



No. 03-08/1245

Date: 18 March 2015

Subject: *Request for submissions of views and comments on the "Elements of a Framework for Conceptual Clarity on Socio-Economic Considerations"*

Dear Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias,

With the reference to the notification Ref.: SCBD/BS/CG/ps/84239 of 12 March 2015 on Request for submissions of views and comments on the "Elements of a Framework for Conceptual Clarity on Socio- Economic Considerations", the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Moldova is of view to consider the following:

The proposed document "Elements of a Framework for Conceptual Clarity on Socio-Economic Considerations" has been prepared by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on socio-economic considerations at its first meeting and is in the context of Article 26 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and in accordance with the operational objective 1.7 of the Strategic Plan for CPB for the period of 2011-2020.

To be mentioned, a descriptive approach to conceptual clarification of the content of socio-economic consideration in relation of Biosafety is a critical need for the Republic of Moldova, that will contribute to guiding the decision making process. The document is structured with regard to general principles, methodological considerations and points to consider and reflects all necessary aspects, conceptual and methodological, useful for further development of a guiding document. In our opinion it represents a successful approach that identifies the key elements for evaluation the potential socio-economic impacts. The document is of a good quality, useful for understanding and provides a framework for clarification of conceptual views for socio-economic consideration in the context of Biosafety.

The Ministry of Environment is making important efforts for efficient implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in the Republic of Moldova. The Biosafety is considered to be a national priority within the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). The National Biosafety Law (2001) and the National Biosafety Commission ensure the legal and administrative framework for Biosafety in the country.

Taking into consideration the fact that rate of biodiversity loss in the country is high, the efficient measures to prevent possible environmental impact, associated with genetically modified organisms, are needed to be developed. Actually, the ecological

(biological) agriculture is intended to ensure the agricultural competitiveness and sustainable development of the country. In this regard, we consider important to building national capacities for socio-economic assessment as a component part of Biosafety decision making, having in place the respective internationally agreed rules and guidance.

Please accept, Mr. Dias, the assurances of my highest considerations.

Sincerely,



Serghei PALIHOVICI
Minister

To: Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary
Convention on Biological Diversity
World Trade Center
413 St. Jacques Str. Office 800
Montreal, QC H2Y 1N9
Canada
Tel.: +1 514 288 2220
Fax: +1 514 288 6588
E-mail: secretariat@cbd.int