



# Introduction to the Africa Workshop on Public Awareness, Education and Participation Regarding LMOs

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# OVERVIEW



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- Background to the workshop (PoW)
- Workshop objectives
- Expected outcomes
- Modes of delivery
- Workshop programme
- Participants' expectations



# Background to the workshop



- Article 23 of the Protocol – obligation
- MOP 4 – Need for a coherent and focused approach to Art. 23 implementation
- MOP 5 – Comprehensive PoW
- MOP 5 – CPB Strategic Plan – OP 2.5 (PAEP CB)
- Capacity-building to facilitate PoW implementation (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> NRs)
- 1<sup>st</sup> in a series of regional training workshops
- Other CB tools: PEAP portal, BCH Forum, Online modules (planned)

# Objectives



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1. Learn key concepts, instruments, tools and approaches relating to PEAP concerning LMOs
2. Exchange information, practical experiences, good practices and lessons learned
3. Discuss strategies for enhancing national capacities and promoting regional and international cooperation on PEAP

# Expected outcomes



Participants will be better equipped to:

1. Develop outreach strategies and communication plans
2. Develop and communicate informative and targeted messages
3. Effectively engage and use of the media to promote awareness
4. Facilitate public access to information
5. Plan and conduct public consultations
6. Collaborate and network on PAEP concerning LMOs



# Modes of delivery



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1. Lectures/presentations by practitioners, academics
2. Case study presentations
3. Interactive focus group discussions
4. Hands-on practical exercises and role-plays
5. Field trip

# Workshop programme



## Monday:

### Item 3. Introduction to the CPB & PEAP

- Video on the Protocol
- Overview of the Cartagena Protocol, by Erie Tamale, CBD Secretariat
- Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol 2011-2020 by Charles Gbedemah, CBD Secretariat
- Question and Answers



# Workshop programme



## Monday:

### Item 4. Regional/international frameworks for PEAP

- Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration and its implementation in Africa, by Mr. Godber Tumushabe, Executive Director, ACODE
- The Aarhus Convention, by Yelyzaveta Aleksyeyeva, Environment-People-Law, Ukraine
- The Draft Africa Model Law on Access to Information, by Sylvia Biraahwa, Office of the Prime Minister of Uganda
- Questions and Answers



# Workshop programme



## TUESDAY:

### Item 5. Public awareness/education concerning LMOs

- Public awareness and education: Basic concepts, tools and approaches, by Erie Tamale
- Designing and implementing awareness and outreach programmes, by Mr. Ivan Lukanda, Department of Journalism, Makerere University
- Individual exercise to develop a draft national biosafety outreach strategy or communication plan
- Focus group discussions - Comments and feedback on the draft communication plans

# Workshop programme



## TUESDAY:

- Engaging and using the media to promote public awareness of biosafety issues, TBA
- Individual exercise to prepare a press release
- Mock press conference and media interviews (in English and French)
- Panel discussion on practical experiences and lessons learned in promoting public awareness and education concerning LMOs (Panelists: RAIEN Africa, African Centre for Biosafety, Africa Biosafety Network Expertise)

# Workshop programme



## WEDNESDAY:

### MORNING

Item 6. Public access to information concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs

- Basic concepts and core elements of national regimes on public access to information, by Ulrika Nilsson, CBD Secretariat
- Status of public access to information laws in Africa and the experience with Uganda's Access to Information Act 2005 by Ms. Sylvia Biraahwa,

# Workshop programme



## WEDNESDAY:

- Practical experiences and lessons learned in facilitating public access to information in CEE under the Aarhus Convention by Yelyzaveta Aleksyeyeva
- Questions and Answers

## BREAK TEA

- Case study presentations on experiences and lessons learned in the implementation of national laws and initiatives on public access to information (Botswana, Mali)

# Workshop programme



## WEDNESDAY:

- Individual exercise to develop a draft national framework and action plan for PA2I regarding LMOs

## LUNCH

- Focus group discussions: Issues, challenges and strategies for promoting and facilitating PA2I
- Comments and feedback on the a draft national framework and action plan for public access to information regarding LMOs

# Workshop programme



## WEDNESDAY:

### Item 7. Public participation in decision-making regarding LMOs

- Public participation in biosafety and environmental decision-making: Key concepts, emerging good practices and lessons learned, by Dr. Florence B. Kyazze, Department of Agricultural Extension, Makerere University
- Questions and Answers

# Workshop programme



## THURSDAY:

- Case study presentations on practical experiences and lessons learned in PP
- Legal frameworks and mechanisms for PP in decision-making processes regarding LMOs in Africa, by Mr. Alex Owusu-Biney, UNEP-GEF
- Public participation in environmental decision-making in CEE region, by Yelyzaveta Aleksyeyeva
- Public participation in biosafety and environmental decision-making in South Africa, by Dr. Manjusha Sunil



# Workshop programme



## THURSDAY:

- Individual exercise to develop elements of a draft national framework and action plan for PP in decision-making processes regarding LMOs
- Focus group discussions to provide comments and feedback on the draft frameworks and action plans
- Field Trip

# Workshop programme



## FRIDAY:

- The way forward: Regional and international cooperation on public awareness, education and participation concerning LMOs
- Synergies and ongoing collaboration between the CBD Secretariat and the Aarhus Convention on public awareness, education and participation concerning LMOs, by Ulrika Nilsson
- Group discussions to develop sub-regional action plans to promote cooperation

# Workshop programme



## FRIDAY:

- Individual exercise to put together a consolidated 3-year national plan to implement the PAEP-PoW
- Plenary presentations of the proposed national plans
- Reflections on the topics covered during the workshop and the take home messages
- Evaluation of the workshop
- Closure of the workshop



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## For Further Information Contact:

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