



ROYAL NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF  
CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

Convention on Biological Diversity  
413 St-Jacques Street West, Suite 800,  
Montreal, Quebec H2Y 1N9

Your ref

Our ref

Date

19/425-

31 May 2019

**Socio-economic considerations (Article 26 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety) (Notification 2019-031)**

In Notification 2019-031, Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and other stakeholders are invited to:

(a) submit (i) preliminary experiences using the voluntary Guidance, as well as (ii) examples of methodologies and applications of socio-economic considerations, in the light of the elements of the voluntary Guidance, preferably in the form of case studies, and

(b) nominate participants for the forthcoming online discussions.

Norway welcomes the voluntary Guidance on socio-economic considerations and would like to continue to contribute to its further development under the Cartagena Protocol. As previously communicated, Norway already has a framework for conducting socio-economic considerations under our national Gene Technology Act. A governmentally appointed body, the Norwegian Biotechnology Advisory Board ([www.bion.no](http://www.bion.no)) is central in this process. Due to established National routines and processes, as of yet, we have no direct experiences in using the present voluntary Guidance.

Relevant in this context however, please find one recent application of socio-economic considerations in Norway, the 2017 Royal Decree on the national prohibition under the Gene Technology Act of genetically modified maize line 1507.

For the forthcoming online discussions on socio-economic considerations, please note that Casper Linnestad, Norwegian Cartagena Protocol Focal Point, would like to take part. His

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nomination is supported by the Norwegian Government and our National CBD Focal Point, Marie Haraldstad. This nomination has also been registered in the Biosafety Clearing House.

Yours sincerely

Torbjørn Lange  
Director

Casper Linnestad  
Senior Adviser

*This document is signed electronically and has therefore no handwritten signature*