



Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety



# The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and its Programme of Work on Public Awareness, Education and Participation Regarding LMOs

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# OVERVIEW



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Part I: Background to the Protocol

Part II: Provisions on PEAP

Part III: MOP Decisions on PAEP

Part IV: PEAP Programme of Work



# BACKGROUND

- **1992 UNCED, Agenda 21 (Chapter 16)**
- **Additional to CBD**
- **Adopted 29 January 2000 by CBD Ex-COP**
- **Entered into force: 9 September 2003**
- **163 ratifications/ accessions, latest Jamaica**
- **6 governing body meetings (COP-MOP), COP-MOP 6 held October 2012 in Hyderabad, India**
- **Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress adopted 15 October 2010**

# PROTOCOL OBJECTIVE

To contribute to ensuring the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on the biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health

\*In accordance with the precautionary approach

# Provisions on PAEP



## Article 23 requires Parties to:

- Promote and facilitate PAEP concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs; Cooperate in doing so
- Ensure that PAE encompass access to information on LMOs imported
- Consult the public in decision-making processes regarding LMOs; avail to them decisions taken
- Inform the public about the means of public access to the Biosafety Clearing-House

# COP-MOP Decisions on PAEP



## MOP 2:

- ES - intensify cooperation with the Aarhus Convention
- Share info, experiences through BCH

## MOP 4:

- Agreed to consider a programme of work on PAEP @ MOP 5
- New SCBD Outreach strategy

## COP-MOP 5:

- Adopt a programme of work on PAEP (2011-2015)
- ES: Establish an online forum and other means to facilitate exchange of information/experience on PoW implementation

# PoW on PAEP (2011-2015)



## Programme Elements:

1. Capacity-building
2. Public awareness and education
3. Public access to information
4. Public participation

## Each programme element includes:

- Operational Objectives
- Expected Outcomes; Indicators
- Suggested Activities
- Time Frame
- Actors

# PoW-PAEP: Element 1- Capacity Building



1. Legal/policy frameworks and mechanisms on PAEP
2. Institutional mechanisms:
  - Advisory committees, information centres
  - Collaboration with Aarhus Convention
3. Human resources development:
  - Roster of experts
  - Training programmes for biosafety educators/communicator
  - Guidance materials
4. Collaboration/sharing of experience, resources



# PoW-Element 2 – Awareness/Education



## Promote public awareness and education:

1. Baseline awareness surveys
2. Awareness plans/programmes
3. Awareness materials
4. Public announcements
5. Use of media
6. Integration of biosafety into curricula
7. E-learning tools, education packages
8. Collaborate with schools

# PoW-Element 3 – Access to information



1. Popularise right of access to information
2. Popularise means of access
3. Establish infrastructure for access, e.g. websites, BCH nodes
4. Information alert systems
5. Establish procedures for access to information

# PoW-Element 4 – Public participation



1. Establish PP frameworks and SOPs
2. Administrative mechanisms/systems for PP
3. Public notification of PP opportunities
4. Platforms for public feedback, comments
5. Availing resources to facilitate PP
6. Popularise right to PP in d/making

# CPB Strategic Plan elements on PAEP



## OP 2.5 (Enhance capacity for PAEP)

- Access to guidance/training materials on PEAP
- Training in PAEP skills
- Mechanisms for ensuring PP in d/making
- Informing the public on modalities for participation

## OP 5.3 (Communication and outreach)

- Awareness/outreach programmes
- National communication strategies
- Biosafety websites, searchable databases
- Awareness/educational materials

# WAY FORWARD



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- National PEAP Action Plans (within NBF framework)
- Regional and international cooperation (including through regional organizations and networks (e.g. AUC, UNEP regional office, RAEIN-Africa, etc.))
- Regional biosafety PEAP networks/ websites
- Cooperation with Aarhus Convention and other relevant instruments
- Maximise existing tools (e.g. online forum on PAEP, baseline survey templates, BCH-BIRC, PEAP portal in the BCH, etc.)

# CONCLUDING REMARKS



- The Protocol establishes procedures and mechanisms for ensuring that LMOs do not adversely affect biological diversity and human health
- Article 23 on PEAP critical to the successful implementation of the Protocol
- Important to keep abreast with new developments
- The BCH is a key source of information
- The CPB has moved to a new phase implementation to be guided by a Strategic Plan 2011-2012



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