified;

(d) Number of Parties with a mechanism to identify and determine significant adverse effects on biological diversity of any unintentional transboundary movements of LMOs.

Element 9. Appropriate requirements are established and implemented in relation to the Protocol's requirements on the handling, transport, packaging and identification of LMOs:

Number of Parties with requirements for handling, transport, packaging and identification of LMOs in place consistent with Article 18 of the Protocol and relevant subsequent decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol for:

(i) Contained use;

- (ii) Intentional introduction into the environment;
- (iii) LMO-FFPs.

Element 10. Procedures for notification of required information to the Biosafety Clearing-House are established and operational:

- (a) Number of Parties that have allocated responsibilities for notification of information to the Biosafety Clearing-House;
- (b) Number of Parties that have in place systems for the management of biosafety information necessary for the implementation of the Protocol.

Element 11. Programme of work on public awareness, education and participation being implemented:

- (a) Number of Parties implementing public-awareness programmes or activities;
- (b) Number of Parties providing for some level of public participation in decision-making processes on LMOs.

C. International level procedures and mechanisms

Element 12. Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol serves its purpose as a governing body:

- (a) Number of decisions taken by the COP-MOP which facilitate the implementation of obligations under the Protocol by elaborating specific measures;
- (b) Contribution of ad hoc technical expert groups to policy development and implementation (number of guidelines and other instruments adopted by the COP-MOP on the basis of contribution by expert groups);
- (c) Number of relevant international organizations that have contributed services and information to the Protocol process.

Element 13. Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building being effectively implemented:

- (a) Amount of funding provided or received for supporting biosafety capacity-building activities and the impacts resulting from such funding;
- (b) Number of Parties seeking assistance to be able to use experts from the roster of experts and number of Parties actually receiving such assistance;
- (c) Number of Parties reporting using local expertise to undertake or review risk assessments and other activities relating to the implementation of the Protocol.

Element 14. Compliance Committee is functioning:

- (a) Parties raise issues with the Compliance Committee concerning their own compliance with Protocol obligations;
- (b) Compliance Committee has decision-making rules of procedure in place.

Element 15. The Biosafety Clearing-House is operational and accessible:

- (a) Number of Parties and other users accessing the Biosafety Clearing-House on a regular basis, i.e. at least once a month;
- (b) Number of Parties reporting difficulties accessing or using the Biosafety Clearing-House;
- (c) Extent to which information on the Biosafety Clearing-House is reliable and up to date.

D. Impacts of transboundary movements of LMOs on biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health

Element 16. Consideration should be given to the work on Aichi Biodiversity Targets in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity:

Number of Parties that have integrated biosafety into their national biodiversity strategy and action plans.

BS-VII/4. Contained use of living modified organisms

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol

1. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to submit to the Executive Secretary information, tools, practical experience and guidance related to their existing mechanisms and requirements relating to the contained use of living modified organisms, including any specific requirement relating to the type and level of containment;
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to create sections in the Biosafety Clearing-House where such information could be submitted and easily retrieved;
3. *Decides* to consider, at its eighth meeting, taking into account the information provided through paragraph 1 above, the gaps and needs identified by Parties, if any, with a view to facilitating the implementation of the Protocol's provisions on contained use of living modified organisms.

BS-VII/5. Matters related to the financial mechanism and resources

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

Recalling its decision BS-VI/5,

Noting the report submitted by the Council of the Global Environment Facility to Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting,³

Noting also decision XI/4 of the Conference of the Parties and recommendation 5/10 of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention regarding the review of implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention, including the establishment of targets,

I. Global Environment Facility support for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

1. *Notes with concern* the low number of projects and the total amount of funding requested by Parties from the Global Environment Facility to support implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety during the fifth replenishment (GEF-5) period;

2. *Welcomes* the sixth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund and *expresses its appreciation* to the countries that contributed to the sixth replenishment;

3. *Also welcomes* the GEF-6 Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy,⁴ which includes Programme 5 on Implementing the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and *takes note* of the indicative programming targets for the various Biodiversity Focal Area objectives and programmes;

4. *Urges* eligible Parties to prioritize biosafety projects during the programming of their GEF-6 national allocations under the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR), taking into account their obligations under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020, and the guidance of the Conference of the Parties to the financial mechanism;

5. *Encourages* Parties to explore the possibility of incorporating biosafety activities into multi-focal-area projects, including the proposed “integrated approach pilots”, as well as projects to be developed under the other biodiversity focal area programmes;

6. *Also encourages* Parties to cooperate at the regional and subregional levels and to request support from the Global Environment Facility for joint projects in order to maximize synergies and opportunities for cost-effective sharing of resources, information, experiences and expertise;

7. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to engage in activities to raise awareness of relevant government officials (including GEF operational focal points) regarding the importance of biosafety and the national obligations under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety with a view to ensuring due consideration of biosafety in the programming of the national GEF allocations for biodiversity;

³ UNEP/CBD/COP/12/14/Add.1.

⁴ GEF/C.46/07/Rev.01.

8. *Urges* Parties to improve their efforts to access funding for biosafety projects from the Global Environment Facility, inter alia, through better coordination between Cartagena Protocol national focal points, CBD national focal points, and GEF operational focal points;

9. *Also urges* Parties to cooperate in organizing regional workshops with a view to raising awareness of the Cartagena Protocol as a tool for sustainable development and the importance of fulfilling obligations under the Protocol; identifying available local or regional capacities that may be utilized; and designing projects that have a better chance of being approved;

10. *Further urges* Parties and *invites* other Governments to integrate and prioritize biosafety within their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national development plans and programmes, as appropriate;

11. *Encourages* the agencies of the Global Environment Facility to make sufficient provisions to support eligible Parties in developing and implementing biosafety projects;

12. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to communicate with the Global Environment Facility operational focal points concerning the need to consider programming part of the national GEF allocation to support national implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, which is a binding international agreement under the Convention on Biological Diversity, taking into account paragraph 1 of decision BS-VI/5 and the fact that the Global Environment Facility is the financial mechanism for the Protocol;

13. *Invites* the Global Environment Facilities Agencies and other relevant organizations, to organize regional and subregional workshops for the Cartagena Protocol and the Convention national focal points, the Global Environment Facility operational focal points and relevant stakeholders to strengthen their capacities and foster sharing of experiences and lessons learned regarding GEF funding for biosafety projects;

II. Further guidance to the financial mechanism

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

(a) To fund, in view of the experience gained during the second national reporting process, the following activities within the Biodiversity Focal Area Set Aside for eligible Parties, in particular those that have reported to the Compliance Committee difficulties in complying with the Protocol, with a view to fulfilling their national reporting obligation under the Protocol:

- (i) Preparation of the third national reports under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, in accordance with paragraph 2 (g) of decision BS-VI/5;
- (ii) Preparation, by Parties that have not yet done so, of their first national reports under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, in accordance with decision BS-V/14;

(b) To fund the following activities of eligible Parties within Programme 5 on Implementing the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety under the Biodiversity Focal Area:

- (i) Implementation of national biosafety frameworks, in accordance with paragraph 2 (h) of decision BS-VI/5;
- (ii) Supporting capacity-building activities in the thematic work related to the Strategic Plan, taking into account the capacity-building needs of eligible Parties;
- (iii) Supporting the ratification and implementation of the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress, including, inter alia, capacity-building, information sharing and awareness-raising activities.

- (c) To consider mechanisms for:
 - (i) Supporting the updating and finalization of national biosafety frameworks;
 - (ii) Facilitating access to GEF funding for projects supporting the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
 - (iii) Increasing the level of utilization of GEF funding for biosafety;and report to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting.
- (d) To promptly evaluate the BCH III project, currently under development, addressing the need for capacity-building for the use of the Biosafety Clearing-House of all eligible Parties not yet supported through the implementation of the previous United Nations Environment Programme-Global Environment Facility BCH I and II projects;
- (e) To support Parties in the collection of national data and conducting consultations on the third national reports;
- (f) To provide funds to implement the capacity-building activities referred to in paragraph 13 of decision BS-VII/12 on risk assessment and risk management;
- (g) To support capacity-building activities on socio-economic considerations as specified in paragraphs 2 (n) and (o) of decision BS-VI/5 (appendix II of decision XI/5 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity).

Mobilization of additional resources

15. *Invites* the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting to take into consideration resource mobilization for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in its consideration of agenda item 14 on resource mobilization;

16. *Urges* Parties that have not yet done so to expedite the enactment of their national biosafety laws to pave the way for securing dedicated funding allocations for biosafety in their national budgets;

17. *Also urges* Parties and invites other Governments to implement, as appropriate, the following strategic measures within the overall framework of the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the Convention on Biological Diversity, with a view to mobilizing additional financial resources for implementation of the Protocol:

- (a) Mainstream biosafety into the national development plans, such as Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategies, to make possible to secure national budget support;

- (b) Establish strong outreach programmes targeting key policymakers, parliamentarians, the general public and other stakeholders, to promote their awareness of biosafety issues and raise the profile of biosafety among other national priorities;

- (c) Strengthen the capacity of the personnel dealing with biosafety to effectively engage and encourage policymakers, decision makers and officials from other sectors about the importance of biosafety and to secure their support;

- (d) Identify “biosafety champions” to promote awareness and greater understanding of biotechnology and its regulation among the public and parliamentarians;

- (e) Link biosafety to the issues of national concerns and priorities for each country so as to attract the attention of policymakers;

18. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of funds, to take into account biosafety concerns when providing technical support and guidance and capacity-building, including

through regional and subregional workshops, in order to assist Parties to identify their funding needs and gaps in biosafety and to integrate biosafety in the development of their national resource mobilization strategies for the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

BS-VII/6. Cooperation with other organizations, conventions and initiatives

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol, Recalling its decisions BS-II/6, BS-V/6 and BS-VI/6,

Welcoming the information provided by the Executive Secretary on activities undertaken to improve cooperation with other organizations, conventions and initiatives,⁵

Also welcoming the Executive Secretary's cooperation 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, and the Green Customs Initiative,

Underlining the contribution of cooperation and coordination among relevant organizations, multilateral agreements and initiatives to 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, relating, in particular, to the key areas of the Protocol, namely capacity-building, information sharing, detection and identification of living modified organisms, public awareness and participation and risk assessment,

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:*

(a) *To further pursue, at the current level, cooperation with other organizations, conventions and initiatives, including academic and research institutions, from all regions, with a view to meeting the strategic objective in focal area 5 of the Strategic Plan, on outreach and cooperation;*

(b) *To promote active participation of other conventions and related organizations in the BCH online discussion portal;*

(c) *To continue efforts to gain observer status for the Convention on Biological Diversity in those committees of the World Trade Organization that are relevant to biosafety.*

⁵ UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/7/5.

BS-VII/7. Report of the Executive Secretary on the administration of the Protocol

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

1. Welcomes the contribution of CAD 1,576,652, for the year 2015 and CAD 1,584,692 for the year 2016, from the host country, Canada, and the Province of Quebec to the rental of the premises of the Secretariat, of which 16.5 per cent has been allocated per annum to offset contributions from the Parties to the Protocol for the biennium 2015-2016;

2. Approves a core programme budget (BG) of US\$ 3,243,500 for the year 2015 and of US\$ 3,190,400 for the year 2016, for the purposes set out in table 1 below;

3. Approves secretariat staffing as set out in table 2 below;

4. Adopts the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the costs under the Protocol for 2015 and 2016 set out in table 5 below;

5. Decides, in the light of the recommendation of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) in its report on the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, to increase the working capital reserve to a level of 7.5 per cent of the core programme budget (BG) expenditure, including programme support costs, and to do so from the existing BG fund balance;

6. Authorizes the Executive Secretary to enter into commitments up to the level of the approved budget, drawing on available cash resources, including unspent balances, contributions from previous financial periods and miscellaneous income;

7. Authorizes the Executive Secretary to transfer resources among the programmes between each of the main appropriation lines set out in table 1 below up to an aggregate of 15 per cent of the total programme budget, provided that a further limitation of up to a maximum of 25 per cent of each such appropriation line shall apply;

8. Agrees to share the costs for secretariat services between those that are common to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Protocol on an 85:15 ratio for the biennium 2015-2016, while noting that the proportionate division between the Convention and its two Protocols will need to be reconsidered for the 2017-2018 budget following discussions on the implementation of the Functional Review of the Secretariat;

9. Invites all Parties to the Protocol to note that contributions to the core programme budget (BG) are due on 1 January of the year in which these contributions have been budgeted for, and to pay them promptly, and urges Parties in a position to do so, to pay by 1 December of the year 2014 for the calendar year 2015 and by 1 October 2015 for the calendar year 2016, the contributions set out in table 5 and in this regard requests that Parties be notified of the amount of their contributions for 2016 by 1 August 2015;

10. Notes with concern that a number of Parties have not paid their contributions to the core budget (BG Trust Fund) for 2014 and prior years, including 14 Parties that have never paid their contributions, and also notes that, in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards adopted by the United Nations, arrears estimated at \$92,738 will be outstanding at the end of 2014 and will have to be deducted from the fund balance to cover doubtful debt and so cannot be used for the benefit of all Parties;

11. Urges Parties that have still not paid their contributions to the core budget (BG Trust Fund) for 2014 and prior years; to do so without delay and requests the Executive Secretary to publish and regularly update information on the status of contributions to the Protocol's Trust Funds (currently BG, BH and BI) and on the implication of non-payment of assessed contributions for the fund balance;

12. *Confirms* that, with regard to contributions due from 1 January 2005 onwards, Parties whose contributions are in arrears for two (2) or more years will not be eligible to become a member of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, and that this will only apply in the case of Parties that are not least developed countries or small island developing States;

13. *Authorizes* the Executive Secretary to enter into arrangements with any Party whose contributions are in arrears for two or more years to mutually agree on a “schedule of payments” for such a Party, to clear all outstanding arrears, within six years depending on the financial circumstances of the Party in arrears and pay future contributions by the due date, and report on the implementation of any such arrangement to the next meeting of the Bureau and to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

14. *Decides* that a Party with an agreed arrangement in accordance with paragraph 13 above and that is fully respecting the provisions of that arrangement will not be subject to the provisions of paragraph 12 above;

15. *Requests* the Executive Secretary and *invites* the President of the COP-MOP through a jointly signed letter to notify Parties whose contributions are in arrears to invite them to take timely action and thanks those Parties that have responded in a positive manner in paying their outstanding contributions;

16. *Agrees with* the funding estimates for activities under the Protocol to be financed from:

(a) The Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BH) for Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities for the biennium 2015-2016, as specified by the Executive Secretary, giving special attention to capacity-building (see resource requirements in table 3 below);

(b) The Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BI) for Facilitating Participation of the Developing Country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, Parties with Economies in Transition, for the biennium 2015-2016, as specified by the Executive Secretary (see resource requirements in table 4 below);

and *urges* Parties to make contributions to these funds;

17. *Considers* that the trust funds for the Protocol (BG, BH, BI) should be extended for a period of two years, beginning 1 January 2016 and ending 31 December 2017, and requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to seek the approval of the United Nations Environment Assembly for their extension;

18. *Agrees*, in view of the decision to hold the ordinary meetings of the Parties of the Cartagena Protocol concurrently with the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity, subject to the agreement of the Conference of the Parties and taking into account advice to be provided by the Executive Secretary and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, to merge the BI special voluntary Trust Fund with the BZ Voluntary Trust Fund, which facilitates participation of Parties in the meetings related to the Convention and its Protocols and, in the event of such merger, *requests* the Executive Secretary to ensure transparency when reporting expenditure for the Protocol and the Convention under the merged Trust Fund;

19. *Invites* all States not Parties to the Protocol, as well as governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other sources, to contribute to the trust funds for the Protocol (BH, BI) to enable the Secretariat to implement approved activities in a timely manner;

20. *Notes* with concern the low level of contributions to the BI Trust Fund, which facilitates participation in the meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol;

21. *Reaffirms* the importance of full and effective participation of the developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as Parties with economies in transition, in the activities of the Protocol and, requests the Secretariat to remind Parties of the need to contribute to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BI) at least six months prior to the ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties, and *urges* Parties in the position to do so to ensure that the contributions are paid at least three months before the meeting;

22. *Stresses* the importance of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention and the meetings of the Parties of its Protocols on improving the efficiency of structures and processes under the Convention and its Protocols and on the outcome of the Functional Review of the Secretariat and their implications for the future budgets of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

23. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to provide information on savings resulting from the integration of the work of the Secretariat of the Convention and its Protocols;

24. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare and submit a programme budget for secretariat services and the biosafety work programme of the Protocol for the biennium 2017-2018 to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, and to provide two alternatives for the budget based on:

(a) The Executive Secretary's assessment of the required rate of growth for the programme budget which should not exceed a 5 per cent increase from the 2015-2016 level in nominal terms;

(b) Maintaining the core programme budget (BG Trust Fund) at the 2015-2016 level in nominal terms as in table 1;

25. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on income and budget performance, unspent balances and the status of surplus and carry-overs as well as any adjustments made to the Protocol budget for the biennium 2015-2016 and to provide to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol and biosafety focal points all financial information regarding the budget for the Convention on Biological Diversity at the same time as it is provided to Parties to the Convention;

Table 1. Biosafety Protocol resource requirements from the core budget (BG Trust Fund) for the biennium 2015-2016

| <i>Expenditures</i> | | <i>2015</i> | <i>2016</i> | <i>TOTAL</i> |
|---|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>(Thousands of United States dollars)</i> | | | | |
| A. | Staff costs* | 1,971.4 | 2,008.8 | 3,980.2 |
| B. | Biosafety Bureau meetings | 20.0 | 25.0 | 45.0 |
| C. | Eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol | 100.0 | 300.0 | 400.0 |
| D. | Consultants/subcontracts | 30.0 | 30.0 | 60.0 |
| E. | Travel on official business | 50.0 | 50.0 | 100.0 |
| F. | Meetings of the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building | 30.0 | 30.0 | 60.0 |
| G. | Biosafety Clearing-House Informal Advisory meetings | 55.0 | - | 55.0 |
| H. | Compliance Committee meeting | 45.0 | 45.0 | 90.0 |
| I. | Biosafety Clearing House Expert meeting | 80.0 | - | 80.0 |
| J. | General operating expenses | 283.6 | 284.6 | 568.2 |
| K. | Temporary assistance/Overtime | 10.0 | 10.0 | 20.0 |
| L. | Translation of BCH website | 35.0 | 35.0 | 70.0 |
| M. | Biosafety Clearing House equipment | 5.0 | 5.0 | 10.0 |
| Subtotal (I) | | 2,715.0 | 2,823.4 | 5,538.4 |
| II | Programme support charge (13 per cent) | 353.0 | 367.0 | 720.0 |
| III | Working capital reserve (7.5 per cent) | 175.5 | | 175.5 |
| GRAND TOTAL (I+II+III) | | 3,243.5 | 3,190.4 | 6,433.9 |
| Replenishment of working capital reserve from savings | | (175.5) | | (175.5) |
| Less contribution from host country** | | (237.9) | (239.1) | (477.0) |
| TOTAL | | 2,830.1 | 2,951.3 | 5,781.4 |
| Less savings from previous years | | (200.0) | (200.0) | (400.0) |
| NET TOTAL (amount to be shared by Parties) | | 2,630.1 | 2,751.3 | 5,381.4 |

* Includes 15 per cent of costs for 1 P-5, 1 P-4; 3 P-3 and 2 G-S staff funded mainly by the Convention.

* Includes 50 per cent of costs for 1 P-4 staff funded by the Convention.

** Host country contribution paid in Canadian dollars to cover rental costs.

Table 2. Biosafety Protocol staffing requirements from the core budget (BG Trust Fund) for the biennium 2015-2016

| | | <i>2015</i> | <i>2016</i> |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| I. | Professional category | | |
| | D-1 | 1 | 1 |
| | P-4 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| | P-3 | 3 | 3 |
| | P-2 | 2 | 2 |
| | Total professional category | 8.5 | 8.5 |
| II. | Total General Service category | 4 | 4 |
| TOTAL (A+B) | | 12.5 | 12.5 |

Table 3. Resource requirements from the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BH) for Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities of the Cartagena Protocol for the biennium 2015-2016

(Thousands of United States dollars)

| I. Description* | Amount |
|---|------------------|
| <i>Meetings/Workshops</i> | |
| Agenda item 10: Identification (4-Regional workshops) | 320,000 |
| Agenda item 11: Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Protocol (4-regional workshops) | 320,000 |
| Agenda item 12: Risk assessment and risk management expert meeting | 100,000 |
| Agenda item 13: Socio-economic considerations expert meeting | 100,000 |
| Agenda item 15: Assessment and review Liaison Group | 30,000 |
| Agenda item 16: Article 17(unintentional) – Regional workshop | 320,000 |
| On-going Strategic Plan activities | 160,000 |
| <i>Consultants</i> | |
| Agenda item 9: Roster of biosafety experts (ongoing) | 200,000 |
| <i>Travel of Staff</i> | |
| Agenda item 7: Cooperation with other organizations, conventions and initiatives | 10,000 |
| Agenda item 13: Socio-economic considerations | 30,000 |
| <i>Publications/Printing costs</i> | |
| Agenda item 16: Article 17(unintentional) | 60,000 |
| Ongoing Strategic Plan activities | 150,000 |
| <i>Activities</i> | |
| Agenda item 14: Risk assessment and risk management (translation) | 80,000 |
| Subtotal I | 1,880,000 |
| II. Programme support costs (13 per cent) | 244,400 |
| Total costs (I+II) | 2,124,400 |

* COP-MOP/7 Agenda items

Table 4
Resource requirements from the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BI) for Facilitating Participation in the Protocol for the Biennium 2015-2016

| Description | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|---|--------------|
| | <i>(Thousands of United States dollars)</i> | |
| <i>I Meetings</i> | | |
| Meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol | | 600.0 |
| Subtotal | | 600.0 |
| <i>II Programme support cost (13 per cent)</i> | | 78.0 |
| III Total cost (I+II) | | 678.0 |

Table 5. Contributions to the Trust Fund for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the biennium 2015-2016

| <i>Party</i> | <i>United Nations scale of assessments 2015 (percentage)</i> | <i>Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (percentage)</i> | <i>Contributions as per 1 Jan. 2015 (US\$)</i> | <i>United Nations scale of assessments 2015 (percentage)</i> | <i>Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (percentage)</i> | <i>Contributions as per 1 Jan. 2016 (US\$)</i> | <i>Total contributions 2015-2016 (US\$)</i> |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| Afghanistan | 0.005 | 0.007 | 187 | 0.005 | 0.007 | 196 | 383 |
| Albania | 0.010 | 0.014 | 374 | 0.010 | 0.014 | 391 | 766 |
| Algeria | 0.137 | 0.195 | 5,127 | 0.137 | 0.195 | 5,363 | 10,490 |
| Angola | 0.010 | 0.010 | 263 | 0.010 | 0.010 | 275 | 538 |
| Antigua and Barbuda | 0.002 | 0.003 | 75 | 0.002 | 0.003 | 78 | 153 |
| Armenia | 0.007 | 0.010 | 262 | 0.007 | 0.010 | 274 | 536 |
| Austria | 0.798 | 1.135 | 29,864 | 0.798 | 1.135 | 31,240 | 61,104 |
| Azerbaijan | 0.040 | 0.057 | 1,497 | 0.040 | 0.057 | 1,566 | 3,063 |
| Bahamas | 0.017 | 0.024 | 636 | 0.017 | 0.024 | 666 | 1,302 |
| Bahrain | 0.039 | 0.055 | 1,460 | 0.039 | 0.055 | 1,527 | 2,986 |
| Bangladesh | 0.010 | 0.010 | 263 | 0.010 | 0.010 | 275 | 538 |
| Barbados | 0.008 | 0.011 | 299 | 0.008 | 0.011 | 313 | 613 |
| Belarus | 0.056 | 0.080 | 2,096 | 0.056 | 0.080 | 2,192 | 4,288 |
| Belgium | 0.998 | 1.420 | 37,349 | 0.998 | 1.420 | 39,070 | 76,418 |
| Belize | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Benin | 0.003 | 0.004 | 112 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 117 | 230 |
| Bhutan | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Bolivia | 0.009 | 0.013 | 337 | 0.009 | 0.013 | 352 | 689 |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 0.017 | 0.024 | 636 | 0.017 | 0.024 | 666 | 1,302 |
| Botswana | 0.017 | 0.024 | 636 | 0.017 | 0.024 | 666 | 1,302 |
| Brazil | 2.934 | 4.175 | 109,801 | 2.934 | 4.175 | 114,860 | 224,661 |
| Bulgaria | 0.047 | 0.067 | 1,759 | 0.047 | 0.067 | 1,840 | 3,599 |
| Burkina Faso | 0.003 | 0.004 | 112 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 117 | 230 |
| Burundi | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Cambodia | 0.004 | 0.006 | 150 | 0.004 | 0.006 | 157 | 306 |
| Cameroon | 0.012 | 0.017 | 449 | 0.012 | 0.017 | 470 | 919 |
| Cabo Verde | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Central African Republic | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Chad | 0.002 | 0.003 | 75 | 0.002 | 0.003 | 78 | 153 |
| China | 5.148 | 7.325 | 192,656 | 5.148 | 7.325 | 201,534 | 394,190 |
| Colombia | 0.259 | 0.369 | 9,693 | 0.259 | 0.369 | 10,139 | 19,832 |
| Comoros | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Congo | 0.005 | 0.007 | 187 | 0.005 | 0.007 | 196 | 383 |
| Costa Rica | 0.038 | 0.054 | 1,422 | 0.038 | 0.054 | 1,488 | 2,910 |
| Croatia | 0.126 | 0.179 | 4,715 | 0.126 | 0.179 | 4,933 | 9,648 |
| Cuba | 0.069 | 0.098 | 2,582 | 0.069 | 0.098 | 2,701 | 5,283 |
| Cyprus | 0.047 | 0.067 | 1,759 | 0.047 | 0.067 | 1,840 | 3,599 |
| Czech Republic | 0.386 | 0.549 | 14,445 | 0.386 | 0.549 | 15,111 | 29,557 |
| Democratic People's Republic of Korea | 0.006 | 0.009 | 225 | 0.006 | 0.009 | 235 | 459 |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | 0.003 | 0.004 | 112 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 117 | 230 |
| Denmark | 0.675 | 0.960 | 25,261 | 0.675 | 0.960 | 26,425 | 51,686 |
| Djibouti | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Dominica | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Dominican Republic | 0.045 | 0.064 | 1,684 | 0.045 | 0.064 | 1,762 | 3,446 |
| Ecuador | 0.044 | 0.063 | 1,647 | 0.044 | 0.063 | 1,723 | 3,369 |
| Egypt | 0.134 | 0.191 | 5,015 | 0.134 | 0.191 | 5,246 | 10,261 |
| El Salvador | 0.016 | 0.023 | 599 | 0.016 | 0.023 | 626 | 1,225 |
| Eritrea | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Estonia | 0.040 | 0.057 | 1,497 | 0.040 | 0.057 | 1,566 | 3,063 |
| Ethiopia | 0.010 | 0.010 | 263 | 0.010 | 0.010 | 275 | 538 |
| European Union | | 2.500 | 65,753 | | 2.500 | 68,783 | 134,537 |
| Fiji | 0.003 | 0.004 | 112 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 117 | 230 |
| Finland | 0.519 | 0.738 | 19,423 | 0.519 | 0.738 | 20,318 | 39,741 |
| France | 5.593 | 7.958 | 209,310 | 5.593 | 7.958 | 218,955 | 428,265 |
| Gabon | 0.020 | 0.028 | 748 | 0.020 | 0.028 | 783 | 1,531 |
| Gambia | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Georgia | 0.007 | 0.010 | 262 | 0.007 | 0.010 | 274 | 536 |

| <i>Party</i> | <i>United Nations scale of assessments 2015 (percentage)</i> | <i>Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (percentage)</i> | <i>Contributions as per 1 Jan. 2015 (US\$)</i> | <i>United Nations scale of assessments 2015 (percentage)</i> | <i>Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (percentage)</i> | <i>Contributions as per 1 Jan. 2016 (US\$)</i> | <i>Total contributions 2015-2016 (US\$)</i> |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| Germany | 7.141 | 10.161 | 267,241 | 7.141 | 10.161 | 279,556 | 546,797 |
| Ghana | 0.014 | 0.020 | 524 | 0.014 | 0.020 | 548 | 1,072 |
| Greece | 0.638 | 0.908 | 23,876 | 0.638 | 0.908 | 24,976 | 48,853 |
| Grenada | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Guatemala | 0.027 | 0.038 | 1,010 | 0.027 | 0.038 | 1,057 | 2,067 |
| Guinea | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Guinea-Bissau | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Guyana | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Honduras | 0.008 | 0.011 | 299 | 0.008 | 0.011 | 313 | 613 |
| Hungary | 0.266 | 0.378 | 9,955 | 0.266 | 0.378 | 10,413 | 20,368 |
| India | 0.666 | 0.948 | 24,924 | 0.666 | 0.948 | 26,073 | 50,997 |
| Indonesia | 0.346 | 0.492 | 12,949 | 0.346 | 0.492 | 13,545 | 26,494 |
| Iran (Islamic Republic of) | 0.356 | 0.507 | 13,323 | 0.356 | 0.507 | 13,937 | 27,259 |
| Iraq | 0.068 | 0.097 | 2,545 | 0.068 | 0.097 | 2,662 | 5,207 |
| Ireland | 0.418 | 0.595 | 15,643 | 0.418 | 0.595 | 16,364 | 32,007 |
| Italy | 4.448 | 6.329 | 166,460 | 4.448 | 6.329 | 174,130 | 340,590 |
| Jamaica | 0.011 | 0.016 | 412 | 0.011 | 0.016 | 431 | 842 |
| Japan | 10.833 | 15.414 | 405,409 | 10.833 | 15.414 | 424,090 | 829,499 |
| Jordan | 0.022 | 0.031 | 823 | 0.022 | 0.031 | 861 | 1,685 |
| Kazakhstan | 0.121 | 0.172 | 4,528 | 0.121 | 0.172 | 4,737 | 9,265 |
| Kenya | 0.013 | 0.018 | 487 | 0.013 | 0.018 | 509 | 995 |
| Kiribati | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Kyrgyzstan | 0.002 | 0.003 | 75 | 0.002 | 0.003 | 78 | 153 |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic | 0.002 | 0.003 | 75 | 0.002 | 0.003 | 78 | 153 |
| Latvia | 0.047 | 0.067 | 1,759 | 0.047 | 0.067 | 1,840 | 3,599 |
| Lebanon | 0.042 | 0.060 | 1,572 | 0.042 | 0.060 | 1,644 | 3,216 |
| Lesotho | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Liberia | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Libya | 0.142 | 0.202 | 5,314 | 0.142 | 0.202 | 5,559 | 10,873 |
| Lithuania | 0.073 | 0.104 | 2,732 | 0.073 | 0.104 | 2,858 | 5,590 |
| Luxembourg | 0.081 | 0.115 | 3,031 | 0.081 | 0.115 | 3,171 | 6,202 |
| Madagascar | 0.003 | 0.004 | 112 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 117 | 230 |
| Malawi | 0.002 | 0.003 | 75 | 0.002 | 0.003 | 78 | 153 |
| Malaysia | 0.281 | 0.400 | 10,516 | 0.281 | 0.400 | 11,001 | 21,517 |
| Maldives | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Mali | 0.004 | 0.006 | 150 | 0.004 | 0.006 | 157 | 306 |
| Malta | 0.016 | 0.023 | 599 | 0.016 | 0.023 | 626 | 1,225 |
| Marshall Islands | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Mauritania | 0.002 | 0.003 | 75 | 0.002 | 0.003 | 78 | 153 |
| Mauritius | 0.013 | 0.018 | 487 | 0.013 | 0.018 | 509 | 995 |
| Mexico | 1.842 | 2.621 | 68,934 | 1.842 | 2.621 | 72,111 | 141,045 |
| Mongolia | 0.003 | 0.004 | 112 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 117 | 230 |
| Montenegro | 0.005 | 0.007 | 187 | 0.005 | 0.007 | 196 | 383 |
| Morocco | 0.062 | 0.088 | 2,320 | 0.062 | 0.088 | 2,427 | 4,747 |
| Mozambique | 0.003 | 0.004 | 112 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 117 | 230 |
| Myanmar | 0.010 | 0.010 | 263 | 0.010 | 0.010 | 275 | 538 |
| Namibia | 0.010 | 0.014 | 374 | 0.010 | 0.014 | 391 | 766 |
| Nauru | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Netherlands | 1.654 | 2.353 | 61,899 | 1.654 | 2.353 | 64,751 | 126,649 |
| New Zealand | 0.253 | 0.360 | 9,468 | 0.253 | 0.360 | 9,904 | 19,373 |
| Nicaragua | 0.003 | 0.004 | 112 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 117 | 230 |
| Niger | 0.002 | 0.003 | 75 | 0.002 | 0.003 | 78 | 153 |
| Nigeria | 0.090 | 0.128 | 3,368 | 0.090 | 0.128 | 3,523 | 6,891 |
| Niue | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Norway | 0.851 | 1.211 | 31,847 | 0.851 | 1.211 | 33,315 | 65,162 |
| Oman | 0.102 | 0.145 | 3,817 | 0.102 | 0.145 | 3,993 | 7,810 |
| Pakistan | 0.085 | 0.121 | 3,181 | 0.085 | 0.121 | 3,328 | 6,509 |
| Palau | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Panama | 0.026 | 0.037 | 973 | 0.026 | 0.037 | 1,018 | 1,991 |

| <i>Party</i> | <i>United Nations scale of assessments 2015 (percentage)</i> | <i>Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (percentage)</i> | <i>Contributions as per 1 Jan. 2015 (US\$)</i> | <i>United Nations scale of assessments 2015 (percentage)</i> | <i>Scale with 22% ceiling, no LDC paying more than 0.01 % (percentage)</i> | <i>Contributions as per 1 Jan. 2016 (US\$)</i> | <i>Total contributions 2015-2016 (US\$)</i> |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| Papua New Guinea | 0.004 | 0.006 | 150 | 0.004 | 0.006 | 157 | 306 |
| Paraguay | 0.010 | 0.014 | 374 | 0.010 | 0.014 | 391 | 766 |
| Peru | 0.117 | 0.166 | 4,379 | 0.117 | 0.166 | 4,580 | 8,959 |
| Philippines | 0.154 | 0.219 | 5,763 | 0.154 | 0.219 | 6,029 | 11,792 |
| Poland | 0.921 | 1.310 | 34,467 | 0.921 | 1.310 | 36,055 | 70,522 |
| Portugal | 0.474 | 0.674 | 17,739 | 0.474 | 0.674 | 18,556 | 36,295 |
| Qatar | 0.209 | 0.297 | 7,822 | 0.209 | 0.297 | 8,182 | 16,003 |
| Republic of Korea | 1.994 | 2.837 | 74,623 | 1.994 | 2.837 | 78,061 | 152,684 |
| Republic of Moldova | 0.003 | 0.004 | 112 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 117 | 230 |
| Romania | 0.226 | 0.322 | 8,458 | 0.226 | 0.322 | 8,847 | 17,305 |
| Rwanda | 0.002 | 0.003 | 75 | 0.002 | 0.003 | 78 | 153 |
| Saint Kitts and Nevis | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Saint Lucia | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Samoa | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Saudi Arabia | 0.864 | 1.229 | 32,334 | 0.864 | 1.229 | 33,824 | 66,158 |
| Senegal | 0.006 | 0.009 | 225 | 0.006 | 0.009 | 235 | 459 |
| Serbia | 0.040 | 0.057 | 1,497 | 0.040 | 0.057 | 1,566 | 3,063 |
| Seychelles | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Slovakia | 0.171 | 0.243 | 6,399 | 0.171 | 0.243 | 6,694 | 13,094 |
| Slovenia | 0.100 | 0.142 | 3,742 | 0.100 | 0.142 | 3,915 | 7,657 |
| Solomon Islands | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Somalia | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| South Africa | 0.372 | 0.529 | 13,922 | 0.372 | 0.529 | 14,563 | 28,485 |
| Spain | 2.973 | 4.230 | 111,260 | 2.973 | 4.230 | 116,387 | 227,647 |
| Sri Lanka | 0.025 | 0.036 | 936 | 0.025 | 0.036 | 979 | 1,914 |
| Sudan | 0.010 | 0.014 | 374 | 0.010 | 0.014 | 391 | 766 |
| Suriname | 0.004 | 0.006 | 150 | 0.004 | 0.006 | 157 | 306 |
| Swaziland | 0.003 | 0.004 | 112 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 117 | 230 |
| Sweden | 0.960 | 1.366 | 35,927 | 0.960 | 1.366 | 37,582 | 73,509 |
| Switzerland | 1.047 | 1.490 | 39,182 | 1.047 | 1.490 | 40,988 | 80,170 |
| Syrian Arab Republic | 0.036 | 0.051 | 1,347 | 0.036 | 0.051 | 1,409 | 2,757 |
| Tajikistan | 0.003 | 0.004 | 112 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 117 | 230 |
| Thailand | 0.239 | 0.340 | 8,944 | 0.239 | 0.340 | 9,356 | 18,301 |
| The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | 0.008 | 0.011 | 299 | 0.008 | 0.011 | 313 | 613 |
| Togo | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Tonga | 0.001 | 0.001 | 37 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 39 | 77 |
| Trinidad and Tobago | 0.044 | 0.063 | 1,647 | 0.044 | 0.063 | 1,723 | 3,369 |
| Tunisia | 0.036 | 0.051 | 1,347 | 0.036 | 0.051 | 1,409 | 2,757 |
| Turkey | 1.328 | 1.890 | 49,698 | 1.328 | 1.890 | 51,989 | 101,687 |
| Turkmenistan | 0.019 | 0.027 | 711 | 0.019 | 0.027 | 744 | 1,455 |
| Uganda | 0.006 | 0.009 | 225 | 0.006 | 0.009 | 235 | 459 |
| Ukraine | 0.099 | 0.141 | 3,705 | 0.099 | 0.141 | 3,876 | 7,581 |
| United Arab Emirates | 0.595 | 0.847 | 22,267 | 0.595 | 0.847 | 23,293 | 45,560 |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | 5.179 | 7.369 | 193,816 | 5.179 | 7.369 | 202,748 | 396,564 |
| United Republic of Tanzania | 0.009 | 0.010 | 263 | 0.009 | 0.010 | 275 | 538 |
| Uruguay | 0.052 | 0.074 | 1,946 | 0.052 | 0.074 | 2,036 | 3,982 |
| Venezuela | 0.627 | 0.892 | 23,465 | 0.627 | 0.892 | 24,546 | 48,010 |
| Viet Nam | 0.042 | 0.060 | 1,572 | 0.042 | 0.060 | 1,644 | 3,216 |
| Yemen | 0.010 | 0.010 | 263 | 0.010 | 0.010 | 275 | 538 |
| Zambia | 0.006 | 0.009 | 225 | 0.006 | 0.009 | 235 | 459 |
| Zimbabwe | 0.002 | 0.003 | 75 | 0.002 | 0.003 | 78 | 153 |
| TOTAL | 68.540 | 100.000 | 2,630,132 | 68.540 | 100.000 | 2,751,328 | 5,381,461 |

BS-VII/8. Handling, transport, packaging and identification (Article 18)

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

Recalling decisions BS-III/10 and BS-V/8,

Taking note of the experience and views of Parties and other Governments and relevant international organizations,

Also taking note of the additional analysis conducted by the Secretariat on information concerning potential gaps and inconsistencies in existing standards relevant to the handling, transport, packaging and identification of living modified organisms,

1. *Requests* Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and *urges* other Governments:

(a) To continue to take measures ensuring the implementation of requirements in paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and paragraph 4 or 6, as appropriate, of decision BS-III/10;

(b) To continue to identify transboundary movements of living modified organisms intended for direct use as food or feed, or for processing, by incorporating the information identified in decision BS-III/10 into existing documentation accompanying living modified organisms;

(c) To cooperate with and support developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition in order to build the capacity to implement the identification requirements of paragraph 2 (a) of Article 18 and related decisions;

(d) To make available to the Biosafety Clearing-House any domestic regulatory requirements related to the identification and documentation of living modified organisms intended for direct use as food or feed or for processing;

2. *Decides*, that a further review of the need for a stand-alone document is not required unless a subsequent meeting of the Parties so decides in the light of the experience gained;

3. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to use existing guidance for handling, transport and packaging of LMOs as referred to in relation to operational objective 1.6 of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to collaborate with relevant international standard-setting bodies and to keep Parties abreast of any new developments in relevant international regulations and to make such information available in the Biosafety Clearing-House in such a way as to make it easily retrievable;

5. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to provide the Executive Secretary with any additional information that may assist Parties in identifying and applying existing rules and standards, and *requests* the Executive Secretary to make such information available through the Biosafety Clearing-House.

BS-VII/9. Report of the Executive Secretary on the administration of the Protocol and on budgetary matters: improving the efficiency of structures and processes under the Convention and its protocols

A. Plan for the organization of concurrent meetings of the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Protocols

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

Recognizing that the work under the Cartagena Protocol has increasingly become separated from the work of the Convention resulting in biosafety receiving less attention in implementation and funding,

Recognizing also the limitations that exist in the current organization of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol back-to-back with the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in terms of achieving a meaningful integration of the work of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety into the work of the Convention,

Taking note of the recommendation 5/2 of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention, as regards integrated approaches to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols with a view to improving efficiencies,

Also taking note of the plan for the organization of concurrent meetings of the Conference of the Parties and Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol prepared by the Executive Secretary,⁶

Recognizing that planning for the organization of concurrent meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to its Protocols is an iterative process,

Recognizing also the need for ensuring the availability of financial resources to support the participation of representatives from developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, in the three concurrent meetings,

Recalling paragraph 2 of Article 32 of the Convention and Article 29 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety which provide that decisions under the Protocol shall be taken only by the Parties to the Protocol,

1. *Decides* to hold its future ordinary meetings concurrently with the meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in the same two-week period in which the meetings of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention are held;

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

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to further refine the plan for the organization of concurrent meetings in the light of recommendation 5/2 of the Ad hoc Open-ended Working Group on

⁶ UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/7/6/Add.2, annex.

Review of Implementation of the Convention with a specific focus on the legal, financial and logistical implications of organizing these meetings concurrently, including, by:

(a) Clarifying how the two-week period may be allocated to undertake the work of the three meetings, including the integrity of decision-making under the Convention and the Protocols;

(b) Further considering the practices and lessons learned in organizing concurrent meetings under other multilateral environmental agreements, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions cluster;

(c) Drawing lessons from the experience gained as a result of the organization of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties concurrently with the first meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol;

(d) Reviewing the level of participation of developing country Parties and their representation in relevant sessions of the concurrent meetings referred to in paragraphs (b) and (c) above;

(e) Taking appropriate steps towards streamlining the agenda of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit the plan, as revised in accordance with paragraph 3 above to any intersessional process for the preparation of the concurrent organization of the meetings as may be established by the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

5. *Decides* to establish criteria for reviewing experience with the concurrent organization of the meetings at its ninth meeting, in 2018, in order to complete the review at its tenth meeting, in 2020;

6. *Invites* the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its twelfth meeting to take this decision into account in its deliberations related to the organization of concurrent meetings;

B. Establishment of a subsidiary body on implementation

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

Recalling paragraph 4, Article 29 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, which elaborates the measures that the Conference of Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol is expected to take for the purpose of keeping under review the implementation of the Protocol,

Recalling also Article 30 of the Protocol, which stipulates that any subsidiary body established by or under the Convention may serve the Protocol if so decided by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and in which case the meeting of the Parties is required to specify which functions that subsidiary body has to exercise,

Considering the terms of reference of a subsidiary body on implementation prepared by the Executive Secretary in accordance with the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention at its fifth meeting,

Recognizing the benefits of integrated approaches to the review and support of the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols,

Recognizing also the importance of the full and effective participation of all Parties, especially developing country Parties, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, and Parties with economies in transition, in the meetings of the subsidiary body on implementation,

1. *Decides* that the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, if established by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its twelfth meeting, will also serve the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

2. *Agrees* that the terms of reference of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as may be adopted by Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its twelfth meeting on the basis of the proposal of the Executive Secretary,⁷ should apply, mutatis mutandis, to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation when serving the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

3. *Invites* the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to take this decision into account in its deliberations related to the establishment of a subsidiary body on implementation as well as any views expressed in this regard, including on the terms of reference for this body, as reflected in the report of this meeting.

⁷ UNEP/CBD/COP/12/25/Add.1, annex.

BS-VII/10. 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. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to submit to the Executive Secretary information on actual cases of unintentional transboundary movement and case studies related to their existing mechanisms for emergency measures in case of unintentional transboundary movements of living modified organisms that are likely to have significant adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health, including information on existing rapid alert mechanisms and monitoring systems;

2. *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 views on what constitutes unintentional transboundary movements in contrast with illegal transboundary movements and what type of information should be exchanged through the Biosafety Clearing-House;

3. *Encourages* Parties and other Governments, without prejudice to Article 21 on confidential information, to ensure that, for regulatory purposes, the information provided by a notifier at the time of notification includes all the information necessary to detect and identify the living modified organism, including information that allows for its unique identification and where reference materials may be obtained;

4. *Requests* the Online Network of Laboratories for the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms to continue working on issues relevant to the detection and identification of living modified organisms with a view to achieving the operational objectives of the Strategic Plan relevant to the implementation of Article 17;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To continue organizing online discussions through the Network of Laboratories focusing on the detection and identification of living modified organisms;

(b) To compile and synthesize the information and case studies submitted by Parties of their existing mechanisms for emergency measures in case of unintentional transboundary movements of living modified organisms;

(c) To create, in the Biosafety Clearing-House, a system for the easy identification of notifications relating to unintentional transboundary movements of living modified organisms within the context of Article 17, and provide cross-references among the notifications and relevant detection methods, where applicable;

(d) To organize, in cooperation with relevant organizations, subject to the availability of funds, capacity-building activities such as online and face-to-face training workshops on sampling, detection and identification of living modified organisms to assist Parties in fulfilling the requirements under Article 17 and towards achieving the relevant outcomes of the Strategic Plan;

(e) To compile and synthesize information submitted through paragraph 2 above for consideration by the Compliance Committee at its thirteenth meeting and, on the basis of this compilation, submit suggested clarifications on what constitutes an unintentional transboundary movement in contrast with an illegal transboundary movement.

BS-VII/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;
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 Supplementary Protocol as soon as possible with a view to ensuring the entry into force of the Supplementary Protocol in time for the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
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 Protocol, as appropriate, without further delay, so that they can also become Parties to the Supplementary Protocol;
4. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations and institutions to undertake or support further awareness-raising and capacity-building activities to promote understanding and implementation of the Supplementary Protocol, including, where appropriate, the development of policy and legislative instruments that provide for response measures for damage to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity resulting from living modified organisms which find their origin in a transboundary movement, taking also into account risks to human health;
5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to organize, subject to the availability of funds, workshops and other awareness-raising and capacity-building activities to improve understanding of the Supplementary Protocol;
6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to collaborate with relevant organizations to prepare, subject to the availability of funds, an explanatory guide in order to expedite the entry into force and implementation of the Supplementary Protocol.

BS-VII/12. Risk assessment and risk management (Articles 15 and 16)

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

Recalling paragraph 1(d)(ii) of the annex to decision BS-IV/11 and paragraph 2 of decision BS-V/12,

Also recalling decision BS-VI/12, in particular that the Guidance on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms⁸ is not prescriptive and does not impose any obligations on Parties,

Further recalling that the Guidance is intended as a “living document” that may be revised and improved as appropriate and when mandated by the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,

1. *Welcomes* the results of the testing of the Guidance on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms;

2. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to test or use, as appropriate, the Guidance in actual cases of risk assessment and as a tool for capacity-building activities in risk assessment;

3. *Establishes* the mechanism outlined in the annex to this decision for revising and improving the Guidance on the basis of the feedback provided through the testing with a view to having an improved version of the Guidance by its eighth meeting;

4. *Extends* the Open-ended Online Expert Forum (Online Forum) on Risk Assessment and Risk Management and the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Risk Assessment and Risk Management to work, primarily online and, subject to the availability of funds, through a face-to-face meeting, with revised terms of reference as annexed to this decision, and *expands* the composition of the AHTEG to add one new member from each region;

5. *Invites* Parties to submit (a) information on their needs and priorities for further guidance on specific topics of risk assessment of living modified organisms, and (b) existing guidance on specific topics of risk assessment of living modified organisms;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to synthesize the views submitted through paragraph 5 above for consideration of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol;

7. *Agrees* to consider, at its eighth meeting, the need for the development of further guidance on topics prioritized on the basis of the needs indicated by the Parties with a view to moving towards operational objectives 1.3 and 1.4 of the Strategic Plan and its outcomes;

8. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to confirm the nominations of their experts who are currently participating in the Online Forum on risk assessment and risk management, *requests* the Executive Secretary to remove the records of experts whose nominations have not been confirmed, and further *invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to nominate additional experts to join the Online Forum using the format for the nomination of experts to the Roster of Experts;

⁸ UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/6/13/Add.1 available at <http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/meetings/documents.shtml?eventid=4715>.

9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue facilitating the work of the Online Forum and the AHTEG;
10. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to improve the mechanism established in paragraph 6 of decision BS-VI/12 for updating background documents to the Guidance as follows:
 - (a) Extend the period for commenting on the background documents to three weeks and send an automatic reminder after two weeks to the group operating the mechanism;
 - (b) Raise awareness of the background documents linked to the Guidance by, for example, adding information and links in the Biosafety Clearing-House and inviting experts in the specific topics of the Guidance to submit background documents;
 - (c) Index the background documents for author affiliation, for example, government, academic institutions, non-governmental organizations and business;
11. *Welcomes* the package that aligns the Guidance and Training Manual;
12. *Invites* Parties and other Governments and relevant organizations to test or use, as appropriate, the package as a tool for, inter alia, capacity-building in risk assessment;
13. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of funds, to conduct capacity-building activities in risk assessment using the aligned package;
14. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and international organizations to provide funds and in-kind assistance to implement the capacity-building activities referred to in paragraph 13 above;
15. *Welcomes* the creation of sections in the Biosafety Clearing-House where scientific information can be submitted and retrieved regarding living modified organisms or specific traits that may have or that are not likely to have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health;
16. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to continue submitting, through the Biosafety-Clearing House, the information referred to in paragraph 15 above;
17. *Recommends* to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity a coordinated approach with the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety on the issue of synthetic biology, taking into account that the provisions of the Protocol may also apply to living organisms resulting from synthetic biology.

Annex

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE OPEN-ENDED ONLINE FORUM AND AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON RISK ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Methodology

1. Taking into account the results of the testing process, established in decision BS-VI/12, the Guidance on Risk Assessment of LMOs shall be revised and improved in accordance with the following mechanism:
 - (a) After the seventh meeting of the COP-MOP, the Secretariat will group the original comments provided through the testing of the Guidance. The grouping will be done in the form of a matrix based on the following categories: statements that do not trigger changes; editorial and translational changes; suggestions for changes without a specified location in the Guidance; and suggestions for changes to specific sections of the Guidance (sorted by line numbers);
 - (b) The AHTEG shall review the grouping of comments done by the Secretariat and work on the suggestions for changes;

(c) The AHTEG shall streamline the comments by identifying which suggestions may be taken on board and providing justification for those suggestions that may not be taken on board. The AHTEG will also provide concrete text proposals for the suggestions to be taken on board with a justification where the original suggestion was modified;

(d) The Open-ended Online Forum and the AHTEG shall subsequently review all comments and suggestions with a view to having an improved version of the Guidance for consideration by the COP-MOP at its eighth meeting.

2. While revising and improving the Guidance, an attempt should be made to take into account the topics prioritized by the AHTEG, on the basis of the needs indicated by the Parties with a view to moving towards operational objectives 1.3 and 1.4 of the Strategic Plan and its outcomes, for the development of further guidance.

3. The AHTEG shall continue to operate the mechanism for regularly updating the list of background documents to the Guidance as established in decision BS-VI/12, paragraph 6, and improved as per paragraph 10 of this decision.

4. Subject to the availability of funds, the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment and Risk Management shall meet face-to-face, at least once, prior to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.

Expected outcome

5. An improved version of the Guidance on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms.

Reporting

6. The Online Forum and the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment and Risk Management shall submit their reports detailing the activities, outcomes and recommendations for consideration by the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.

BS-VII/13. Socio-economic considerations

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

Noting the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-economic Considerations,⁹

Recalling paragraph 1 of Article 26 of the Protocol,

Recognizing that socio-economic considerations referred to in paragraph 1 of Article 26 are those arising from the impact of living modified organisms on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, especially with regard to the value of biological diversity to indigenous and local communities, and are specific to local, national and regional circumstances,

Recognizing also the role and contribution that indigenous and local communities may provide in the development of conceptual clarity on socio-economic considerations,

1. *Decides* to extend the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-economic Considerations, subject to the availability of funds;

2. *Also decides* that the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-economic Considerations should work, in a stepwise approach, on: (i) the further development of conceptual clarity on socio-economic considerations arising from the impact of living modified organisms on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking into account and improving upon the “Elements of a Framework for Conceptual Clarity on Socio-Economic Considerations” contained in the annex to the report of the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-economic Considerations, and any information that may be provided through the activities indicated in paragraph (5) below; and (ii) developing an outline for guidance with a view to making progress towards achieving operational objective 1.7 of the Strategic Plan and its outcomes;

3. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-economic Considerations to submit its report for consideration by the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

4. *Requests* Parties and *invites* other Governments, relevant organizations and indigenous and local communities to submit views and comments on the “Elements of a Framework for Conceptual Clarity on Socio-Economic Considerations” contained in the annex to the report of the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-economic Considerations;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To compile and disseminate information on: (i) policies, laws, regulations and guidelines providing for definitions of socio-economic considerations; and (ii) practical applications of socio-economic considerations in decision-making on living modified organisms, including cases where positive and negative socio-economic impacts have been considered;

(b) To convene online discussion groups to facilitate the exchange of views, information and experiences on socio-economic considerations in the context of paragraph 1 of Article 26 of the Protocol, including concerning: international obligations that may be relevant to socio-economic considerations; socio-economic considerations and the value of biological diversity to indigenous and local communities;

⁹ UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/7/11/Rev.1.

environment-related aspects of socio-economic considerations, as well as the relationship, if any, with risk assessment and human health-related issues;

(c) To compile and prepare a synthesis of the views and comments referred to in paragraph 4 above for consideration by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-economic Considerations;

(d) To commission, subject to the availability of funds, a study on international agreements that may have relevance to socio-economic considerations as provided for in Article 26 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and to make the report available on the Biosafety Clearing-House;

6. *Invites* development partners to support capacity-building activities on socio-economic considerations as specified in paragraphs 2 (n) and (o) of decision BS-VI/5 (appendix II of decision XI/5 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity).

BS-VII/14. Monitoring and reporting (Article 33)

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

Recalling decision BS-I/9, in which it requested Parties to submit their reports on a general frequency of every four years from the date of entry into force of the Protocol, and also *recalling* decisions BS-V/14, BS-VI/14 and BS-VI/15,

Welcoming the comments on the improvement of the reporting format received from Parties during the second national reporting process,

Also welcoming the draft third national reporting format proposed by the Secretariat and *recognizing* the intended role of the information therein contained in facilitating the conduct of both the mid-term review of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol as well as the third assessment and review of the Protocol,

Also welcoming the recommendations of the Compliance Committee on the draft third national reporting format,

Taking into consideration the results of the “Survey to gather information corresponding to indicators in the Strategic Plan”,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to make the following changes to the draft third national reporting format, annexed to document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/7/12 and to make the revised format available online through the Biosafety Clearing-House:

- (a) Introduce, where possible, the option to reconfirm the same text submitted in previous national reports to the same question;
- (b) Introduce, where possible, the possibility to add explanatory text to closed-text question (e.g. Yes/No);
- (c) Include the UNEP-GEF BCH III project in the list of options provided in question 147;
- (d) Delete question 97;

2. *Requests* Parties to use the revised format for the preparation of their third national report or, in the case of Parties submitting their national report for the first time, to use it for their first national report on the implementation of their obligations under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

3. *Invites* Parties to prepare their reports through a consultative process involving all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate;

4. *Encourages* Parties to respond to all questions in the reporting format in order to facilitate the monitoring of progress towards the implementation of the objectives identified in the Strategic Plan and also contribute to the third assessment and review of the Cartagena Protocol;

5. *Requests* Parties to submit to the Secretariat their third national report on the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety:

- (a) In an official language of the United Nations;
- (b) Twelve months prior to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, which will consider the report;
- (c) Through the Biosafety Clearing-House, or in the format that will be made available by the Secretariat for this purpose, duly signed by the national focal point;