



Status of implementation of Article 23 on Public Awareness, Education and Participation Pakistan's perspective

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Implementation System for the CPB

- Pakistan is party to CPB since March 31, 2009
- The mandatory setup to develop and implement the Biosafety Framework in the country is in place
 - Pakistan Biosafety Rules, 2005
 - National Biosafety Guidelines, 2005
- All the Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) and their Products related activities are regulated.



Implementation mechanism

- **National Bio-safety Committee**
- **Technical Advisory Committee**
- **Institutional Bio-safety Committees**
- **Established National Bio-safety Centre in Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (M/o Climate Change)**



Article 23 of the CPB

Pakistan had been very active for the implementation of the CPB in the country, and organized the following activities for the Implementation of the Article 23 of the CPB

1. Pakistan had arranged 10 capacity building seminars/ workshops
2. For mass awareness published a brochure and repeated insertions of public notices in the newspapers along with articles in magazines
3. The center's officer participated in 30 different programs on electronic media (Radio and Television channels) for the mass awareness about the biosafety and bio-security of GMOs and their products
4. Pakistan also established liaison with international and multilateral organizations for the capacity building, training and awareness activities including UNEP, GEF, CBD, BCH BEP, and biosafety associations of Korea and Philippines



Article 23 of the CPB

- The process is under way to develop a hurdle free Biosafety Clearing Mechanism for information sharing with the BCH. The web based Pakistan Biosafety Clearing House for information sharing is under preparation and launching stage shall be launched in due course.
- Furthermore, when the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) for CBD is developed the space would be allocated for Pakistan Biosafety Clearing House (BCH) mechanism of GMOs/LMOs and their products.



Article 23 of the CPB

- Capacity building of the National Biosafety Centre officials was carried out. The Pakistan biosafety regulations were evaluated and procedural improvements were recommended which were incorporated in the implementation of local regulatory mechanisms for GMOs/ LMOs and their products.
- Organized one day workshop, “Development of National Biosafety Roadmaps in Pakistan”, in collaboration with NBC/Pak-EPA. The workshop was attended by 50 participants from the stakeholders.
- A Project Proposal for the development of Pakistan Biosafety Information Management System to be funded by Korean Government prepared.



Article 23 of the CPB

- For the south–south cooperation in biosafety a team of Pakistani Govt. officials visited Philippines to study and share experiences in Biotechnology, Biosafety regulations and implementation set up in the host country in 2010. The comparative analysis of the legislations and implementation system were conducted.



Way forward

- Development of bio-safety education material
- Involvement of Provinces, universities and other stake holders
- consultations and training workshops
- Information, training ,and legislation on Green labeling
- Inclusion of information in the curriculum



Thank you