

Dear Members of the Secretariat,

In response to Notification 2019-031, Brazil would like to inform that it has no experience in using the voluntary "Guidance on the Assessment of Socioeconomic Considerations in the Context of the Article 26 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety".

Brazil considers that some aspects of the voluntary Guidance go beyond the scope of article 26, since they are not limited to the impact of living modified organisms (LMOs) in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and raise the importance of non-scientific aspects in the evaluation of the LMOs.

Regarding examples of methodologies and applications of socioeconomic considerations, in Brazil, socioeconomic assessments may occur after the commercial approval of transgenic crops and are under the responsibility of the National Biosafety Council (CNBS). This body, which is composed of Ministers of State, analyzes aspects regarding the socio-economic convenience and national interest of requests to release GMOs and their derivatives for commercial use.

With kind regards,

Luciana Melchert

Divisão do Meio Ambiente I / Environment Division I CBD Focal Point Ministério das Relações Exteriores
/ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil

Tel: +55 61 20308447