

## Biosafety



Decisions Adopted at the Eleventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity Serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

> Cali, Colombia 21 October–1 November 2024

> > Online 3–6 December 2024

Rome 25–27 February 2025



















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Published by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity Montreal Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity United Nations Environment Programme 413 St. Jacques Street West, Suite 800 Montreal, Quebec, Canada H2Y 1N9 Phone: +1 (514) 288 2220

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ISBN: 92-9225-770-6

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Summary: the present publication contains the text of the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its eleventh meeting, which was held in Cali, Colombia, from 21 October to 1 November 2024, online from 3 to 6 December 2024 (first resumed meeting) and in Rome from 25 to 27 February 2025 (second resumed meeting).

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#### **FOREWORD**

Over the past 20 years, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biodiversity has become a well-recognized and influential instrument for ensuring the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

The Protocol now has 173 Parties, which continue to adopt important decisions to facilitate its effective implementation.

The eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol was held in parallel with the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization. It took place in three parts: in Cali, Colombia, from 21 October to 1 November 2024; online from 3 to 6 December 2024; and in Rome from 25 to 27 February 2025.

The eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol was a success in many respects, with 14 decisions adopted on a number of substantive and operational issues representing a further step towards the effective implementation of the Protocol.

Decisions on substantive issues covered the following topics: compliance (decisions CP-11/1 A, B and C); matters related to the financial mechanism and resources (decision CP-11/2); operation and activities of the Biosafety Clearing-House (decision CP-11/3); risk assessment and risk management (decision CP-11/7); detection and identification of living modified organisms (decision CP-11/8); socioeconomic considerations (decision CP-11/9); and Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress (decision CP-11/10.

Mirrored decisions were also adopted under the Convention and the Protocols on: procedures for convening online and hybrid meetings (decision CP-11/4); options to further improve the effectiveness of processes under the Convention and its Protocols (decision CP-11/5); procedure for avoiding or managing conflicts of interest in expert groups (CP-11/6); administration of the Cartagena Protocol and budget for the trust funds (decision CP-11/11); and costs of convening an in-person resumed session of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol (decision CP-11/12).

Important highlights of the meeting included the decisions taken on the risk assessment and risk management of living modified organisms. Parties welcomed new, additional voluntary guidance materials to support the case-by-case risk assessment of living modified organisms containing engineered gene drives, thereby enabling countries to tailor assessments to national contexts, taking into consideration ecological

variables unique to their environments. In addition, Parties agreed to initiate another round of development of further guidance on risk assessment and risk management.

Regarding the detection and identification of living modified organisms, Parties requested the preparation of a compilation of technical reference materials to complement the Biosafety Technical Series 05: Training Manual on the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms in the Context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

The decisions included the development of a customized biosafety national website template using the Bioland tool, with a view to making it available to Parties wishing to build a national biosafety website with linkages to the Biosafety Clearing-House.

Regarding matters related to the financial mechanism and resources, Parties requested the Global Environment Facility to further explore modalities to reform its operations, including through the consideration of ways to increase funds dedicated to the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol.

The decisions further support the implementation plan and the capacity-building action plan for the Cartagena Protocol and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in particular its Target 17.

In conclusion, I would like to express the Secretariat's appreciation to the Government of Colombia for its generosity in hosting the meeting and the leadership provided during the negotiation of the decisions contained in this booklet.

Astrid Schomaker Executive Secretary

# DECISIONS ADOPTED AT THE ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

Cali, Colombia, 21 October–1 November 2024, Online 3–6 December 2024 (First resumed session) and Rome 25–27 February 2025 (Second resumed session)

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#### CP-11/1. COMPLIANCE

#### A

#### Compliance: general issues

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

- 1. Reminds Parties of the importance of complying with their obligations under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;<sup>1</sup>
- 2. Also reminds Parties of their obligation to designate a national focal point and to keep information on their national focal points up to date;
- 3. Requests that Parties collaborate fully when requested to provide information related to their compliance with obligations under the Cartagena Protocol;
- 4. Notes with appreciation the efforts made by Parties to comply with their obligations under the Cartagena Protocol to make information available to the Biosafety Clearing-House, and urges Parties to ensure that this information is consistent with the information provided in their national reports;
- 5. *Encourages* Parties to use the free text fields in the format for the fifth national report to explain the responses provided, and invites Parties that are facing challenges in complying with certain obligations to share information in those free text fields on the challenges encountered;
- 6. Recalls that Parties facing difficulties with complying with one or more obligations under the Cartagena Protocol are urged to seek assistance from the Compliance Committee;
- 7. Recognizes the usefulness of the compliance action plans in advancing the development of measures to implement the Cartagena Protocol and the role of the Compliance Committee in facilitating support for Parties in this regard;
- 8. Welcomes the support for the development of biosafety legislation provided to Parties by the United Nations Environment Programme through its Law and Environment Assistance Platform, with a compliance action plan under active consideration:
- 9. *Urges* Parties, and invites other Governments, to provide voluntary funds in support of the 11 Parties<sup>2</sup> that have developed compliance action plans, as well as any additional Parties that develop and implement such plans at the request of the Compliance Committee;

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

<sup>2</sup> Barbados, Burundi, Guinea, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Samoa, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Tunisia

- 10. *Urges* eligible Parties to prioritize biosafety projects during the programming of their national allocations under the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources;
- 11. *Reminds* Parties of Article 23 of the Cartagena Protocol, including its provisions relating to public awareness and education, and its potential to facilitate compliance with the Protocol, recalling that materials and tools have been developed by the Secretariat and are available on the Biosafety Clearing-House.

## B Compliance: caution

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol,

Recalling Article 33 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,<sup>3</sup>

*Recalling also* section VI, paragraph 2 (b), of the Procedures and Mechanisms on Compliance under the Cartagena Protocol, as contained in the annex to its decision BS-I/7 of 27 February 2004,

*Noting with regret* that Belize, Libya and Papua New Guinea have not submitted their third or fourth national reports,

Noting that the Compliance Committee and the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>4</sup> have contacted Belize, Libya and Papua New Guinea on numerous occasions, in accordance with decision BS-V/1 of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol of 15 October 2010, which included offering support to those Parties in preparing their reports,

- 1. Cautions Belize, Libya and Papua New Guinea;
- 2. Requests Belize, Libya and Papua New Guinea to submit their fourth national reports as a matter of urgency;
- 3. *Encourages* Belize, Libya and Papua New Guinea to seek the assistance of the Compliance Committee, in accordance with decision BS-V/1, should they require support in preparing their reports.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

#### $\mathbf{C}$

#### Compliance: other matters

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

*Noting* the recommendation of the Compliance Committee contained in paragraph 1 of the annex to document CBD/CP/MOP/11/3, and seeking to assist the Committee in carrying out its work,

Acknowledging that the definitions of "living modified organism" and "modern biotechnology" provided in Article 3 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety<sup>5</sup> are not in question,

*Recognizing* the sovereign right of Parties to adopt legislation to implement their obligations under the Cartagena Protocol,

- 1. Encourages Parties to submit information regarding national legislation, regulations and guidelines on new developments in modern biotechnology that are relevant to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and not published in the Biosafety Clearing-House;
- 2. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>6</sup> to compile information contained in the Biosafety Clearing-House and other sources regarding current national legislation, regulations and guidelines on new developments in modern biotechnology;
- 3. Also requests the Executive Secretary to submit the information gathered in response to paragraphs 1 and 2 above for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its twelfth meeting.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., vol. 2226, No. 30619.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

### CP-11/2. MATTERS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL MECHANISM AND RESOURCES

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

Taking note of the report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility for the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>7,8</sup> and the report on the sixth review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism for the Convention and its Protocols,<sup>9</sup>

Noting with concern that, two years into the implementation of the eighth replenishment cycle of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, no projects have been submitted to support the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, <sup>10</sup>

*Noting* the outcomes of the analysis of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol in the sixth review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism,

Welcoming the establishment and operationalization of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund and its programming directions, which include an action area to support the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol,

Recalling decision 15/15 of 19 December 2022 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in which the Conference of the Parties invited the Council of the Global Environment Facility to examine the possibility of creating a finance window specifically for the Cartagena Protocol,

- 1. Recommends that, in adopting its guidance to the Global Environment Facility with regard to support for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity include the following requests to the Global Environment Facility:
- (a) To make funds available in a timely manner to support eligible Parties in preparing and submitting their fifth national reports under the Cartagena Protocol;
- (b) To strengthen its funding dedicated to the Cartagena Protocol to support eligible Parties in implementing the Protocol, including its implementation plan<sup>11</sup> and its capacity-building action plan;<sup>12</sup>
- (c) To continue to provide support to eligible Parties for undertaking activities in the following areas, upon request:

<sup>7</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>8</sup> CBD/COP/16/8/Rev.1.

<sup>9</sup> CBD/COP/16/INF/25.

<sup>10</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

<sup>11</sup> Decision CP-10/3, annex.

<sup>12</sup> Decision CP-10/4, annex.

- (i) Development and implementation of legal, administrative and other measures to implement the Cartagena Protocol;
  - (ii) Risk assessment and risk management;
  - (iii) Detection and identification of living modified organisms;
  - (iv) Public awareness, education and participation;
  - (v) Socioeconomic considerations;
  - (vi) Liability and redress;
  - (vii) National reporting, information-sharing and the Biosafety Clearing-House;
  - (viii) Knowledge-sharing and technology transfer;
- (ix) Implementation of action plans to achieve compliance with the Cartagena Protocol;
- (d) To further explore modalities to reform its operations, including through the consideration of ways to increase funds dedicated to the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol and the use of global and regional projects, in such a manner as to enable the Global Environment Facility to fulfil effectively its responsibilities in operating the financial mechanism for the Protocol on an interim and ongoing basis, and to report on those matters to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its seventeenth meeting;
- (e) To consider the relevance of creating a stand-alone finance window for biosafety, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its twelfth meeting;
  - (f) To simplify the process for the submission of biosafety project proposals;
- (g) To facilitate capacity-building activities, including through webinars, on designing biosafety projects;
- 2. Also recommends that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention include the elements listed in subparagraphs 1 (b) and (c) above in the four-year outcome-oriented framework of biodiversity programme priorities for the ninth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (July 2026–June 2030);
  - 3. Encourages eligible Parties:
- (a) To submit project proposals to the Global Environment Facility in support of the implementation of Target 17 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity

Framework<sup>13</sup> and the implementation plan and the capacity-building action plan for the Cartagena Protocol, proactively making use of the notional allocation to support the implementation of the Protocol in the programming directions of the eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund and of the programming directions for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, and to take note of the relevant information in the report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility for the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention when submitting such proposals;

- (b) To cooperate at the regional and subregional levels, as appropriate, to prepare requests for support from the Global Environment Facility for joint projects contributing to, and maximizing complementarities and opportunities for, the cost-effective sharing of resources, information, experiences and expertise;
- 4. Encourages Parties to include needs and provisions for implementing Target 17 of the Framework and the implementation plan and the capacity-building action plan for the Cartagena Protocol in their national biodiversity finance plans and their national implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization for the Framework;<sup>14</sup>
- 5. Requests the Executive Secretary to further develop and communicate information on sources of funding for biosafety to support Parties.

<sup>13</sup> Decision 15/4, annex.

<sup>14</sup> Decision 16/34, annex I.

## CP-11/3. OPERATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE BIOSAFETY CLEARING-HOUSE

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

- 1. Welcomes with appreciation the improvements made to the central portal of the Biosafety Clearing-House in accordance with the joint modalities of operation for the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>15</sup> the Biosafety Clearing-House and the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House,<sup>16</sup> as endorsed in decision CP-9/2 of 28 November 2018:
- 2. *Notes* the work of the Informal Advisory Committee on the Biosafety Clearing-House;
- 3. *Urges* Parties to make all required information systematically available on the Biosafety Clearing-House, including legal measures for implementing the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,<sup>17</sup> decisions on the import or release of living modified organisms and cases of unintentional or illegal transboundary movements, in a timely manner, in accordance with the obligations under the Protocol and the procedures and mechanisms established in decision BS-I/3 of 27 February 2004;
- 4. Requests Parties to review their national records published in the Biosafety Clearing-House for accuracy, including by verifying that the information made available on the Biosafety Clearing-House is up to date and complete and that the actual documents containing the information are uploaded correctly or, in cases where links to the documents are provided, that the links are functional, noting that the Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol will be reviewing the information on the Biosafety Clearing-House at its twentieth meeting, in accordance with the obligations under the Protocol and the procedures and mechanisms established in decision BS-I/3;
- 5. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to submit scientific information to improve the quality of information published in the Biosafety Clearing-House;
- 6. *Urges* Parties to start the preparation of their fifth national reports on the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol and ensure the publication thereof in the Biosafety Clearing-House in a timely manner;
- 7. Welcomes the successful implementation of the United Nations Environment Programme-Global Environment Facility project for sustainable capacity-building for effective participation in the Biosafety Clearing-House, and urges potential donor country Parties, other Governments and funding organizations to provide funds to

<sup>15</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>16</sup> Decision 14/25, annex.

<sup>17</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

continue the project and other capacity-building projects related to the Biosafety Clearing-House and to support the network of regional advisers;

- 8. Requests the Global Environment Facility, and invites other relevant funds, to continue to make funds available to Parties in support of activities related to the Biosafety Clearing-House and national biosafety websites;
- 9. Welcomes the collaborative activities of the Secretariat of the Convention with biosafety-related organizations and the linkages between the Biosafety Clearing-House and other databases;
  - 10. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:
- (a) To continue to maintain the Biosafety Clearing-House and to make necessary improvements to it, including those recommended by the Informal Advisory Committee and those requested by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol, and to the functionalities of various parts of the platform, so as to avoid creating new thematic pages;
- (b) To continue to translate pages of the Biosafety Clearing-House, including new features and content as they are developed, to ensure the availability of the platform in the six official languages of the United Nations;
- (c) To develop a customized biosafety national website template using the Bioland tool and to make it available to Parties wishing to build a national biosafety website with linkages to the Biosafety Clearing-House;
- (d) To continue to develop capacity-building materials and to provide training on the new functionalities of the Biosafety Clearing-House;
- (e) To continue to collaborate with other biosafety-related databases and organizations.

## CP-11/4. PROCEDURES FOR CONVENING ONLINE AND HYBRID MEETINGS

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

*Reaffirming* that all its meetings, as well as the meetings of the intergovernmental subsidiary bodies of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,<sup>18</sup> must follow their respective rules of procedure,

- 1. Affirms that its meetings, as well as the meetings of the intergovernmental subsidiary bodies of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, should be held in person, unless extraordinary circumstances, as indicated in paragraph 2 below, render the holding of in-person meetings impractical for an extended period;
- 2. Reaffirms that, in the event of extraordinary circumstances that render the holding of in-person meetings impractical, sessions of the meetings referred to in paragraph 1 above could be held virtually through modalities that allow for online interactive participation, following consultations among Parties and a decision of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol, as long as no substantive decisions are taken online, with the exception of decisions on budgetary and procedural matters to allow the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>19</sup> to function;
- 3. Notes that, in the event of extraordinary circumstances that render the holding of in-person meetings impractical, urgent decisions, such as those on budgetary matters, may be taken by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol under a silence procedure in line with United Nations practice<sup>20</sup> and a decision of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, following consultations by the Bureau members with their respective regions, and applying the procedures set out in the rules of procedure for the convening of an extraordinary meeting;
- 4. Requests the Executive Secretary to ensure that arrangements for meetings referred to in paragraph 1 above always include a provision for streaming the proceedings online to enable all duly registered delegates to follow the proceedings in real time;
- 5. *Notes* that expert groups, advisory groups and other groups with limited membership may meet in person, online or in a hybrid format, in line with their respective mandates and, as applicable, their respective rules of procedure;
- 6. *Also notes* that, during the intersessional period, the Bureaux can meet online to provide continued guidance to the Secretariat with regard to the preparation

<sup>18</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>20</sup> Silence procedures under the United Nations are written procedures.

for, and conduct of, the meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and relevant subsidiary bodies;

#### 7. Decides that:

- (a) The operational modalities of any meeting held online should be clearly set out in a scenario note prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the relevant Bureau and made available to all Parties in advance of the meeting;
- (b) When scheduling online sessions of meetings, the Secretariat shall take into consideration the significant burden on the health and well-being of participants arising from time differences across time zones and aim to enable equitable participation of Parties across all regions, including by rotating time zones;
- (c) The duration of online sessions should preferably be limited to two consecutive hours per day;
- (d) The Secretariat should implement measures to facilitate effective online participation by all participants in online and hybrid sessions of meetings, and in particular to support Parties in overcoming network and connectivity difficulties, including by providing opportunities for prior training and testing convenient for all time zones, facilitating the use of meeting facilities at the relevant United Nations country office, where possible and by prior arrangement following a request from the Party concerned, and providing all reasonable measures to assist Parties that encounter difficulties with connectivity and the use of the interactive platform.

## CP-11/5. OPTIONS TO FURTHER IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PROCESSES UNDER THE CONVENTION AND ITS PROTOCOLS

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

Recalling decision CP-10/8 of 10 December 2022,

*Recognizing* the need to further improve the effectiveness of meetings under the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>21</sup> and its Protocols,

- 1. *Takes note* of the recent experience and further suggestions for improving the effectiveness of processes under the Convention and its Protocols summarized in document CBD/SBI/4/11;
- 2. Requests the Executive Secretary and the Bureaux to draw upon that experience when preparing the organization of work and scenario notes for future meetings and to make those notes available to all Parties in advance of the meetings;
- 3. Requests the Executive Secretary, together with the Bureaux, to continue to explore and make use of, as appropriate, relevant ways and means to facilitate early preparations for meetings, such as options for streamlining agendas, peer-reviewing documents in advance and the early submission of statements;
- 4. *Recommends* that, during the meetings of the open-ended subsidiary bodies, the number of sessions of contact groups and friends of the Chair held in parallel be limited, as much as possible, to the number of delegates per developing country Party whose participation has been supported by the Secretariat;
- 5. Requests the Executive Secretary to facilitate the identification of additional financial support to increase participation from developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and Parties with economies in transition:
- 6. *Decides* that, in the case of back-to-back intergovernmental meetings, a free day shall preferably be scheduled after every week, without prejudice to the support provided to eligible delegates;
- 7. Recognizes the need to limit evening negotiating sessions to reasonable hours to preserve the health of delegates attending intergovernmental meetings, in particular delegates of small delegations, and recommends, unless otherwise agreed, that preferably no session be scheduled beyond 13 hours from the start of the first open-ended meeting of the day;

<sup>21</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

- 8. Requests the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety<sup>22</sup> and the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Technical and Technological Advice to identify a pool of representatives to serve as chairs of working and contact groups or facilitators of friends of the Chair groups on the basis of their skills in building trust and consensus among those with differing views and their demonstrated knowledge of the issues to be addressed by the groups, well in advance of intergovernmental meetings held under the Protocol;
- 9. Requests that the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, facilitate an orientation or training session for the representatives identified in paragraph 8 above ahead of the meetings in order to familiarize them with the rules of procedure and established practices, techniques and skills in the areas of managing multilateral negotiations and facilitating consensus, with a view to ensuring ethical approaches and impartiality, in accordance with United Nations standards and principles, including through United Nations-based training modules;
- 10. Also requests that the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, facilitate the attendance of the representatives from developing country Parties identified in paragraph 8 above at intergovernmental meetings held under the Cartagena Protocol, without prejudice to the support provided for the participation of their delegations, where feasible;
- 11. Recommends that the organization of meetings include options to avoid protracted and unfruitful discussions, such as the appropriate use of strategic pauses to enable discussions by small groups and friends of the Chair groups to find possible solutions;
- 12. Encourages Parties and other Governments to engage with indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and other national observer organizations and to solicit views from a wide range of relevant sectors in the process of preparations at the national level for meetings of the governing and subsidiary bodies, to inform the development of their national positions, as appropriate, and taking into account national circumstances:
  - 13. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, under the guidance of the Bureau:
- (a) To ensure that working documents are made available for meetings of the open-ended subsidiary bodies of the Cartagena Protocol in all official languages of the United Nations in accordance with their respective rules of procedure or modus operandi and at least six weeks before the opening of the respective meeting, and to ensure that the dates of issuance, included those of any updated versions, are clearly indicated on the web page for the meeting concerned, and assist the meeting chairs in asking Parties to reconsider the respective agendas for the meetings at the beginning of those meetings if the document posting procedures are not met;

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., vol. 2226, No. 30619.

- (b) To develop a clear schedule for the preparations for each meeting in a timely manner, starting with subsidiary body meetings after the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol:
- (c) To provide national focal points at the end of each year, starting in 2024, with a calendar of activities and actions expected in the course of the following year, so as to rationalize intersessional activities and facilitate workflow management;
- (d) To make efforts to limit the size of draft recommendations by subsidiary bodies or draft decisions by governing bodies, and to avoid duplication and redundancy with existing decisions, without prejudice to the ability of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol to revisit previous decisions, in order to facilitate the subsequent implementation of decisions;
- (e) To assist the chairs of intergovernmental meetings in limiting the number of items that are not assigned to contact groups, friends of chairs and small groups and directly result in conference room papers to those on which there is little disagreement;
- (f) To review the structure of the website of the Cartagena Protocol to make it easier to use:
- 14. Requests the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to publish scenario notes for each of the intergovernmental meetings held under the Protocol and to schedule Bureau meetings at strategic points of the process;
- 15. Requests the Executive Secretary to enable consultations with Parties, Bureau members, partners and stakeholders, with the support of qualified external experts in the field, as appropriate, to continue to develop options for further improving the effectiveness of meetings under the Cartagena Protocol, and to submit such proposals for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its sixth meeting, with a view to developing a draft decision for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its twelfth meeting, taking into account recommendation 4/12 of 29 May 2024 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, including the compilation of submissions contained in annex II to the recommendation.

## CP-11/6. PROCEDURE FOR AVOIDING OR MANAGING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST IN EXPERT GROUPS

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol,

Recalling decision CP-9/10 of 28 November 2018,

*Having reviewed* the report of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>23</sup> on the implementation of the procedure for avoiding or managing conflicts of interest in expert groups,<sup>24</sup>

*Taking into account* the effective use of the procedure for avoiding or managing conflicts of interest<sup>25</sup> in the selection of experts to serve in technical expert groups convened in processes under the Convention and its Protocols,

- 1. *Approves* the following amendments to the interest disclosure form contained in the appendix to the procedure:
- (a) In the declaration sentence, at the end of the form, the following text is inserted: "If selected as a member of the expert group, I undertake to carry out my duties and responsibilities with all objectivity and, in the event that a conflict of interest is established, I undertake to recuse myself from relevant discussions or decision-making, as appropriate";
- (b) A "Name or description of the expert group" field is added at the beginning of the interest disclosure form, above the "Name" field, and a "Job title" field is added after the "Current employer" field;
- 2. Requests the Executive Secretary to integrate the amendments referred to in paragraph 1 above into the interest disclosure form and replace the original form with the amended version:
- 3. Also requests the Executive Secretary to take measures, as appropriate, to enhance the application of the procedure, in consultation with the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice or of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,<sup>26</sup> including by:
- (a) Without prejudice to item (b) of paragraph 4.4 of the procedure, disclosing to other members of the expert group and at the beginning of any meeting of an expert group significant interests that have been declared by a particular member;

<sup>23</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>24</sup> CBD/SBI/4/11/Add.1.

<sup>25</sup> Decision 14/33, annex.

<sup>26</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

- (b) Publishing a summary of all declarations made and actions taken to manage any actual or potential conflicts of interest in the report on a meeting and any other outcome of work or product of an expert group;
- 4. Further requests the Executive Secretary to prepare a report on the implementation of the procedure and, if necessary, to propose updates and amendments to the procedure for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at a meeting held before the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol;
- 5. Requests the Subsidiary Body on Implementation to consider the report and any proposed amendments referred to in paragraph 4 above and to submit a recommendation for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its fourteenth meeting.

#### CP-11/7. RISK ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol,

Recalling Article 1 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,<sup>27</sup>

Recalling also decision CP-10/10 of 10 December 2022,

Recalling further decision CP-9/13 of 28 November 2018, by which it established a process for the identification and prioritization of specific issues regarding the risk assessment of living modified organisms that might warrant consideration,

Recalling paragraph 7 of decision 14/19 of 29 November 2018 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, <sup>28</sup> in which the Conference of the Parties emphasized the need for a coordinated, complementary and non-duplicative approach on issues related to synthetic biology under the Convention and its Protocols, and noting, where appropriate, the conclusions of the multidisciplinary Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Synthetic Biology to Support the Process for Broad and Regular Horizon Scanning, Monitoring and Assessment, <sup>29</sup>

Taking note of the assessment by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment of additional issues on which guidance materials on risk assessment may be needed.  $^{30}$ 

- 1. Welcomes with appreciation the outcomes of the meetings of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment;<sup>31</sup>
- 2. Welcomes the additional voluntary guidance materials to support the case-by-case risk assessment of living modified organisms containing engineered gene drives;<sup>32</sup>
- 3. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth organizations and relevant organizations and stakeholders to make use of the additional voluntary guidance materials in conducting relevant risk assessments and as a tool for capacity-building activities in risk assessment;
- 4. Calls for the consideration of the related issues set out in the additional voluntary guidance materials<sup>33</sup>, including traditional knowledge, innovation and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities, in the decision-making process;

<sup>27</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>29</sup> See CBD/SYNBIO/AHTEG/2024/1/3.

<sup>30</sup> See CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2024/1/3.

<sup>31</sup> See CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2023/1/4 and CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2024/1/3.

<sup>32</sup> CBD/CP/MOP/11/9.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid., sect. 7.

- 5. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations and stakeholders that have used the voluntary guidance materials to submit to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity information on their experiences and assessment of the applicability and usefulness of the materials:
- 6. *Calls for* broad international cooperation, knowledge-sharing, capacity-building and resource mobilization to support, inter alia, the application of the additional voluntary guidance materials;
- 7. Decides to establish an ad hoc technical expert group on risk assessment, with the terms of reference contained in the annex to the present decision, tasked with the evaluation of the needs and priorities identified by Parties through the submission of the information requested in paragraph 8 below;
- 8. *Invites* Parties to submit detailed information on their needs and priorities for further guidance materials on specific topics of risk assessment of living modified organisms, including a rationale following the criteria set out in annex I to decision CP-9/13;
- 9. Decides to extend the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management to support the analysis of further topics of risk assessment in accordance with the criteria set out in annex I to decision CP-9/13;
- 10. Also decides to consider at its twelfth meeting additional issues on which guidance materials on risk assessment may be needed, if any, further to the process for the identification and prioritization of specific issues pertaining to the risk assessment of living modified organisms established in decision CP-9/13, taking into account the needs and priorities identified by Parties pursuant to paragraph 8 above and the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice recommendation pursuant to paragraph 1 (d) of the terms of reference of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment;
  - 11. Requests that the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources:
- (a) Prepare a synthesis of the information submitted in response to paragraph 5 above for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its twelfth meeting;
- (b) Convene online discussions of the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management;
- (c) Prepare a synthesis of information submitted in response to paragraphs 8 and 9 above to support the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment:

- (d) Convene at least one in-person meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment before the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol;
- (e) Convene capacity-building and development activities in support of risk assessment with a particular focus on the risk assessment of living modified organisms containing engineered gene drives.

#### Annex

#### Terms of reference for the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment

- 1. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment shall:
- (a) Be composed of experts, selected in accordance with section H of the consolidated modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice,<sup>34</sup> with specific scientific and technical expertise relevant to the mandate of the Expert Group, and include experts from academia, relevant international organizations and indigenous peoples and local communities, in line with decision 14/33 of 29 November 2018 on the procedure for avoiding or managing conflicts of interest in expert groups;
- (b) Subject to the availability of funds, hold at least one in-person meeting before the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;<sup>35</sup>
- (c) Analyse the information submitted by Parties further to paragraph 8 of the present decision and the discussions in the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management, and on that basis prepare a list of prioritized topics, if any, on which further guidance materials on risk assessment may be needed according to the criteria set out in annex I to decision CP-9/13;
- (d) Prepare a report for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, with a view to enabling the Subsidiary Body to prepare a recommendation for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its twelfth meeting.
- 2. In undertaking its work, the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment shall consider the synthesis of views from the submissions and discussions in the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management prepared by the Secretariat.

<sup>34</sup> Decision VIII/10, annex III.

<sup>35</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

## CP-11/8. DETECTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

Recalling its decisions CP-10/7 and CP-10/11 of 10 December 2022 and the need for capacity-building activities on new detection and identification techniques for living modified organisms and on detecting and identifying unauthorized living modified organisms,

Recalling also its decisions CP-10/3 and CP-10/4 of 19 December 2022, and in particular Goals A.6 to A.8 of the implementation plan and Goals A.6 to A.8 and related capacity-building activities of the capacity-building action plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,<sup>36</sup>

*Reiterating* the importance of the field of detection and identification of living modified organisms for the Cartagena Protocol and its relevance and applicability to other fields.

*Recognizing* that the detection and identification of living modified organisms may pose challenges, in particular for developing countries,

*Recognizing also* the limited information available on the use of new techniques for detecting and identifying living modified organisms,

*Recognizing further* the advancements in new techniques for the detection and identification of living modified organisms, such as digital polymerase chain reaction and next-generation sequencing,

*Recognizing with concern* the high cost of laboratory infrastructure and consumables required for those new techniques and the lack of access to reagents for some developing country Parties,

Confirming that the Training Manual on the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms in the Context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (Biosafety Technical Series 05) is still relevant and useful for the detection and identification of living modified organisms,

*Recognizing* the usefulness of the Network of Laboratories for the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms for facilitating the exchange of experience, sharing information and building expertise,

1. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, participants in the Network of Laboratories for the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms,

<sup>36</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

developers and other relevant organizations to submit to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>37</sup> technical reference documents and other materials related to new quantitative polymerase chain reaction techniques, digital polymerase chain reaction, next-generation sequencing and isothermal amplification techniques in order to complement and update future editions of the *Training Manual on the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms in the Context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety*;

- 2. *Invites* Parties to share through the Biosafety Clearing-House, in accordance with national decisions and legislation, if appropriate, their experience with new detection techniques, such as those for detecting newly developed living modified organisms and unauthorized living modified organisms, including those that contain stacked events, and with developing, using and maintaining reference materials;
- 3. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to share and make available through the Biosafety Clearing-House training materials and reference publications;
- 4. Encourages Parties to establish regional networks of laboratories and partnerships to support activities in the field of detection and identification of living modified organisms, and to promote capacity-building and knowledge-sharing;
- 5. Urges Parties, and invites other Governments and international organizations, to provide financial resources to laboratories, in particular in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States, and in countries with economies in transition, in order to strengthen the infrastructure for the detection and identification of living modified organisms, the formation of regional networks of laboratories, capacity-building activities and the development or acquisition of certified reference materials;
- 6. Recommends that, when adopting its guidance to the Global Environment Facility with regard to support for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention invite the Global Environment Facility to assist eligible Parties by providing access to the means of implementation quickly and at the scale required to cover the scope and speed of the assistance needed, including for strengthening the infrastructure for the detection and identification of living modified organisms, establishing regional networks of laboratories, undertaking capacity-building activities and developing or acquiring certified reference materials, and urges Parties to submit appropriate proposals in that context to the Global Environment Facility to enable support for such activities;
- 7. Encourages technology developers to share, as appropriate, detection and identification methods on newly developed living modified organisms through the Biosafety Clearing-House;

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<sup>37</sup> Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

- 8. *Requests* that the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources:
- (a) Continue to collect publications and technical resource materials in various languages and make them available on the dedicated portal for the sampling, detection and identification of living modified organisms in the Biosafety Clearing-House;
- (b) Prepare a compilation of the technical reference documents and other materials submitted in response to the request in paragraph 1, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its twelfth meeting;
- (c) Collaborate with relevant organizations and provide capacity-building support to Parties in the field of detection and identification of living modified organisms, including hands-on training of laboratory personnel on both traditional analytical methods and new detection techniques;
- (d) Raise awareness of the usefulness of the sampling, detection and identification portal on the Biosafety Clearing-House and explore the possibility to link and cross-reference the content of relevant databases not already shared with the Biosafety Clearing-House.

#### CP-11/9. SOCIOECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

Recalling the guidance on the assessment of socioeconomic considerations in the context of Article 26 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, 38,39 taken note of in decision CP-9/14 of 28 November 2018,

Recalling also decision CP-10/12 of 10 December 2022,

Recalling further Goal A.9 of the implementation plan<sup>40</sup> and the capacity-building action plan for the Cartagena Protocol,41

- Welcomes the information shared on experiences in the use of the voluntary guidance, examples of methodologies and applications of socioeconomic considerations in the light of the elements of the guidance, 42 while recognizing that limited information was submitted in this regard;
- Also welcomes information shared by Parties on approaches and requirements for socioeconomic considerations and regarding experiences in assessing socioeconomic considerations further to the responses provided in their fourth national reports;<sup>43</sup>
- Invites Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and other stakeholders, as appropriate, to use the voluntary guidance and share their experiences in this regard in the fifth national reports or to make such experiences available in the Biosafety Clearing-House virtual library;
- Requests the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>44</sup>to synthesize the information provided in the fifth national reports further to paragraph 3 above for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its twelfth meeting;
- Invites Parties, other Governments and organizations to carry out capacitybuilding and awareness-raising activities in support of Goal A.9 of the implementation plan and the capacity-building action plan for the Cartagena Protocol, and encourages donors to provide the necessary resources in this regard.

<sup>38</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

<sup>39</sup> CBD/CP/MOP/9/10, annex.

<sup>40</sup> Decision CP-10/3, annex.

<sup>41</sup> Decision CP-10/4, annex.

<sup>42</sup> Available at www.cbd.int/notifications/2023-133.

<sup>43</sup> Available at bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/portal\_art26/Activities2023-2024.shtml.

<sup>44</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

## CP-11/10. NAGOYA-KUALA LUMPUR SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL ON LIABILITY AND REDRESS

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and further serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol,<sup>45</sup>

Recalling decision CP-10/13 of 10 December 2022, in particular its paragraph 8,

Also recalling Goal A.10 of the implementation plan  $^{46}$  and the capacity-building action plan  $^{47}$  for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,  $^{48}$ 

- 1. Welcomes the additional instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol<sup>49</sup> that have been deposited since the adoption of decision CP-10/13;
- 2. Notes with regret the limited number of Parties to the Cartagena Protocol that have ratified the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol, and invites all Parties to the Cartagena Protocol that have not yet done so to deposit an instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Supplementary Protocol as soon as possible;
- 3. Welcomes the additional records published in the Biosafety Clearing-House containing the contact details of the competent authorities to perform the functions set out in Article 5 of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol;
- 4. Reminds Parties to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol to designate a competent authority to perform the functions set out in Article 5 of the Supplementary Protocol and to publish information on the competent authorities using the common format available for that purpose in the Biosafety Clearing-House;
- 5. Welcomes the information provided by Parties on the measures in place to provide for financial security for damage from living modified organisms, while noting with regret that only a few Parties have provided such information;
- 6. *Invites* Parties to share information on financial security mechanisms, together with other information on national measures for the implementation of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol, in their fifth national reports, and

<sup>45</sup> In accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 14 of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol, and subject to paragraph 2 of Article 32 of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol serves as the meeting of the Parties to the Supplementary Protocol. Consequently, the present decision has been adopted by the Parties to the Supplementary Protocol.

<sup>46</sup> Decision CP-10/3, annex.

<sup>47</sup> Decision CP-10/4, annex.

<sup>48</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

<sup>49</sup> See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/5/17, annex, decision BS-V/11.

requests the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>50</sup> to use that information when preparing the documentation for the first assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Supplementary Protocol;<sup>51</sup>

- 7. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and organizations to carry out capacity-building and awareness-raising activities in support of the ratification and the effective implementation of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol, and encourages donors to provide the resources necessary in that regard, further to Goal A.10 of the implementation plan and the capacity-building action plan for the Cartagena Protocol;
- 8. Requests the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to continue to undertake awareness-raising and capacity-building activities and to provide support to Parties for implementing the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol at the national level.

<sup>50</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>51</sup> See decision CP-10/13, para. 12.

## CP-11/11. ADMINISTRATION OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL AND BUDGET FOR THE TRUST FUNDS

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

- 1. Decides to adopt an integrated programme of work and budget for the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>52</sup> the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety<sup>53</sup> and the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization;<sup>54</sup>
- 2. Also decides to share all costs for secretariat services among the Convention, the Cartagena Protocol and the Nagoya Protocol on a ratio of 72 to 15 to 13 for the biennium 2025–2026:
- 3. Approves a core programme budget for the Cartagena Protocol of 3,252,308 United States dollars for the year 2025 and of 3,413,007 dollars for the year 2026, representing 15 per cent of the integrated budget of 21,682,052 dollars for 2025 and 22,753,379 dollars for 2026 for the Convention and the Protocols, for the purposes listed in tables 1 and 2 below;
- 4. Also approves, in the circumstance that no availability at International Civil Aviation Organization headquarters can be identified to convene the meetings of the subsidiary bodies during the biennium 2025–2026, an additional programme budget not exceeding 28,975 dollars for 2025 and 28,975 dollars for 2026, representing 15 per cent of the additional integrated budget of 193,168 dollars for 2025 and 193,168 dollars for 2026 for the Convention and its Protocols, with the additional programme budget being drawn from the unspent balance of the General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Cartagena Protocol;
- 5. Adopts the scale of assessments for the apportionment of expenses for 2025 and 2026, in accordance with the current scale of assessments of the United Nations,<sup>55</sup> as contained in the annex to the present decision;
- 6. Decides to apply paragraphs 5 to 7 and 9 to 43 of decision 16/28 of 6 December 2024 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, entitled "Administration of the Convention and budget for the trust funds", mutatis mutandis.

<sup>52</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>53</sup> Ibid., vol. 2226, No. 30619.

<sup>54</sup> Ibid., vol. 3008, No. 30619.

<sup>55</sup> As contained in General Assembly resolution 76/238. Once adopted by the Assembly, the revised scale of assessments for the triennium 2025–2027 will be applied to calculate assessed contributions for the biennium 2025–2026.

Table 1 Integrated biennial budget for the core trust funds of the Convention and its Protocols, 2025–2026 (by object of expenditure)

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	2025	2026	2025-2026
Staff costs	13 301.0	13 862.7	27 163.7
General temporary assistance	100.0	100.0	200.0
Bureau meetings	161.5	176.8	338.3
Expert meetings	175.0	205.0	380.0
Meetings of intergovernmental bodies $a$	2 274.6	2 700.9	4 975.5
Consultants	75.0	75.0	150.0
Functional review	250.0	_	250.0
Official travel	400.0	450.0	850.0
Rent and associated costs	1 462.6	1 476.6	2 939.2
Training	5.0	5.0	10.0
Information technology	65.0	65.0	130.0
General operating expenses	726.6	726.6	1 453.2
Public awareness material	100.0	100.0	200.0
Translation of the clearing-house websites	65.0	65.0	130.0
Subtotal	19 161.3	20 008.6	39 170.9
Programme support (13 per cent)	2 491.0	2 601.1	5 092.1
Subtotal	21 652.3	22 609.8	44 262.1
Working capital reserve	29.8	143.6	173.4
Total	21 682.1	22 753.4	44 435.5
Cartagena Protocol share of the integrated budget (15 per cent)	3 252.3	3 413.0	6 665.3
Contributions from the host country	(247.9)	(250.3)	(498.2)
Use of reserves	(71.3)	(29.0)	(100.3)
Net total to be shared by Parties	2 933.1	3 133.7	6 066.8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> First meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities; twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice; sixth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation; and, held concurrently, seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol.

Table 2
Integrated biennial budget for the core trust funds of the Convention and its Protocols, 2025–2026 (by component)

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Component	2025	2026	2025-2026
A. Governing and subsidiary bodies	2 611.2	3 082.7	5 693.9
B. Executive direction and management	2 946.8	3 098.4	6 045.1
C. Programme of work	10 013.3	10 384.3	20 397.6
D. Administrative support	3 590.2	3 443.2	7 033.4
Subtotal	19 161.3	20 008.6	39 170.0
Programme support costs	2 491.0	2 601.1	5 092.1
Working capital reserve	29.8	143.6	173.4
Total requirements	21 682.1	22 753.4	44 435.4
Cartagena Protocol share of the integrated budget (15 per cent)	3 252.3	3 413.0	6 665.3
Contributions from the host country	(247.9)	(250.3)	(498.2)
Reserve	(71.3)	(29.0)	(100.3)
Net total (to be shared by Parties)	2 933.1	3 133.7	6 066.8

Annex Contribution table for the General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Cartagena Protocol, 2025–2026

	Scale of ass	sessment (percentage)	Contributions (United States dollars)		tes dollars)
		Scale with a 22 per cent ceiling and no least developed countries paying more			
Party	2022-2024	than 0.01 per cent	2025	2026	2025-2026
Afghanistan	0.006	0.008	248	265	514
Albania	0.008	0.011	331	354	685
Algeria	0.109	0.154	4 513	4 822	9 336
Angola	0.010	0.010	293	313	607
Antigua and Barbuda	0.002	0.003	83	88	171
Armenia	0.007	0.010	290	310	600
Austria	0.679	0.959	28 115	30 039	58 154
Azerbaijan	0.030	0.042	1 242	1 327	2 569
Bahamas	0.019	0.027	787	841	1 627
Bahrain	0.054	0.076	2 236	2 389	4 625
Bangladesh	0.010	0.010	293	313	607
Barbados	0.008	0.011	331	354	685
Belarus	0.041	0.058	1 698	1 814	3 512
Belgium	0.828	1.169	34 285	36 631	70 916
Belize	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Benin	0.005	0.007	207	221	428
Bhutan	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	0.019	0.027	787	841	1 627
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.012	0.017	497	531	1 028
Botswana	0.015	0.021	621	664	1 285
Brazil	2.013	2.842	83 352	89 055	172 408
Bulgaria	0.056	0.079	2 319	2 477	4 796
Burkina Faso	0.004	0.006	166	177	343
Burundi	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Cabo Verde	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Cambodia	0.007	0.010	290	310	600
Cameroon	0.013	0.018	538	575	1 113
Central African Republic	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Chad	0.003	0.004	124	133	257
China	15.254	21.535	631 622	674 839	1 306 461
Colombia	0.246	0.347	10 186	10 883	21 069
Comoros	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Congo	0.005	0.007	207	221	428
Costa Rica	0.069	0.097	2 857	3 053	5 910
Côte d'Ivoire	0.022	0.031	911	973	1 884
Croatia	0.091	0.128	3 768	4 026	7 794
Cuba	0.095	0.134	3 934	4 203	8 136
Cyprus	0.036	0.051	1 491	1 593	3 083

	Scale of assessment (percentage) Contributions (United State		es dollars)		
		Scale with a 22 per			
		cent ceiling and no			
		least developed countries paying more			
Party	2022-2024	than 0.01 per cent	2025	2026	2025-2026
Czechia	0.340	0.480	14 078	15 042	29 120
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0.005	0.007	207	221	428
Democratic Republic of	0.010	0.010	293	313	607
the Congo	0.010	0.010	2,3	010	007
Denmark	0.553	0.781	22 898	24 465	47 363
Djibouti	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Dominica	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Dominican Republic	0.067	0.095	2 774	2 964	5 738
Ecuador	0.077	0.109	3 188	3 406	6 595
Egypt	0.139	0.196	5 756	6 149	11 905
El Salvador	0.013	0.018	538	575	1 113
Eritrea	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Estonia	0.044	0.062	1 822	1 947	3 768
Eswatini	0.002	0.003	83	88	171
Ethiopia	0.010	0.010	293	313	607
European Union	-	2.500	73 326	78 344	151 670
Fiji	0.004	0.006	166	177	343
Finland	0.417	0.589	17 267	18 448	35 715
France	4.318	6.096	178 795	191 029	369 824
Gabon	0.013	0.018	538	575	1 113
Gambia	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Georgia	0.008	0.011	331	354	685
Germany	6.111	8.627	253 038	270 351	523 389
Ghana	0.024	0.034	994	1 062	2 056
Greece	0.325	0.459	13 457	14 378	27 835
Grenada	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Guatemala	0.041	0.058	1 698	1 814	3 512
Guinea	0.003	0.004	124	133	257
Guinea-Bissau	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Guyana	0.004	0.006	166	177	343
Honduras	0.009	0.013	373	398	771
Hungary	0.228	0.322	9 441	10 087	19 528
India	1.044	1.474	43 229	46 187	89 416
Indonesia	0.549	0.775	22 732	24 288	47 020
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.371	0.524	15 362	16 413	31 775
Iraq	0.128	0.181	5 300	5 663	10 963
Ireland	0.439	0.620	18 178	19 421	37 599
Italy	3.189	4.502	132 047	141 082	273 129
Jamaica	0.008	0.011	331	354	685
Japan	8.033	11.340	332 622	355 381	688 003
Jordan	0.022	0.031	911	973	1 884
Kazakhstan	0.133	0.188	5 507	5 884	11 391

	Scale of ass	sessment (percentage)	Contributi	ons (United Sta	tes dollars)
	-	Scale with a 22 per cent ceiling and no least developed countries paying more			
Party	2022-2024	than 0.01 per cent	2025	2026	2025-2026
Kenya	0.030	0.042	1 242	1 327	2 569
Kiribati	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Kuwait	0.234	0.330	9 689	10 352	20 041
Kyrgyzstan	0.002	0.003	83	88	171
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.007	0.010	290	310	600
Latvia	0.050	0.071	2 070	2 212	4 282
Lebanon	0.036	0.051	1 491	1 593	3 083
Lesotho	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Liberia	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Libya	0.018	0.025	745	796	1 542
Lithuania	0.077	0.109	3 188	3 406	6 595
Luxembourg	0.068	0.096	2 816	3 008	5 824
Madagascar	0.004	0.006	166	177	343
Malawi	0.002	0.003	83	88	171
Malaysia	0.348	0.491	14 410	15 396	29 805
Maldives	0.004	0.006	166	177	343
Mali	0.005	0.007	207	221	428
Malta	0.019	0.027	787	841	1 627
Marshall Islands	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Mauritania	0.002	0.003	83	88	171
Mauritius	0.019	0.027	787	841	1 627
Mexico	1.221	1.724	50 558	54 017	104 575
Mongolia	0.004	0.006	166	177	343
Montenegro	0.004	0.006	166	177	343
Morocco	0.055	0.078	2 277	2 433	4 711
Mozambique	0.004	0.006	166	177	343
Myanmar	0.010	0.010	293	313	607
Namibia	0.009	0.013	373	398	771
Nauru	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	1.377	1.944	57 017	60 919	117 936
New Zealand	0.309	0.436	12 795	13 670	26 465
Nicaragua	0.005	0.007	207	221	428
Niger	0.003	0.004	124	133	257
Nigeria	0.182	0.257	7 536	8 052	15 588
Niue	0.010	0.010	293	313	607
North Macedonia	0.007	0.010	290	310	600
Norway	0.679	0.959	28 115	30 039	58 154
Oman	0.111	0.157	4 596	4 911	9 507
Pakistan	0.114	0.161	4 720	5 043	9 764
Palau	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Panama	0.090	0.127	3 727	3 982	7 708

	Scale of ass	sessment (percentage)	Contributions (United States dollars		tes dollars)
		Scale with a 22 per cent ceiling and no least developed countries paying more			
Party	2022-2024	than 0.01 per cent	2025	2026	2025-2026
Papua New Guinea	0.010	0.014	414	442	856
Paraguay	0.026	0.037	1 077	1 150	2 227
Peru	0.163	0.230	6 749	7 211	13 960
Philippines	0.212	0.299	8 778	9 379	18 157
Poland	0.837	1.182	34 658	37 029	71 687
Portugal	0.353	0.498	14 617	15 617	30 233
Qatar	0.269	0.380	11 138	11 901	23 039
Republic of Korea	2.574	3.634	106 582	113 874	220 456
Republic of Moldova	0.005	0.007	207	221	428
Romania	0.312	0.440	12 919	13 803	26 722
Rwanda	0.003	0.004	124	133	257
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.002	0.003	83	88	171
Saint Lucia	0.002	0.003	83	88	171
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Samoa	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Saudi Arabia	1.184	1.671	49 026	52 380	101 406
Senegal	0.007	0.010	290	310	600
Serbia	0.032	0.045	1 325	1 416	2 741
Seychelles	0.002	0.003	83	88	171
SierraLeone	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Slovakia	0.155	0.219	6 418	6 857	13 275
Slovenia	0.079	0.112	3 271	3 495	6 766
Solomon Islands	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Somalia	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
South Africa	0.244	0.344	10 103	10 795	20 898
Spain	2.134	3.013	88 362	94 408	182 771
Sri Lanka	0.045	0.064	1 863	1 991	3 854
State of Palestine	0.011	0.016	455	487	942
Sudan	0.010	0.010	293	313	607
Suriname	0.003	0.004	124	133	257
Sweden	0.871	1.230	36 065	38 533	74 599
Switzerland	1.134	1.601	46 955	50 168	97 124
Syrian Arab Republic	0.009	0.013	373	398	771
Tajikistan	0.003	0.004	124	133	257
Thailand	0.368	0.520	15 238	16 280	31 518
Togo	0.002	0.003	83	88	171
Tonga	0.001	0.001	41	44	86
Trinidad and Tobago	0.037	0.052	1 532	1 637	3 169
Tunisia	0.019	0.027	787	841	1 627
Turkey	0.845	1.193	34 989	37 383	72 372
Turkmenistan	0.034	0.048	1 408	1 504	2 912
Uganda	0.010	0.010	293	313	607

	Scale of ass	sessment (percentage)	Contributi	ons (United Sta	tes dollars)
Party	2022-2024	Scale with a 22 per cent ceiling and no least developed countries paying more than 0.01 per cent	2025	2026	2025-2026
Ukraine	0.056	0.079	2 319	2 477	4 796
United Arab Emirates	0.635	0.896	26 293	28 092	54 386
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	4.375	6.176	181 155	193 551	374 706
United Republic of Tanzania	0.010	0.010	293	313	607
Uruguay	0.092	0.130	3 809	4 070	7 880
Uzbekistan	0.027	0.038	1 118	1 194	2 312
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	0.175	0.247	7 246	7 742	14 988
Viet Nam	0.093	0.131	3 851	4 114	7 965
Yemen	0.008	0.010	293	313	607
Zambia	0.008	0.010	293	313	607
Zimbabwe	0.007	0.010	290	310	600
Total	69.092	100	2 933 053	3 133 740	6 066 793

## CP-11/12. COSTS OF CONVENING AN IN-PERSON RESUMED SESSION OF THE ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

Recalling its decision CP-11/4 of 1 November 2024, in which it noted that, in the event of extraordinary circumstances that rendered the holding of in-person meetings impractical, urgent decisions, such as those on budgetary matters, might be taken under silence procedure,

*Recalling also* that the closing plenary session of its eleventh meeting, held in Cali, Colombia, was suspended on 2 November 2024 without completing the consideration of a number of agenda items,

Recognizing the need to convene in the first quarter of 2025 an in-person resumed session of its eleventh meeting to complete discussion of the agenda items still pending and to close the meeting,

Recognizing also that convening said in-person resumed session will generate expenditure to cover the costs of the venue, as well as travel costs and subsistence allowances for Secretariat staff and delegates from eligible Parties,

Reaffirming the importance of the full and effective participation of delegates from developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition in the meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, <sup>56</sup>

*Noting* that the resumed session of its eleventh meeting will be held in Rome from 25 to 27 February 2025,

1. Authorizes the Executive Secretary to draw down an amount not exceeding 60,000 United States dollars from the unspent balance of the General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, representing 15 per cent of a total amount of 400,000 dollars required to convene the in-person resumed sessions of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>57</sup> the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Conference of the Parties to the

<sup>56</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

<sup>57</sup> Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity,  $^{58}$ 

2. *Decides* to apply, mutatis mutandis, paragraphs 2 and 3 of decision 16/29 of 6 December 2024 of the Conference of the Parties.

<sup>58</sup> Ibid., vol. 3008, No. 30619.

