TEMPLATE FOR COMMENTS AND ADDITIONAL VIEWS ON DRAFT DOCUMENTATION ON SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY

Document reviewed	New and emerging issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity - Potential positive and negative impacts of components, organisms and products resulting from synthetic biology techniques on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity

Comments on the draft documentation on new and emerging issues – deadline 20 September 2013		
Page	**Line**	**Comment**
		General comment : Some remnants of previous numbering are still included in the text. For example page 10, on line 4, line 6 and line 39.
2		Table of contents : It might be useful to choose more specific titles for PART2, PART3 and PART4 according to their respective content.
6	40	"Kwok 2010" has not been included in the reference list.
6	42	"Porcar and Pereto 2012" has not been included in the reference list.
8	37	(Schmidt 2010, 323; Kwok 2010) should read (Schmidt 2010; Kwok 2010).
8	51	The following reference could be included here as well. Pinheiro,V.B., Taylor,A.I., Cozens,C., Abramov,M., Renders,M., Zhang,S., Chaput,J.C., Wengel,J., Peak-Chew,S.Y., McLaughlin,S.H., Herdewijn,P. and Holliger,P. (2012) Synthetic genetic polymers capable of heredity and evolution. Science 336, 341-344.
13	38	As oulined in the paper (Dyer G.A. Dispersal of transgenes through maize seed systems in Mexico. PLoS ONE. 2009;4:e5734) (referenced in Schmidt and Lorenzo 2012), human activities and practices (more particular among farmers with regard informal and formal seed systems and grain markets) could explain the distribution and dispersal of transgenes among maize in Mexico. So, it might be useful to better frame these observations.
16	9	With regard trophic containment as a biological barrier it might be relevant to refer to the research conducted on influenza viruses as well. See comment of Devitt (2013) : Nature Medicine 19, 1077 (2013) doi:10.1038/nm0913-1077.
16	41	"backbone nucleic acids can bond with natural DNA and RNA…" should read "backbone nucleic acids can bind with natural DNA and RNA…".
33		We would like to suggest adding the 2 following references: - Pauwels K, Willemarck N, Breyer D, Herman P (2012). Synthetic Biology. Latest developments, biosafety considerations and regulatory challenges. Ref: D/2012/2505/46. Available at http://www.biosafety.be/PDF/120911_Doc_Synbio_SBB_FINAL.pdf - K Pauwels, R Mampuys, C Golstein, D Breyer, P Herman, M Kaspari, J-C Pagès, H Pfister, F van der Wilk, B Schönig (2013). Event report: SynBio Workshop (Paris 2012) – Risk assessment challenges of Synthetic Biology. Journal für Verbraucherschutz und Lebensmittelsicherheit, September 2013, Volume 8, Issue 3, pp 215-226

Please submit your comments to secretariat@cbd.int.