



**Convention on  
Biological Diversity**

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION  
ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY SERVING AS THE  
MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA  
PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

Eighth meeting  
Agenda item 14.1

**DECISION ADOPTED BY THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY**

**VIII/14. Monitoring and reporting (Article 33)**

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

*Taking note* of the third national reports submitted by Parties and welcoming the analysis thereof prepared by the Executive Secretary,<sup>1</sup>

*Considering* the challenges with the reporting format for the third national report identified by the Liaison Group on Capacity-building at its eleventh meeting<sup>2</sup> and the Compliance Committee at its thirteenth meeting,<sup>3</sup>

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

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

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

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

<sup>2</sup> See UNEP/CBD/BS/LGCB/11/3.

<sup>3</sup> See UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/13/6.

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

5. *Urges* Parties that have not yet submitted their third national report to do so as soon as possible;<sup>4</sup>

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

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

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

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

(i) Improving the formulation of questions for their clarity, providing further explanation where necessary;

(ii) Eliminating the redundancy observed in the questions used for the third national report;

(iii) Adding questions that address mainstreaming of biosafety into national biodiversity strategies and action plans, other policies and legislation;

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

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<sup>4</sup> Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belize, Cabo Verde, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Fiji, Greece, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Libya, Malta, Marshall Islands, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Somalia, State of Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turkmenistan.