



BCH
training



Surfing the BCH Central Portal

March 2010

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1 Introduction to the module

What the user will learn in this module:

- 1. To navigate the BCH's Central Portal.**
- 2. To understand the main functionalities of the Central Portal.**
- 3. To know what information the user can find in the Central Portal.**
- 4. To search the databases available on the Central Portal.**

Context:

The UNEP-GEF Project for Capacity Building for Effective Participation in the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH), in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD), prepared a modular training package aimed at providing a practical “how-to” guide for countries to assist them in learning, understanding, using, and setting up national access to the BCH. The training package was designed to be flexible and is tailored to meet the diverse needs of different countries, allowing them to select those tools that are most useful to their situation, needs and priorities. The training package is divided into several modules, each addressing one element of the BCH.

Audience:

This module is designed to provide guidance to users of the BCH Central Portal. It is developed for a non-technical audience with little or no knowledge of the Protocol and the BCH, but with a need to understand the requirements of the BCH Central Portal.

Purpose:

This module describes the main functions and information that can be found on the BCH Central Portal. Users will learn how to navigate the BCH Central Portal, knowing:

1. The structure of information available on the BCH Central Portal;
2. The different categories of information found on the BCH Central Portal.

Note that while users are connected to the BCH Central Portal (<http://bch.cbd.int/>) they can read the sections of this module and surf its various components.

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2 Home Page

URL: <http://bch.cbd.int/>

The **Home** page of the BCH Central Portal is a **Welcome** page that provides a gateway to each element of the BCH and all data stored in the Central Portal as well as in the international, regional and national nodes linked to the BCH.

This **Welcome to the BCH Central Portal** page of the BCH Central Portal has a welcome area that briefly introduces the BCH, provides a quick link to the Management Centre and provides information about highlights, such as the latest news about the BCH Central Portal and the most recent additions to the databases.

The seven components of the **Welcome to the BCH Central Portal** page are:

1. Links to the BCH in all six United Nations (UN) official **languages** are provided in the top left corner of the Home page.
2. A **Sign In** link for registered users (to access the management centre) and a link to **Sign up for an Account** (for new users to request a BCH account) are positioned in the top right corner.
3. Below these links is the title for the Biosafety Clearing-House and a link in the centre to the website for the **Convention on Biological Diversity**.
4. A navigation bar runs across the Home page below the title. It provides links to the main components of the Central Portal.
5. Below the navigation bar, there is a **welcome area** containing Latest News and Latest Additions;
6. To the right of the welcome area there are **shortcuts** to popular or recently added sections.
7. Below the welcome area there are links for users to **contact** the CBD Secretariat, access the site map, review the linkages and privacy policies and review the copyright statement. Below these links is the date of the last update of the Home page and a link to enable users to rate this page.

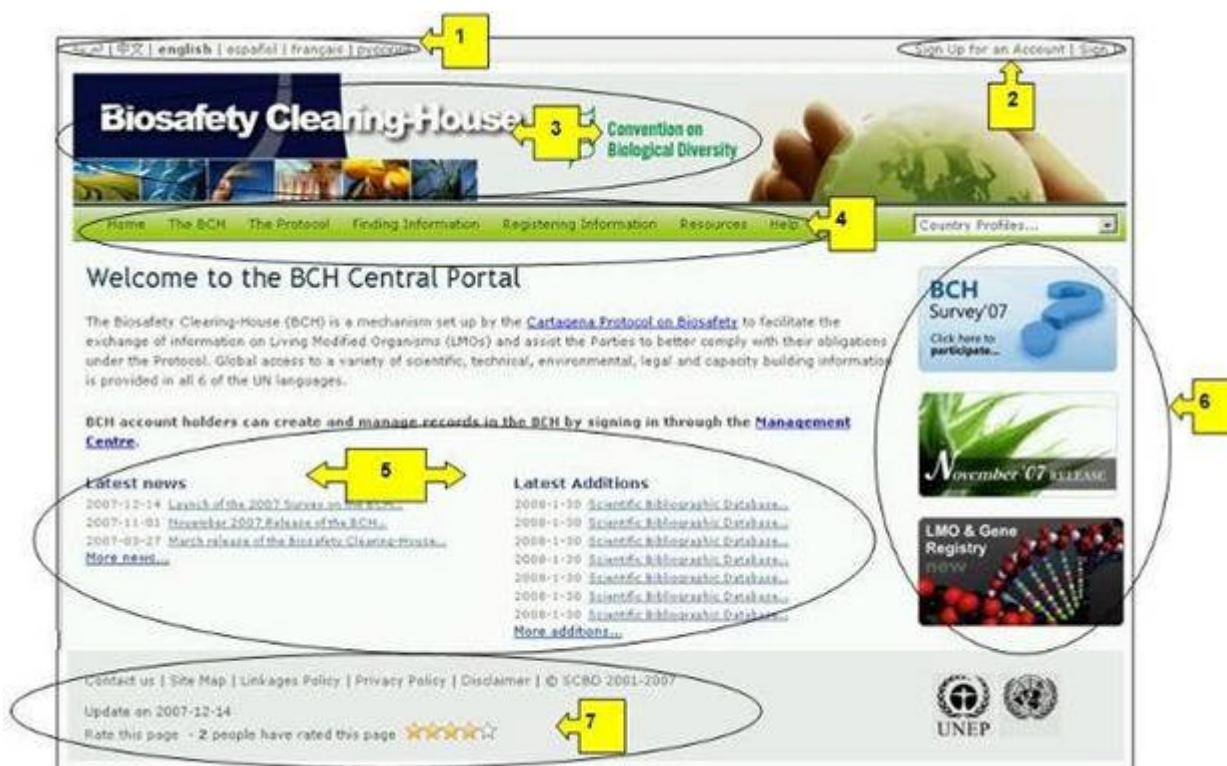


Figure 1

2.1 The Management Centre

Immediately below the BCH introductory paragraph is a link to the **Management Centre**, an entry page for BCH account-holders to create and manage their records registered in the BCH.

Module MO06 ('Registering Information in the BCH Central Portal' in the on-line documentation) provides detailed guidance on how to register information in the BCH.

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

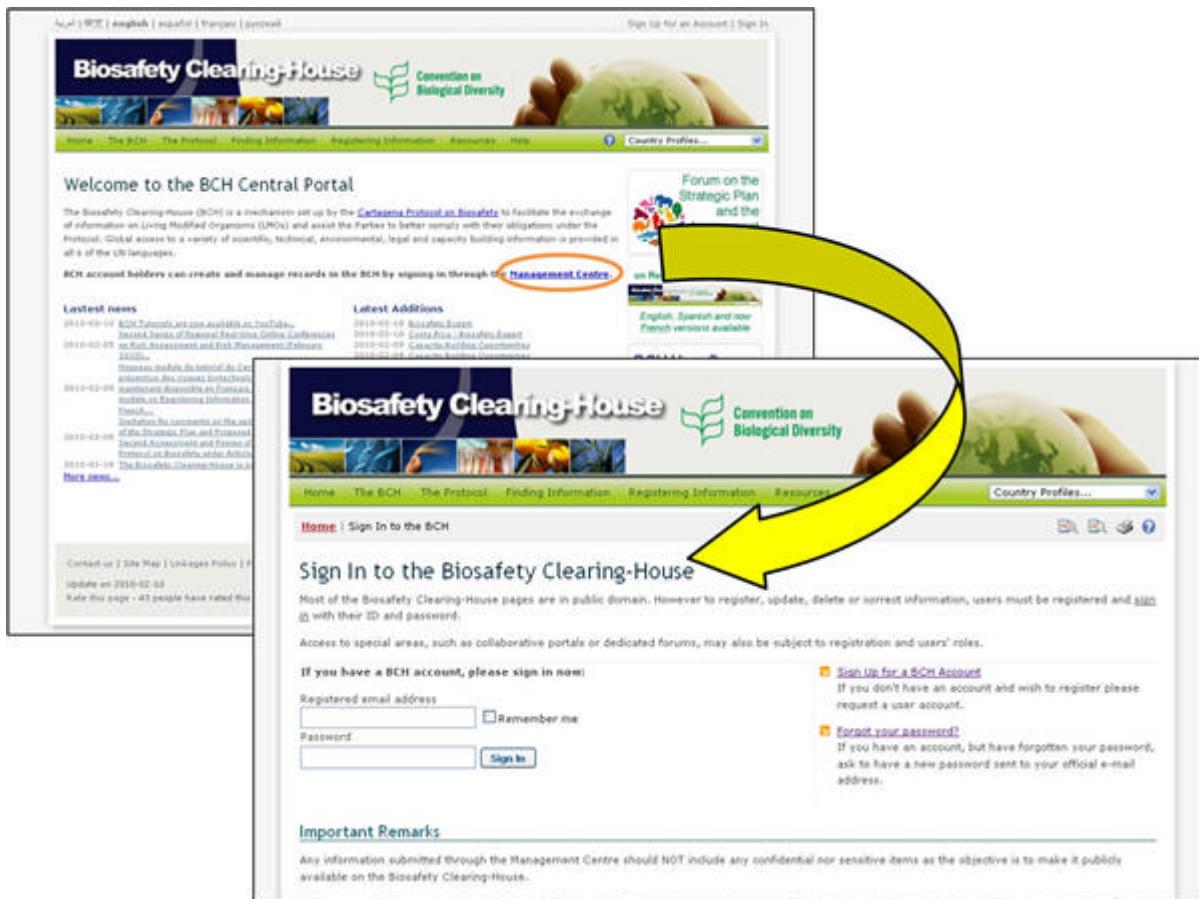


Figure 2

2.2 Latest News

The *news* links posted in this area provide details of new processes and facilities in the Central Portal. A complete list of BCH news is available at <https://bch.cbd.int/news/news.shtml> and can be reached by following the link to **More news**.

The screenshot shows the main page of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) Central Portal. At the top, there is a green navigation bar with links to "Home", "The BCH", "The Protocol", "Finding Information", and "Help". Below the navigation bar, a large blue header section contains the title "Welcome to the BCH Central". Underneath the title, there is a brief introduction: "The Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) is a mechanism for the exchange of information on Living Modified Organisms under the Protocol. Global access to a variety of scientific information is provided in all 6 of the UN languages." A sub-section titled "BCH account holders can create and manage records in the Record Centre." is also present. On the left side, there is a "Latest news" box containing three news items with dates and titles, followed by a link to "More news...".

Figure 3

The screenshot shows a news article from the "Biosafety Clearing-House News" section. The article is titled "BCH Tutorials are now available on YouTube". It discusses the completion and availability of five BCH Tutorials in English, French, and Spanish. The article includes a link to the YouTube channel and a note that users can also access them directly on the BCH website. The news article is dated February 10, 2010, and was posted by giovanni.ferraiolo@cbd.int. Below the news article, there is another section titled "Second Series of Regional Real-time Online Conferences on Risk Assessment and Risk Management (February 2010)". This section provides details about regional online conferences held in February 2010.

Figure 4

2.3 Latest Additions

The most recent additions to the BCH databases are displayed on this list. The list is updated every six hours and the seven most recent entries show on the Home page. A complete list of BCH additions is available at <https://bch.cbd.int/about/latestadditions.shtml> and can be reached by following the link to

More additions.

The screenshot shows a portion of the BCH Central Portal interface. At the top, there is a green navigation bar with three items: "Registering Information", "Resources", and "Help". Below this, the main content area begins with the word "tal". A text block follows, mentioning the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and its purpose to facilitate information exchange and assist Parties in complying with their obligations. It also refers to technical, environmental, legal, and capacity building information. Below this text, there is a heading "n the BCH by signing in through the [Management](#)". Underneath this heading, there is a section titled "Latest Additions" enclosed in an oval. This section lists several recent additions, each with a date and a link: "2008-1-26 Belarus - National Focal Point...", "2008-1-26 Cape Verde - National Focal Point...", "2008-1-25 Armenia - National Biosafety Website or Database...", "2008-1-25 Scientific Bibliographic Database...", "2008-1-25 Scientific Bibliographic Database...", "2008-1-25 Scientific Bibliographic Database...". At the bottom of this list is another oval containing the link "More additions...".

Figure 5

In many instances the **Search results** pages are longer than a standard computer screen and the user needs to scroll down the page to view all the items and links to additional search result pages where these exist.

Latest Additions

Below you can find the newly added and updated records.

Newly added records - updated each 6 hours

Date	Record ID	Holder and Type	Details
2010-02-09	57396	Capacity Building Opportunity	Agricultural biotechnologies in developing countries (ABDC-10) conference, Guadalajara, Mexico AddPeriod:
2010-02-09	57395	Contact Information	Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN
2010-02-09	57394	Capacity Building Opportunity	Agricultural biotechnologies in developing countries (ABDC-10) conference, Guadalajara, Mexico AddPeriod:
2010-02-09	57393	Contact Information	Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN
2010-02-09	57392	Capacity Building Opportunity	Holistic Foundations for Assessment and Regulation of Genetic Engineering and Genetically Modified Organisms GenØk - Centre for Biosafety AddPeriod:
2010-02-03	57391	Scientific Bibliographic Database	Providing the evidence base for environmental risk assessments of novel farm management practices.
2010-02-03	57390	Scientific Bibliographic Database	Processing of transgenic crop residues in stream ecosystems.
2010-02-03	57389	Scientific Bibliographic Database	Identifying key life-traits for the dynamics and gene flow in a weedy crop relative: sensitivity analysis of the GeneSys simulation model for weed beet (<i>Beta vulgaris</i> ssp. <i>vulgaris</i>).

Figure 6

3 The Navigation Bar

Above the welcome area of the Home page is a **navigation bar** that provides links to the major components of the BCH.



Figure 7

The BCH (Section 3.2) section provides links to information about the BCH, its development and management, highlights and policies.

The Protocol (Section 3.3) section provides links to the text of the Protocol, a list of Parties to the Protocol, COP-MOP Decisions, information about official reports, meetings documents and Notifications.

The Finding Information (Section 3.4) section provides links to search interfaces for the different categories of information in the BCH databases and to compiled information (i.e. National Contacts, the LMOs Registry, the Parental Organisms Registry and the Gene Registry).

The Registering Information (Section 3.5) section links the user to the *sign in* page for the Management Centre through which BCH users can create and manage their information.

The Resources (Section 3.6) section provides access to other useful site resources such as (i) the Common Formats used in the BCH, (ii) the Glossary, (iii) the Thesaurus; (iv) a page describing the solutions for National Participation (Hermes and the BCH Ajax Plug-In), (v) the available Mailing Lists, (vi) a list of downloadable files and (vii) the Site map.

The Help (Section 3.7) section provides access to (i) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), (ii) BCH Training Modules, (iii) Guide to the BCH, (iv) Training Site of the BCH and (v) Interoperability Services.

On the right side of the navigation bar is a search box for locating **country profiles (Section 3.1)**. This provides a quick search function to locate all records for each country listed.

The menus on the BCH Central Portal use icons to illustrate aspects of the associated links. The commonly encountered menu icons include:

- 🌐 Link takes the user to another website
- 📄 Link to a PDF document
- 🔍 Link takes the user to a search facility on another website

Details of more icons used on the BCH Central Portal are provided in the Ready Reference 4 guide available on the Training Site of the BCH.

3.1 Country Profiles

URL: <http://bch.cbd.int/>

All pages of the BCH provide a quick search facility to obtain ***country profiles***. The link is provided on the right-hand side of the navigation bar. The drop down menu allows the user to select a country and display a summary of all the records entered in the BCH by that country.



Figure 8

The country profiles contain information and status for each country as follows: Country; Date of signature; Date of ratification; Date of entry into force; Profile revision; Profile status and Profile last updated on. It lists the type of documents registered (e.g. National Focal Point, Law, regulation or guideline, risk assessment, etc.) with hyperlinks to access those records. The number of records for each type of document is indicated as well as the date of last update.

3.2 The BCH

URL: <http://bch.cbd.int/about/>

The introductory page for the BCH section explains the Mandate of the Biosafety Clearing-House and provides some background information about the development of the site. The information about the BCH is divided into three sections:

1. **The BCH**, setting out its Modalities of Operation, Multi-year Program of Work, Decisions on the BCH, Reports and Reviews, and Development of the BCH;
2. **The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)**, providing information about IAC mandates and meetings and the IAC forum participants.
3. **Highlights**, providing BCH news, Latest Additions, Notifications and Meetings and Documents;
4. **Policies**, providing information about Linking of External Websites Policy, Privacy Policy, Disclaimer, and Copyright.

Figure 9

The content of the BCH section is accessed from the menu on the left side of **The Biosafety Clearing-House** page, or from **The BCH** drop down menu on the navigation bar.



Figure 10

3.2.1 Modalities of operation

The link for **Modalities of Operation** takes the user to a page which provides information about how the BCH functions and the roles of the institutions that participate in its establishment, maintenance and use.

This screenshot shows a detailed view of the BCH website under the 'Modalities of operation' section. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A search bar and a sign-in link are also present. The main content area has a header 'Modalities of operation of the BCH (Annex to BS-I/3)'. Below this, a 'Sections' heading lists nine numbered points from 'Role of the Biosafety Clearing-House' to 'Periodic review'. Under 'A. Role of the Biosafety Clearing-House', there are two main bullet points: 'The role of the Biosafety Clearing-House in the provision and exchange of information in support of implementation of the Protocol' and 'National laws, regulations and guidelines applicable to the import of LMOs intended for direct use as food or feed, or for processing'. The left sidebar contains the same navigation menu as Figure 10, with the 'Modalities of Operation' link being the active one.

Figure 11

3.2.2 Multi-year Program of Work

The link for the **Multi-year Program of Work** takes the user to a page which outlines the establishment and maintenance of the major components of the BCH.

The screenshot shows the main navigation bar at the top with links for Home, English, Français, and Русский. On the right, there are links for Sign Up for an Account and Sign In. Below the navigation is the BCH logo and the Convention on Biological Diversity logo. A banner features a globe and the text 'Country Profiles...'. The main content area has a header 'Multi-year Program of Work (Annex to BS-II/2)'. A sidebar on the left contains links for 'The Biosafety Clearing-House', 'The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)', 'Highlights', and 'Policies'. The 'Multi-year Program of Work' link is highlighted in red. The main content area includes a section titled 'Programme elements' with a numbered list from 1 to 5. Below this is a section titled 'Programme element 1: Structure and function of the central portal' with a detailed objective and a list of possible activities.

Multi-year Program of Work (Annex to BS-II/2)

Programme elements

1. [Programme element 1: Structure and function of the central portal](#)
2. [Programme element 2: Information content and management](#)
3. [Programme element 3: Sharing information on and experience with LMOs](#)
4. [Programme element 4: Capacity-building and non-Internet accessibility](#)
5. [Programme element 5: Review of activities](#)

Programme element 1: Structure and function of the central portal

Objective: Improve ease of reporting and accessing information in the Biosafety Clearing-House in response to identified needs of users.

Possible activities:

- Expand the general user base of the Biosafety Clearing-House by making it more accessible to novice users, for example by making the information more intuitively easy to find (while maintaining as much of the existing structure as is feasible), clustering search results, improving support functions such as an interactive Biosafety Clearing House user guide. Main actor: Secretariat, with input from Governments and relevant organizations. Timeframe: ongoing.
- Ensure that common formats are flexible enough to enable full reporting of information (for example, able to accommodate reporting of data produced prior to entry into force of the Protocol, such as risk assessments conducted outside the annex III format; able to accommodate data reported through product-based regulatory models), while maintaining backwards compatibility with existing information-exchange partners. Main actor: Secretariat, with input

Figure 12

The **Multi-year Program of Work** page provides information about the objectives and possible activities for each program element as decided by COP-MOP.

3.2.3 Decisions on the BCH

The link for **Decisions on the BCH** takes the user to a page which provides links to all BCH decisions taken by COP-MOP as well as at ICCP meetings before the entry into force of the Cartagena Protocol.

The screenshot shows the main navigation bar at the top with links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A banner for the Convention on Biological Diversity is visible. Below the navigation, a sidebar on the left contains links for 'The Biosafety Clearing-House' (Modality of Operation, Multi-year Program of Work, Decisions on the BCH, Reports & Reviews, Development of the BCH), 'The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)' (IAC mandate & meetings, IAC forum participants), 'Highlights' (BCH News, Latest Additions, Notifications, Meetings and Documents), and 'Policies' (Linking External Websites Policy, Privacy Policy, Disclaimer, Copyright). The main content area displays the 'Decisions on the BCH' section, which includes a heading 'Decisions on the BCH', a sub-section 'COP-MOP Meetings', and two detailed paragraphs about COP-MOP decisions. The first paragraph is about the Fourth Meeting of the COP-MOP (12-16 May 2008, Bonn, Germany) and the second is about the Third Meeting of the COP-MOP (13-17 March 2006, Curitiba, Brazil). Both paragraphs include links to full texts of the decisions.

Figure 13

3.2.4 Reports and reviews

This link takes the user to a page in which reports on the activity of the BCH are published. These reports comprise **BCH Log Reports** (number of records and visits per year), **BCH Annual Reports**, and **User surveys, feedback and other publications on the BCH**.

The screenshot shows the main navigation bar at the top with links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A banner for the Convention on Biological Diversity is visible. Below the navigation, a sidebar on the left contains links for 'The Biosafety Clearing-House' (Modality of Operation, Multi-year Program of Work, Decisions on the BCH, Reports & Reviews, Development of the BCH), 'The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)' (IAC mandate & meetings, IAC forum participants), 'Highlights' (BCH News, Latest Additions, Notifications, Meetings and Documents), and 'Policies' (Linking External Websites Policy, Privacy Policy, Disclaimer, Copyright). The main content area displays the 'BCH Reports & Reviews' section, which includes a heading 'BCH Reports & Reviews', a descriptive text about annual reports, and a 'Sections' section with links to 'BCH Log Reports', 'BCH Annual Reports', and 'User survey, feedback and other publication on the BCH'. Below these sections are two line graphs: 'BCH Records per Year' and 'Hits, Pages views & Visitors per Year'. The 'BCH Records per Year' graph shows a steady increase from approximately 10,000 in 2004 to over 15,000 in 2008. The 'Hits, Pages views & Visitors per Year' graph shows total hits increasing from about 1.5 million in 2004 to nearly 4 million in 2008, with page views and visitors following a similar upward trend.

Figure 14

3.2.5 Development of the BCH

The link for **Development of the BCH** takes the user to a page which provides information about stages of development of the BCH from 2003 to the present. For example, the 2009 release of new versions of the BCH Management Centre, Common Formats, and FAQs, as shown in the picture below.

The screenshot shows the 'Development of the Biosafety Clearing-House' page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles. Below the navigation is a sidebar with links for 'The Biosafety Clearing-House' (Modality of Operation, Multi-year Program of Work, Decisions on the BCH, Reports & Reviews, Development of the BCH), 'The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)' (IAC mandate & meetings, IAC forum participants), 'Highlights' (BCH News, Latest Additions, Notifications, Meetings and Documents), and 'Policies' (Linking External Websites Policy, Privacy Policy, Disclaimer, Copyright). The main content area is titled 'Development of the Biosafety Clearing-House' and is divided into sections for '2009' and '2008'. The '2009' section highlights the 'September 2009: Release of new versions of the BCH Management Centre, Common Formats and FAQs.' It mentions a new version of the BCH Management Centre now available in both offline and online formats, along with new Common formats for submission of information and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). The '2008' section highlights the 'September 2008: Update of the BCH help system,' which was extensively updated and made directly accessible via the Help section of the navigation bar. It also notes the translation of the BCH into six UN languages and the creation of a new Help section. A note at the bottom thanks the UNEP-GEF Project for facilitating the use of the BCH.

Figure 15

3.2.6 The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)

In this subsection you will find information on the BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC). This committee provides guidance with respect to resolution of technical issues associated with the ongoing development of the BCH.

3.2.6.1 IAC Mandate & Meetings

The **IAC Mandates & Meetings** link takes the user to the **BCH Informal Advisory Committee** page.

The BCH Informal Advisory Committee provides guidance to the Executive Secretary with respect to resolution of technical issues associated with the ongoing development of the Biosafety Clearing-House. The BCH-IAC page provides information about IAC, the mandate of the IAC, the meeting documents and summaries of the outcomes of each meeting.

The screenshot shows the BCH website's main navigation bar at the top, followed by a banner for the Convention on Biological Diversity. Below is the main content area:

- Left Sidebar:**
 - The Biosafety Clearing-House**
 - Modalities of Operation
 - Multi-year Program of Work
 - Decisions on the BCH
 - Reports & Reviews
 - Development of the BCH
 - The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)**
 - IAC mandate & meetings
 - IAC forum participants
 - Highlights**
 - BCH News
 - Latest Additions
 - Notifications (8)
 - Meetings and Documents (8)
 - Policies**
 - Linking External Websites Policy
 - Privacy Policy
 - Disclaimer
 - Copyright
- Main Content Area:**

The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)

Sections

 - Mandate of the BCH-IAC
 - Meetings of the BCH Informal Advisory Committee
 - Documents about the preparatory work on the IAC

Mandate of the BCH-IAC

In its [Decision B5-1/3](#), the Meeting of the Parties to the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH), Section 5 of the mode informal advisory committee, constituted and coordinated particular focus on providing guidance with respect to the Biosafety Clearing-House."

The BCH-IAC adopted at its first meeting its [Operations](#).

The participants to the 4th IAC meeting, held in Mexico, established a BCH-IAC discussion forum.

 - [Go to the BCH-IAC forum](#)
 - [Go to the list of IAC forum participants](#)

Note: Links to the documents about the preparatory work are also available at the bottom of this page.
- Right Panel (Summary of the Third Meeting):**

CBD

Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr. GENERAL
UNEP/CBD/BG/BCH-IAC/3/3
29 October 2007
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

INFORMAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE BIOSAFETY CLEARING-HOUSE

Third meeting
Mexico, 4-5 October 2007

SUMMARY OUTCOMES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE INFORMAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE BIOSAFETY CLEARING-HOUSE

I. INTRODUCTION

 - The Informal Advisory Committee of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH-IAC) met in Mexico on 4 and 5 October 2007.
 - The meeting was attended by experts selected from Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Colombia, Cuba, European Community, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Slovakia, Switzerland and Uruguay. Representatives of the following organizations also participated in the meeting as observers: the UNEP-GEF Biosafety Project on the Biosafety Clearing-House, the International Council for Oceanic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICOEB), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Third World Network (TWN) and the Global Biodiversity Coalition (GBC).
 - The meeting was convened by the Executive Secretary, in accordance with the modalities of operation of the Biosafety Clearing-House (decision B5-1/3, annex section E), to seek guidance with respect to technical issues associated with the ongoing development of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH).
 - Mr. Diego Steiner Barrios from Uruguay served as Chairperson of the meeting and Ms. Francisca Acevedo from Mexico served as Rapporteur.
 - The meeting adopted the provisional agenda provided in document UNEP-CBD/BG/BCH-IAC/3/1. The following principal issues were discussed by the Committee:
 - Introduction and overview;
 - National implementation, and case-studies of national experiences;
 - Overview of information-sharing partnership arrangements;
 - Progress in the multi-year programme of work;
 - Capacity-building activities;
 - The 2007 review of the Biosafety Clearing-House.
 - The meeting benefited from several presentations designed to assist the participants in their work.

Figure 16

3.2.6.2 IAC Forum Participants

This page displays the current list of participants to the BCH-IAC forum. Note that access to the IAC forum is limited to IAC members only.

The screenshot shows the 'Participants' section of the IAC forum on the Biosafety Clearing-House Central Portal. The page header includes the 'Biosafety Clearing-House' logo, the Convention on Biological Diversity logo, and a search bar. The main content area displays a table of participants with columns for name, email, country, and organization. The table lists 11 participants from various countries and organizations, including Madagascar National Parks, BVL (Federal Office of Consumer Protection & Food Safety), UNEP-GEF, UNEP/SCBD/Biosafety, ICgeb, ANBio / Public Research and Regulation Initiative (PRRI), Universidad Nacional Agraria, La Molina, UNEP/SCBD/Biosafety, Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente (PNUMA), National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center, and France.

Rank	Name	Email	Country	Organization
1.	Ms. Chantal Nicole Andrianarivo	chantandri@gmail.com	Madagascar	Madagascar National Parks
2.	Dr. Joachim Bendiek	405@bvl.bund.de	Germany	Bundesamt für Verbraucherschutz & Lebensmittelsicherheit (BVL) - [Federal Office of Consumer Protection & Food Safety]
3.	Prakash Bista	prakash.bista@unesp.ch	Switzerland	UNEP-GEF
4.	Mr. Andrew Bowers	andrew.bowers@cbd.int	Canada	UNEP/SCBD/Biosafety
5.	Dr Wendy Craig	crain@icgeb.org	Italy	ICgeb
6.	Ph.D. Lúcia de Souza	luciadesouza@pol.br	Switzerland	ANBio / Public Research and Regulation Initiative (PRRI)
7.	Dr. Enrique N. Fernandez-		Peru	Universidad Nacional Agraria, La Molina
8.	Giovanni Ferraiolo	giovanni.ferraiolo@cbd.int		UNEP/SCBD/Biosafety
9.	Tea Garcia-Huidobro	tea.garciahuidobro@onuma.org		Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente (PNUMA)
10.	Ms. Anastasia Idrisova	Alidrisova@biodr.tajikiston.com	Tajikistan	National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center
11.	Mr Peter Kearns	peter.kearns@iceland.is	France	

Figure 17

3.2.7 Highlights

The section of the BCH Central Portal provides links to information that **highlights** the activities of the BCH.

3.2.7.1 BCH News

The **BCH News** link takes the user to the **Biosafety Clearing-House News** page.. It provides updates on changes to the BCH Central Portal. Registered users can register BCH news using the BCH Management Centre mechanisms for registering information, either through the online registration form for BCH News or through the offline Common Format for BCH News.

Below the **Biosafety Clearing-House News** page title, there are two buttons: the orange **RSS - Subscribe to the BCH News** button, and the light blue **Follow Us on Twitter** button. The RSS button provides a news feed URL that can be used to subscribe to BCH News using an RSS reading tool. The Twitter button takes the user to the BCH page on Twitter, where the user can also stay up-to-date with latest news on the BCH.

The screenshot shows the 'Biosafety Clearing-House News' page. The sidebar on the left has a yellow arrow pointing to the 'Highlights' section. The main content area features a news item about the BCH being on Twitter, followed by a 'Users of the Biosafety Clearing-House' section and a Twitter feed for BHCSPB.

Biosafety Clearing-House News

Biosafety Clearing-House - Latest News

Experiences and lessons learned in facilitating the exchange of information and experience with Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) through the Biosafety Protocol News is now available

The Secretariat is pleased to announce the release of Issue 7 of the Biosafety Protocol News. It focuses on experiences and lessons learned in facilitating the exchange of information on, and experience with, Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) through the Biosafety Clearing-house (BCH). The purpose of this issue is to enable governments and other stakeholders to share and benefit from the experiences, good practices and lessons learned from different BCH activities. The issue features articles from Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe and Latin America.

BCH Tutorials are now available on YouTube

As announced on 5 February 2013, the Secretariat has completed and made available for download all five BCH Tutorials in English, French and Spanish (accessible in MS PowerPoint, AVI, WMV and DVD formats).

We are now pleased to further announce that all tutorials can also be watched directly on the BCH YouTube channel at follows:

- BCH Page: <http://bch.cbd.int/bchch/tutorials/>
- YouTube BCH channel: <http://www.youtube.com/user/bchcbs>

We hope that you will continue to find this tool useful and recommend it to all BCH users.

Second Series of Regional Real-Time Online Conferences on Risk Assessment and Risk Management (February 2013)

venues, 03 de Febrero de 2013 16:17

Subscribe a este canal usando Marcadores dinámicos

Subscribe/Follow BCH News

Submit news

The Biosafety Clearing-House is now on Twitter!

The BCH News are now also available on Twitter (at <http://twitter.com/bchcbs>)

posted on 2010-01-18 by giovanni.terraeolo@cbd.int

Users of the Biosafety Clearing-House

of the BCH has been online at <http://bch.cbd.int> to participate in th

twitter

Hey there! BHCSPB is using Twitter.

Twitter is a free service that lets you keep in touch with people through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to one simple question: What's happening? Join today to start receiving BHCSPB's tweets.

Join today!

Already using Twitter? [Check-in](#)

BHCSPB

The Biosafety Clearing-House is now on Twitter! : The BCH News are now also available on Twitter (at <http://twi...> <http://bit.ly/8wkwzY>

Study of Users and Potential Users of the Biosafety Clearing-House

A study of user's and potential users of th... <http://bit.ly/5P7Jng>

Study of Users and Potential Users of the Biosafety Clearing-House

A study of users and potential users of th... <http://bit.ly/5P7Jng>

Base BCH Central Portal

8 5 9

Following Following Interact

Events Events

Favorites Favorites

Following Following

Print view **Print view**

Figure 18

3.2.7.2 BCH Latest Additions

Latest Additions links the user to a page that displays the most recent additions to the databases. The information is updated every six hours.

Selecting a **Record ID** takes the user to the record page.

The screenshot shows the main interface of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) Central Portal. At the top, there are language links (Arabic, Chinese, English, Spanish, French, Russian) and account options (Sign Up for an Account, Sign In). The header includes the BCH logo and the Convention on Biological Diversity logo. Below the header, a navigation bar offers links to Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles. On the left, a sidebar provides links to various sections: The Biosafety Clearing-House (Modality of Operation, Multi-year Program of Work, Decisions on the BCH, Reports & Reviews, Development of the BCH), The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC) (IAC mandate & meetings, IAC forum participants), Highlights (BCH News, Latest Additions, Notifications), and Policies (Linking External Websites Policy, Privacy Policy, Disclaimer, Copyright). The main content area displays the 'Latest Additions' section, listing several records added on February 9, 2010. One specific record is highlighted with a yellow arrow and expanded in a modal window. The modal window title is 'Capacity Building Opportunity'. It contains sections for 'Record information and status' (Record ID: 57396, Status: Published, Date of creation: 2010-02-09 17:21 GMT, Date of last update: 2010-02-09 16:54 GMT, Owner: urika.nissen@cbd.int), 'General description' (Title of capacity-building activity: Agricultural biotechnologies in developing countries (ABDC-10) conference, Guadalajara, Mexico), 'URL' (Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN), 'Lead institution implementing the activity or providing support' (Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) (Record #15814)), and 'Type of organization providing the support' (UN and other specialized agency).

Figure 19

3.2.7.3 Notifications

This link takes the user to the **Cartagena Protocol Notifications** page, which is under the "The Protocol" section of the BCH. See "The Protocol" > "Notifications" (Section 3.3.6).

3.2.7.4 Meetings and Documents

This link takes the user to the **Cartagena Protocol Meetings** page, which is under the "The Protocol" section of the BCH. See "The Protocol" > "Meetings and Documents" (Section 3.3.5).

3.2.8 Policies

The section on **Policies** provides links to information about the linking of external websites to the BCH, the privacy policy of the BCH and a disclaimer.

Figure 20

3.2.8.1 Linking External Websites Policy

The link for **Linking External Websites Policy** takes the user to a page which details how the Secretariat considers and selects sites for inclusion in the BCH Central Portal.

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

The screenshot shows the main navigation bar at the top with links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A green sidebar on the left contains links for The Biosafety Clearing-House, The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC), Highlights, Policies, and other sections like Modality of Operation and Multi-year Program of Work. The main content area displays the 'Linking External Websites Policy' page, which includes a 'Sections' section with links to Executive Summary, Policy Objective, Background, Analysis, Evaluation Criteria, and Selection Process. Below this is the 'Executive Summary' section, which describes how the Secretariat maintains links to biosafety-relevant information from external sites. There is also a link to 'Go to the top of the page'.

Figure 21

3.2.8.2 Privacy Policy

The link to **Privacy Policy** takes the user to a page which details how information submitted to the BCH is handled and how the BCH manages information about visitors to the BCH Central Portal.

The screenshot shows the main navigation bar at the top with links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A green sidebar on the left contains links for The Biosafety Clearing-House, The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC), Highlights, Policies, and other sections like Modality of Operation and Multi-year Program of Work. The main content area displays the 'Privacy Policy for the Biosafety Clearing-House' page, which includes a 'Sections' section with links to Information provided to the BCH and Visitor identification. Below this is the 'Information provided to the BCH' section, which includes a sub-section for Official Information of National Focal Points. It states that National Focal Points and Competent National Authorities agree to make certain information publicly available through the BCH databases (such as name, address, e-mail address and telephone number). This information is provided in accordance with

Figure 22

3.2.8.3 Disclaimer

The link to **Disclaimer** takes the user to a page which notes that while every effort is made to provide accurate information, the accuracy of the information provided through the BCH is not guaranteed. Parties to the Convention, Governments and other users of the database are encouraged to bring errors, inaccuracies and omissions to the attention of the Secretariat.

[Home](#) | [english](#) | [español](#) | [français](#) | [русский](#)

[Mailbox](#) | [My Profile](#) | [Sign Out](#)

Biosafety Clearing-House  Convention on Biological Diversity

[Home](#) | [The BCH](#) | [The Protocol](#) | [Finding Information](#) | [Registering Information](#) | [Resources](#) | [Help](#) | [Country Profiles...](#)

The Biosafety Clearing-House

- [Modalities of Operation](#)
- [Multi-year Program of Work](#)
- [Decisions on the BCH](#)
- [Reports & Reviews](#)
- [Development of the BCH](#)

The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)

- [IAC mandate & meetings](#)
- [IAC forum participants](#)

Highlights

- [BCH News](#)
- [Latest Additions](#)
- [Notifications 93](#)
- [Meetings and Documents 93](#)

Policies

- [Linking External Websites Policy](#)
- [Privacy Policy](#)
- [Disclaimer](#)
- [Copyright](#)

[Contact us](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Linkages Policy](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | © SCBD 2001-2009

Disclaimer

Accuracy of the information

1. While Parties to the Convention, Governments and partner institutions have made every effort to provide accurate information, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity does not guarantee the accuracy of the information provided, and disclaims any responsibility for any inaccuracies of information or for any claim that may arise from the use of the information in the database.
2. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity would like to encourage Parties to the Convention, Governments and any other user of this database to bring, any errors, inaccuracies and omissions detected, to its attention. Any comments regarding the form, content and utility of this database should also be submitted to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Figure 23

3.2.8.4 Copyright

This link takes the user to the **Copyright** page, which contains the copyright statement for the BCH.

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

The screenshot shows the main navigation bar at the top with links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A green sidebar on the left contains links for The Biosafety Clearing-House, Modalities of Operation, Multi-year Program of Work, Decisions on the BCH, Reports & Reviews, Development of the BCH, The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC), IAC mandate & meetings, IAC forum participants, Highlights, BCH News, Latest Additions, Notifications (93), Meetings and Documents (93), Policies, Linking External Websites Policy, Privacy Policy, Disclaimer, and Copyright. At the bottom, there are links for Contact us, Site Map, Linkages Policy, Privacy Policy, and Disclaimer, along with copyright information: © SCBD 2001-2009.

Figure 24

3.3 The Protocol

URL: <http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/>

The **Protocol** link on the navigation bar provides access to information about the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

The screenshot shows the navigation bar with The Protocol selected. The left sidebar has a link for The Cartagena Protocol. The main content area displays the title "A Protocol on Biosafety" and a brief description: "Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity is an international treaty governing the transboundary movement of living modified organisms (LMOs) resulting from modern biotechnology from one country to another. It was adopted on 29 January 2000 as a supplementary agreement to the Convention on Biological Diversity and entered into force on 11 September 2003." Below this is a "Sections" section with links for Introduction, History, The ICCP Process, and Timeline.

Figure 25

The screenshot shows the Biosafety Clearing-House website. At the top, there are language links (Arabic, Chinese, English, Spanish, French, Portuguese) and account options (Sign Up for an Account, Sign In). The main header features the "Biosafety Clearing-House" logo and the "Convention on Biological Diversity" logo with a green leaf icon. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A dropdown menu for "Country Profiles..." is open. On the left, a sidebar for "The Cartagena Protocol" lists: Text of the Protocol, Parties to the Protocol, COP-MOP Decisions, Reporting, Meetings and Documents, and Notifications. The "Text of the Protocol" link is underlined. The main content area is titled "The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety". It contains a brief description of the protocol and its adoption. Below this is a section titled "Sections" with links to Introduction, History, The ICCP Process, and Timeline.

Figure 26

The Protocol page is divided into four sections that provide:

1. A brief introduction to the Protocol;
2. A short history of the development of the Protocol;
3. An explanation of the ICCP process; and
4. A timeline of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

The left-hand menu on The Protocol page provides information in six areas:

1. Text of the Protocol;
2. Parties to the Protocol;
3. COP-MOP decisions;
4. Reporting;
5. Meeting and Documents;
6. Notifications.

3.3.1 Text of the Protocol

The link for **Text of the Protocol** takes the user to a page which provides a link to the **Downloadable files** page where you will find the complete text of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in the six official United Nations languages and in both MS Word and PDF format. Links are also provided to web pages reporting the text of each article of the Protocol.

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

The screenshot shows the BCH Central Portal interface. The top navigation bar includes links for different languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, Spanish, French, Portuguese) and user options (Logout, My Profile, Sign Out). The main header features the 'Biosafety Clearing-House' logo and the 'Convention on Biological Diversity' logo. Below the header, a green banner displays various environmental icons. The main content area is titled 'Text of the Protocol' and contains a list of articles from 1 to 19. A specific link to 'Article 1. Objective' is highlighted. The right sidebar provides links to 'Country Profiles', 'Index', and other protocol-related sections. The bottom of the page includes standard footer links like 'Contact us | Site Map | Linkages Policy | Privacy Policy | Disclaimer | © 2000-2009 UNEP' and the UNEP logo.

Figure 27

3.3.2 Parties to the Protocol

The link for **Parties to the Protocol** takes the user to a page which provides a summary of the *status of ratification* and *entry into force* for each Party of the Protocol. The table lists countries that have signed, ratified, accepted, approved or acceded to the Protocol and the date at which the Protocol entered into force in each country. Each country name provides a link to the **Country Profile** which provides summary information about all records registered in the BCH by that country.

The screenshot shows two main pages from the Biosafety Clearing-House website:

- Left Panel (Parties to the Protocol):**
 - Header: Biosafety Clearing-House, Convention on Biological Diversity.
 - Menu: Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Ratifying Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, Country Profiles.
 - Section: The Cartagena Protocol, Test of the Protocol, Parties to the Protocol, COP-MOP Decisions, Reporting, Meetings and Documents, Notifications.
 - Section: Status of Ratification and Entry into Force. Text: The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity was adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on 29 January 2000. In accordance with Article 36, the Protocol was opened for signature at the United Nations Office at Nairobi by States and regional economic integration organizations from 18 to 26 May 2000, and remained open for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 June 2000 to 4 June 2001. By that date the Protocol had received 133 signatures. The Protocol entered into force on 11 September 2003, ninety days after receipt of the fifth instrument of ratification (Article 37).
 - Table: Shows the status of ratification and entry into force for various countries. One row for Algeria is highlighted.
- Right Panel (Country Profile for Algeria):**
 - Header: Home | The Cartagena Protocol | Parties to the Protocol | Country Profile.
 - Section: Country Profile for Algeria.
 - Table: Profile information and status. Rows include: Country (Algeria), Date of signature (2000-05-25), Date of ratification (2004-08-05), Date of entry into force (2004-11-03), Profile revision, Profile status (Published), and Profile last updated on (2008-01-25 15:16 UTC).
 - Table: Type of document. Rows include: Biosafety Expert, Capacity Building Project, Competent National Authority, Country Needs and Priorities, Country's Decision or any other Communication, and Law, Regulation or Guideline (one record).

Figure 28

3.3.3 COP-MOP Decisions

The link for **COP-MOP Decisions** takes the user to a page with a search interface for finding all decisions taken at all COP-MOP meetings as well as the entire list of decisions divided into sections that correspond to the different COP-MOP meetings.

The screenshot shows the COP-MOP Decisions page and a detailed view of a decision:

- Search Decisions:**
 - Subject: <All>
 - Meeting: <All>
 - Keywords: [Search]
- Decision 1 to 20 of 65:**
 - Decision 1:** BS-IV/1 Report of the Compliance Committee. A yellow arrow points to this item.
 - Decision 2:** Operation and activities of the Biosafety Clearing-House.
 - Decision 3:** Capacity-building.
 - Decision 4:** Roster of biosafety experts.
- Detailed View (BS-IV/1):**
 - Header: Home | The Cartagena Protocol | COP-MOP Decisions | Decision | BS-IV/1.
 - Section: Fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP 4).
 - Section: BS-IV/1. Report of the Compliance Committee.
 - Text: The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, taking note of the report of the Compliance Committee, including its recommendations (UNEP/CBD/BIS/COP-MOP/4/2), taking note also of the information compiled by the Compliance Committee on experience of other multilateral environmental agreements in addressing cases of repeated non-compliance (UNEP/CBD/BIS/COP-MOP/4/2/Add.1), recognizing the need for improved intersectoral coordination among members of each regional group to replace, expeditiously, Compliance Committee members who resign or are unable to complete their term, recognizing also the absence of any submissions relating to compliance to the Compliance Committee to date,
 - List: 1. Reinforce each Party's obligation to adopt appropriate domestic measures addressing illegal transboundary movements of living modified organisms and to report the occurrence of such movements to the Biosafety Clearing-House. 2. Call upon each regional group to consider and apply mechanisms:
 - Sub-list: (a) To ensure that nominees to the Compliance Committee are willing and able to attend and fully participate in

Figure 29

The search criteria include biosafety-related subjects; a choice of COP-MOP meeting; keywords or words in the title.

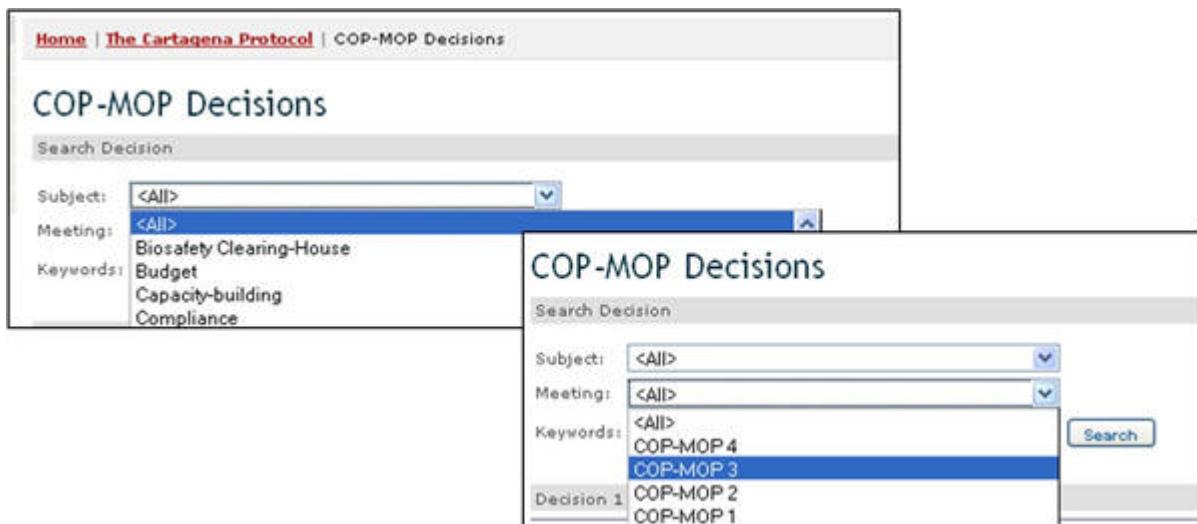


Figure 30

3.3.4 Reporting

The **Reporting** link takes users to a page that provides links to

1. National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.
2. Reports on Activities of the Secretariat on the Implementation of the Work Programme of the Convention and its Protocol.
3. Roster of Experts Annual Reports.

The screenshot shows the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) website. At the top, there are language links (español, français, português) and a navigation bar with links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles. On the left, a sidebar for 'The Cartagena Protocol' includes links for Text of the Protocol, Parties to the Protocol, COP-MOP Decisions, Reporting, Meetings and Documents, and Publications. The main content area is titled 'Reporting' and contains a 'Sections' heading with a list of reports. Below this is a section titled 'National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety' with a detailed description of reporting requirements. A note about the 'First National Report (2007)' is present, along with a link to its template.

- [National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety](#)
 - [First National Report \(2007\)](#)
 - [Interim National Report \(2005\)](#)
- [Reports on Activities of the Secretariat on the Implementation of the Work Programmes of the Convention and its Protocol](#)
- [Roster of Experts Annual Reports](#)

National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Each Party is required, in accordance with Article 13 of the Protocol, to monitor the implementation of its obligations under the Protocol and to report to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP) on measures taken to implement the Protocol. Paragraph 5 of Decision 8/1/9 requests Parties to submit their National Reports every 4 years and also to submit an interim report two years after the entry into force of the Protocol. The reports will be considered by the Parties at the meetings of the COP-MOP and therefore they should be submitted 12 months in advance of the meetings. Decision 8/1/9 also requests that the reports be submitted (in both hard copy and electronic format) in one of the official languages of the United Nations.

First National Report (2007):

In its [Decision 8/1/14](#), the COP-MOP approved a format for the first regular national report on implementation of the Protocol which is set out in its Annex. The deadline for submission of the first regular national reports was 31 September 2007.

* The template for the first regular national report is available in [English](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [French](#), [Russian](#) and

Figure 31

3.3.4.1 National Reports

In the **National Reports** section of the **Reporting** page, national reports on the implementation of the Protocol can be accessed by selecting a country from the drop down menu in the text.

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

The screenshot shows the 'Reporting' section of the 'The Cartagena Protocol' page. The left sidebar lists various protocol-related links. The main content area has a heading 'Reporting' and a 'Sections' section containing links to National Reports and other documents. A large orange circle highlights the heading 'National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety'. Below this, text explains the reporting requirements under Article 33 of the Protocol. Another orange circle highlights a dropdown menu where 'France' is selected. Below the dropdown, there are language and document format selection buttons.

National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Each Party is required, in accordance with [Article 33 of the Protocol](#), to monitor the implementation of its obligations under the Protocol and to report to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP) on measures taken to implement the Protocol. Paragraph 5 of Decision BS-1/9 requests Parties to submit their National Reports every 4 years and also to submit an interim report two years after the entry into force of the Protocol. The reports will be considered by the Parties at the meetings of the COP-MOP and therefore they should be submitted 12 months in advance of the meetings. Decision BS-1/9 also requests that the reports be submitted (in both hard copy and electronic format) in one of the official languages of the United Nations.

First National Report (2007):

In its [Decision BS-III/14](#), the COP-MOP approved a format for the first regular national report on implementation of the Protocol which is set out in its Annex. The deadline for submission of the first regular national reports was 11 September 2007.

- The [template](#) for the first regular national report is available in [English](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [French](#), [Russian](#) and [Spanish](#).
- A [first analysis](#) of the information contained in the first national reports and a summary of the responses were made available to Parties in documents [UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/4/13](#) and [UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/4/INF/11](#).
- A [revised analysis](#) (requested by [decision BS-IV/14](#)) is available in document [UNEP/CBD/BS/CC/5/2](#) and refers to information contained in the first national reports received by the Secretariat prior to 18 August 2008.
- To [compare national reports](#) you may use the [Analyzer of First Regular National Reports](#) on Implementation of the Protocol.
- To [download national reports](#), please select the country of interest in the menu below (a link to the documents will appear after the selection)

Language Available document formats

French

[Go to the top of the page](#)

Interim National Report (2005):

In its [Decision BS-1/9](#), the COP-MOP approved a format for the interim national report on implementation of the Protocol which is set out in its Annex. The deadline for submission of the interim national reports was 11 September 2005.

- An [analysis of the information](#) contained in the interim national reports and a [summary of the responses](#) were made available to Parties in documents [UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/3/12](#) and [UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/3/INF/8](#).
- To [compare national reports](#) you may use the [Analyzer of the Interim National Reports](#) on Implementation of the Protocol.
- To [download national reports](#), please select the country of interest in the menu below (a link to the documents will appear after the selection)

Language Available document formats

English

Figure 32

This section also provides links to the National Reports Analyzer. This is an electronic facility which is intended to assist users to aggregate and analyse data according to selected Parties, geographic areas, economic groups and other criteria.

The figure consists of two side-by-side screenshots of a web page from the Convention on Biological Diversity's website. Both screenshots have a yellow arrow pointing to the top left corner of the main content area.

First report: This screenshot shows the 'National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety' section. It includes a 'Report Selection' form where 'Country' is selected. A note at the bottom states: 'This analysis tool generates only qualitative data for reports submitted in Arabic or not in Word format. These reports remain available at www.cbd.int/reports/first.html'. Below the form is a 'Show Help' button.

Interim report: This screenshot shows the same section for the 'Interim National Report (2005)'. It includes a similar 'Report Selection' form where 'Country' is selected. A note at the bottom states: 'A comparison of more recent national reports is also available through this analyzer. Please follow this link to access the Analyzer of First Regular National Reports on Implementation of the Protocol (2007).'. Below the form is a 'Show Help' button.

Figure 33

On the Analyzer, the user can refine the search using known words in the questions or selecting the matrix languages used for the analyses. Selecting the **Go** button calls up the search results. These are tabled below the search facility.

This screenshot shows a 'Report Selection' dialog box. At the top, it says 'Analyze by' with 'Country' selected (indicated by a radio button). Below this is a list of countries: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium. To the left of the list, there is a note: 'Please use <Ctrl+Click> to select multiple items in the list'. On the right, there is a 'Search for' input field containing 'in the questions', a 'Matrix language' dropdown set to 'English', and a checkbox 'Only show the report matrix' followed by a 'Go' button.

Figure 34

Report Selection

Analyze by Country Country Group (eg. Africa)

66 Countries
Please use <Ctrl+Click>
to select multiple items
in the list

Armenia
 Australia
 Austria
 Barbados
 Belgium

Search for in the questions

Matrix language Only show the report matrix

Figure 35

3.3.4.2 Reports on Activities of the Secretariat

The **Reports on Activities of the Secretariat** cover the activities carried out by the SCBD for the implementation of the work Programme of the Convention and its Protocol and are provided by the Secretariat at the end of each calendar year. These reports can be accessed by selecting the year of interest in the search box. Selecting a year from the dropdown list allows the user to download the full Report in PDF format.

Reports on Activities of the Secretariat on the Implementation of the Work Programme of the Convention and its Protocol

Periodic reports are prepared by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on the execution of its mandate.

Search the reports on CBD activities:

[Go to the top of the page](#)

Roster of Experts Annual Report

Annual reviews of the operation of the Secretariat at the end of each calendar year:

- July to September: April to June 2008
- January to March: October to December 2008
- July to September: April to June 2007
- January to March: October to December 2007
- July to September: April to June 2006
- January to March: October to December 2006
- July to September: April to June 2005
- January to March: October to December 2005
- July to September: April to June 2004
- January to March: October to December 2004
- July to September: April to June 2003
- January to March: October to December 2003
- July to September: April to June 2002
- January to March: October to December 2002
- July to September: April to June 2001
- January to March: October to December 2001
- July to September: April to June 2000
- January to March: October to December 2000

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Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity 
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
BIODIVERSITY AND AGRICULTURE

22 May 2008

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIAT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND ITS CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report provides a summary of the main activities undertaken by the Secretariat from January to December 2008 in the implementation of the work programme of the Convention.

2. During the reporting period, the Secretariat organized a total of 67 meetings (see annex I). A total of 338 pre-session and information documents were prepared, amounting to 6,580 pages. The Secretariat serviced six major inter-sessional meetings, under the Convention and its Protocol, which gathered 7,448 participants, with 484 delegations sponsored under the Convention, including representatives from the indigenous and local communities. These meetings include:

- The sixth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-Sharing, held in Geneva;
- The second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working on Protected Areas, back-to-back with the thirteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice held in Rome;
- The fifth meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group of Legal and Technical Experts on Liability and Redress in the context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, which took place in Cartagena, Colombia;
- The fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, held in Bonn back-to-back with the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

3. In addition to its daily meetings during relevant meetings, five meetings of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties were convened. They took place on 20 January in Geneva, 10 February in Rome, 18 May in Bonn, 4-5 October in Barcelona, and 26-27 November in Berlin. Moreover, the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety held four meetings, and the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) held three formal meetings. For the first time, a joint meeting of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties and the SBSTTA Bureau was also held.

Figure 36

3.3.4.3 Roster of Experts Annual Reports

The **Roster of Experts Annual Reports** are provided each calendar year by the Secretariat and report on

the operation of the Roster of Experts as well as the voluntary fund for the use of the roster.

Roster of Experts Annual Reports

Annual reviews of the operation of the Roster of Experts and the voluntary fund for the use of the roster are provided by the Secretariat at the end of each calendar year in accordance with [Decision BS-1/4](#) of the COP-MOP.

Search the reports on the operation of the Roster of Experts:

[Go to the top of the page](#)

Linkages Policy | Privacy Policy | Disclaimer | © SCBD 2001-2009

<Select reporting period>

<Select reporting period>

Year 2008

Year 2007
Year 2006
Year 2005
Year 2004
Year 2003
Year 2002

Report on the Roster of Experts on Biosafety for Year 2008

In accordance with decision BS-1/4 of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the following is the annual summary report on the status and use of the roster of experts on biosafety for the year 2008. A brief report on the pilot phase of the voluntary fund for the use of the roster is also presented below. This report was included in the fourth quarter report of the Secretariat.

Status of the Roster

At the end of 2008, the roster contained 639 experts nominated by a total of 77 Parties and other governments. The regional breakdown is as follows:

Region	No. Government making nominations	No. of experts nominated	Percentage of total number of nominations
Africa	21	205	32%
Asia and the Pacific	19	139	22%

Figure 37

By using the drop down menu available in this section, it is possible to select the year of interest and access to the copy of the report for that year (in PDF format) .

3.3.5 Cartagena Protocol Meetings and Documents

The link to **Meetings and Documents** takes the user to a page that provides a search facility to locate meetings related to specific aspects of the CBD.

Below this search facility you will find the entire list of COP-MOP meetings divided into two sections: Upcoming meetings, where the user can find the details of upcoming meetings such as date, place, etc, and Previous meetings, in which can be found the list of all past meetings.

Home | 中文 | english | español | français | pyccofia

Biosafety Cleaning House Convention on Biological Diversity

Home | The BCH | The Protocol | Finding Information | Registering Information | Resources | Help | Country Profiles...

The Cartagena Protocol

- Text of the Protocol
- Parties to the Protocol
- COP-MOP Decisions
- Reporting
- Meetings and Documents
- Notifications

Cartagena Protocol Meetings

Search meetings

Country: <All> Year: <All>

Keywords:

Meetings 1 to 20 of 113. < Previous | 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Next >

Upcoming Meetings

Dates and Venue	Meeting
2010	
February 2010	
1 - 3 February 2010 Siem Reap, Cambodia Confirmed	Sixth Coordination Meeting for Governments and Organizations Implementing or Funding Biosafety Capacity-building Activities (BSMCB-06) + Documents (8)
2 February 2010 Online Confirmed	Second Series of Regional Real-time Online Conferences on Risk Assessment and Risk Management: Africa (BSCONF-RARM-02-AF) + Documents (2)
4 February 2010 Online Confirmed	Second Series of Regional Real-time Online Conferences on Risk Assessment and Risk Management: Asia and the Pacific (BSCONF-RARM-02-AS) + Documents (2)
4 - 5 February 2010	Seventh Meeting of the Liaison Group on Capacity-building for Biosafety (BSLGB-07)

Figure 38

By clicking on the **Documents** link, the user enters a page that displays all available documents related to that meeting.

3.3.6 Cartagena Protocol Notifications

The **Notifications** link takes the user to a page with a search interface that can be used to find notifications issued by the CBD Secretariat. To search Notifications filed under the Protocol, insert a keyword in the **Keyword Box** and / or use **Year** dropdown list. Click the **Search** button to obtain the search results.

Below the search facility you will find a list containing all Notifications ordered by date. If you leave both fields empty, all notifications will be displayed.

The screenshot shows the Biosafety Cleaning-House website interface. At the top, there are language links (Arabic, Chinese, English, Spanish, French, Russian) and navigation links (Mailbox, My Profile, Sign Out). The header features the "Biosafety Cleaning-House" logo and the Convention on Biological Diversity logo. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles.... A dropdown menu for "The Cartagena Protocol" is open, showing options like Text of the Protocol, Parties to the Protocol, COP-MOP Decisions, Reporting, Meetings and Documents, and Notifications. On the right side of the header, there is a large image of a hand holding a globe. The main content area is titled "Cartagena Protocol Notifications". It includes a search bar with "Keywords:" and a dropdown for "Notifications 1 to 10 of 240". A yellow arrow points from the left sidebar towards this search area. Below the search bar, there is a list of notifications, each with a date (e.g., 2010-01-22), a subject (e.g., SCBD/BCH/2010/001), and a status (e.g., Reminded). The right side of the notification list shows a detailed view of one notification, which includes the date (4 February 2010), reference number (Ref: SCBD/BCH/GF/Altw/70446), and a letter of endorsement. The letter discusses the UNEP-GEF Project "BCH II: Continued enhancement of building capacity for effective participation in the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH)". It mentions the Conference of the Parties' decision to invite eligible countries to participate in the project and the need for endorsement through a letter of endorsement. The letter also states that the GEF Operational Focal Point's list of national GEF focal points is available at <http://www.unbch.org/documents/gcf-gef2.pdf>. The letter concludes with thanks for support and cooperation.

Figure 39

3.4 How to Find Information

URL: <http://bch.cbd.int/database/>

The links to categories of information in the databases of the BCH Central Portal are provided in the **Finding Information** drop down menu on the navigation bar.

The screenshot shows the main navigation bar with 'Home', 'The BCH', 'The Protocol', 'Finding Information' (which is circled in red), 'Registering Information', 'Resources', and 'Help'. A dropdown menu for 'Country Profiles...' is open. Below the navigation, there's a 'Welcome to the BCH' section with a brief introduction and a link to the 'Management Centre'. There's also a 'BCH account holders can create' section and a 'Latest news' area with several news items. On the right side, there are several promotional boxes: 'Forum on the Strategic Plan and the Assessment and Review', 'BCH Tutorials on Registering Information', 'English, Spanish and now French versions available', and 'Open-ended Online Expert Forum on ...'.

Figure 40

Each category listed on this page links to a search page that is designed to easily find specific information. From each search page it is also possible to browse all records in any of the categories by using a **Browse all records** button.

The screenshot shows the 'Finding Information' search results. The left sidebar has a tree structure with 'Finding Information' expanded, showing 'National Contacts', 'Laws and Regulations', 'Country's Decisions and other Communications', 'LMOs, Genes or Organisms', 'Roster of Experts', 'Capacity-Building', 'Biosafety Information Resource Centre (BIRC)', 'Scientific Bibliographic Database', and 'Organizations'. Below this is a 'Compiled Information' section with 'National Contacts', 'LMO Registry', 'Organism Registry', and 'Gene Registry'. At the bottom of the sidebar is a 'Go to record ID' input field and a 'Go' button. The main content area has a 'Home | Finding Information' header and two main sections: 'National Records' and 'Reference Records'. 'National Records' contains 'National Contacts' (with a link to 'National Focal Points'), 'Laws and Regulations' (with a link to 'National Laws, Regulations and Guidelines'), 'Country's Decisions and other Communications' (with a link to 'Decisions on LMOs under Advance Informed Agreement'), and 'Roster of Experts' (with a link to a database). 'Reference Records' contains 'LMOs, Genes or Organisms' (with a link to 'LMO-UID Registry'), 'Capacity-Building' (with a link to 'Capacity-Building Projects'), 'Directory of International Organizations involved in Biosafety Activities' (with a link to 'International organisations involved in biosafety activities'), and 'Biosafety Information Resource Centre' (with a link to 'Biosafety-related publications and information resources').

Figure 41

The types of data stored in the BCH databases and instructions for finding information in the BCH are explained in Module M004 ('**Finding information in the BCH Central Portal**' in the on-line documentation).

3.5 How to Register Information

URL: <https://bch.cbd.int/member/signin.shtml?returnurl=%2fmanagementcentre%2fdefault.shtml>

The BCH Management Center provides a web-based mechanism to register, update, delete or correct information in the BCH databases. Registration of information through the Management Center is restricted to BCH National Focal Points for information related to national implementation of the Protocol as follows:

- Biosafety Experts
- Competent National Authorities
- Country Needs and Priorities
- Decisions on LMO for FFP under Article 11
- Decisions on LMO under Advance Informed Agreement
- Laws
- National Biosafety Websites or Databases
- Other Decisions or Declarations
- Regional or International Agreement
- Regulations or Guidelines
- Reports on Biosafety Expert Assignment
- National Risk Assessment reports

The Management Centre is available to all registered users for the other categories of information in the BCH (pending validation by the SCBD) as follows:

- Biosafety Courses
- Capacity Building Projects & Opportunities
- Biosafety International Organizations
- BCH News items
- Contact Information
- General Risk Assessment reports
- LMO / Gene / Parent or Donor Organism *Registries* items
- Biosafety Information Resource Centre (BIRC) items

The Secretariat reserves the right to review and verify, prior to publication, all information submitted by BCH registered users. Contributions to the Scientific Bibliographic Biosafety Database are subject to validation by the International Centre of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)

Detailed instructions on using the Management Centre are provided in **Module M006 ('Registering Information in the BCH Central Portal' in the on-line documentation)**.

Sign In to the Biosafety Clearing-House

Most of the Biosafety Clearing-House pages are in public domain. However to register, update, delete or correct information, users must be registered and login with their ID and password.

Access to special areas, such as collaborative portals or dedicated forums, may also be subject to registration and users' roles.

If you have a BCH account, please sign in now:

Registered email address Remember me

Password

Sign Up for a BCH Account
If you don't have an account and wish to register please request a user account.

Forgot your password?
If you have an account, but have forgotten your password, ask to have a new password sent to your official e-mail address.

Important Remarks

Any information submitted through the Management Centre should NOT include any confidential nor sensitive items as the objective is to make it publicly available on the Biosafety Clearing-House.

Before your submission is made publicly available, it must be validated by the BCH national focal point or the Secretariat. You will be sent an email confirming when the information has been uploaded to the database. Should you notice any significant difference between your submission and the information made available on the web site, please contact the Secretariat immediately by email to bch@cbd.int.

If you require additional assistance, please contact the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity at the following address: bch@cbd.int

Figure 42

3.6 Resources

URL: <http://bch.cbd.int/resources/>

The **Resources** page of the BCH Central Portal contains sections which are meant either to help the user to interact with the Central Portal or to provide more general biosafety-related information. They are as follows:

1. Common formats;
2. Glossary;
3. Thesaurus;
4. Mailing lists;
5. Solutions for National Participation;
6. Downloadable files;
7. Online Conferences; and
8. Site Map.

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

The screenshot shows the main interface of the BCH Central Portal. At the top, there are language links for العربية, 中文, English, español, français, and русский. On the right, there are links for 'Sign Up for an Account' and 'Sign In'. The header features the 'Biosafety Cleaning-House' logo and the 'Convention on Biological Diversity' logo. Below the header, a banner image shows a hand holding a globe with a green overlay. A navigation bar at the top includes links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A sidebar on the left contains sections for 'Latest news' and 'Latest Additions', each listing several recent entries with hyperlinks. The main content area has a large 'Welcome to the BCH Central Portal' heading and a paragraph about the BCH's mission. To the right of the main content, there are several boxes: 'BCH User Survey' (with a survey link), 'BCH Tutorial on Registering Information' (with English and Spanish versions available), 'Open-ended Online Expert Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management', and 'NEW RELEASES' (Management Centre, Common Formats, FAQs). A 'Resources' sidebar on the far left lists various tools and services.

Figure 43

This screenshot shows the 'Resources' section of the BCH Central Portal. The left sidebar is titled 'Resources' and includes links for Common Formats, Solutions for National Participation, Training Site of the BCH, Glossary, Thesaurus, Site Map, Downloadable Files, Online forums and portals, Interoperability Services, and Mailing Lists. The main content area has a 'Home | Resources' header. It features a section titled 'BCH Resources' with a 'Common Formats' sub-section. This sub-section explains that common formats standardize information for easier search and access. It links to 'Hermes and the BCH Ajax Plug-In' and 'Enter the training site...'. Another section, 'Downloadable files', provides links to various documents. The 'Online events' section discusses the sharing of information and experience with LMOs. The 'Interoperability Services Documentation' section provides technical information on BCH interoperability services.

Figure 44

3.6.1 Common Formats

Common formats are provided to standardize the structure and organization of the information in the BCH databases. Use of these formats improves the efficiency of the BCH Central Portal and ensures easy and

predictable access to information.

The common formats are the basis of the online entry forms in the Management Centre.

National Records:

- 1. **National Focal Point** - Common format for registering a National Focal Point (Article 17, 19 and/or 80-1/01). Latest edition: 28 July 2009.
- 2. **National Website or Database** - Common format for registering a National Biosafety Website or Database. Latest edition: 2 September 2009.
- 3. **Competent National Authority** - Common format for registering a Competent National Authority. Latest edition: 3 September 2009.
- 4. **Laws and Regulations** - Common format for registering any existing National Law, Regulation or International Agreement or Arrangement for implementation. Latest edition: 26 October 2009.
- 5. **Country's Decisions on other Communications** - Common format for registering a Country's Decisions on other Communications (Articles 1-120 as set out in 2005 for finalised or pending decision or communication (including Risk Assessments)). Latest edition: 2 September 2009.
- 6. **Risk Assessments** - Common format for registering Risk Assessments generated by S, 11 and 120. Latest edition: 2 September 2009.
- 7. **Biosafety Expert** - Common format for registering a Biosafety Expert with IBA-Code. Latest edition: 24 February 2009.
- 8. **Report on Biosafety Expert Assessment** - Common format for Registering a Risk Assessment. Latest edition: 21 September 2009.

Reference records:

- 1. **Contact Details Reference** - Common format for providing Contact Details for an entity or organization, for reference when creating other records. Latest edition: 14 February 2009.
- 2. **Capacity-Building Opportunity** - Common format for registering a Capacity-Building Opportunity with the Capacity-Building Address database. Latest edition: 23 February 2009.
- 3. **Capacity-Building Project** - Common format for registering a Capacity-Building Project with the Capacity-Building databases. Latest edition: 23 February 2009.
- 4. **Academically Accredited Biosafety Course** - Common format for a Biosafety Course for inclusion in the Compendium of Academically Accredited Biosafety Courses. Latest edition: 29 January 2009.
- 5. **AWW Biosafety Organization** - Common format for a Biosafety Organization for inclusion in the Directory of Biosafety Organizations. Latest edition: 6 October 2009.
- 6. **AWW Biosafety Information Resource** - Common format for a Biosafety Information Resource for inclusion in the Biosafety Information Resource Centre (BIRC). Latest edition: 6 July 2009.
- 7. **AWW BCH News** - Common format for submitting news to the BCH. Latest edition: 2 September 2009.
- 8. **AWW Independent Risk Assessments** - Common format for Risk Assessments generated by an independent or non-regulatory process. Latest edition: 2 September 2009.
- 9. **AWW LMO - Unique Identification** - Common format for registering a Living Modified Organism, including its unique Identifier Code. Latest edition: 6 July 2009.
- 10. **AWW Inserted Gene** - Common format for registering an inserted gene. Latest edition: 6 July 2009.
- 11. **AWW Organism (Non-modified)** - Common format for registering a parental, recipient or donor Organism. Latest edition: 6 July 2009.

Figure 45

The **Common formats** page provides links to MS Word and PDF files of the common formats for the following categories of information:

1. Core forms
 - Contact Details Reference
 - Organism (Non-modified)
 - Inserted Gene
2. National Contacts
 - National Focal Point
 - Competent National Authority
 - National Database or Website
3. Laws and Regulations
 - National Law, Regulation or Guideline
 - Bilateral, Regional or International Agreement or Arrangement
4. Decisions and Declarations
 - Decision on LMO under Advance Informed Agreement
 - Decision on LMO FFP under Article 11
 - Other Decision, Declaration or Notification

5. Risk Assessments
 - Risk Assessment
6. Modified Organisms
 - LMO - Unique Identification
7. Capacity-Building Activities
 - Capacity-Building Needs and Priorities
 - Capacity-Building Opportunity
 - Capacity-Building Project
 - Academically-Accredited Biosafety Course
8. Roster of Experts
 - Biosafety Expert
 - Report on Biosafety Expert Assignment
9. Information-Sharing and Other Resources
 - Biosafety Information Resource
 - Biosafety Organization
 - Socioeconomic Consideration

3.6.2 Glossary

The **Glossary** links take the user to a page which provides a list of definitions of common terms, acronyms and expressions used throughout the BCH Central Portal.

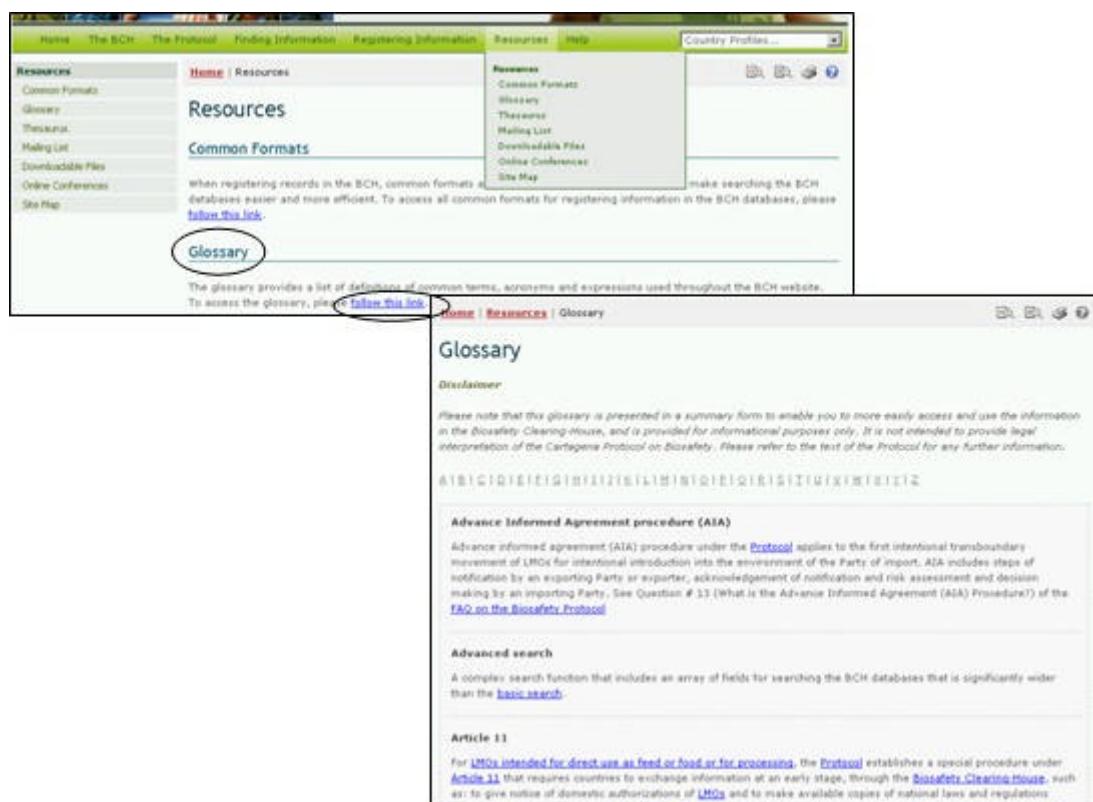


Figure 46

At the top of the **Glossary** page an alphabetical bar linking to sections in the Glossary is provided and

descriptions of all of the Glossary terms and their use are listed in alphabetical order.

3.6.3 Thesaurus

The Thesaurus provides a list of pre-defined terms and related synonyms, or ‘controlled vocabularies’, used in a specific context. These terms are used to register and search for information in the BCH databases.

By following the link in the **Resources** page, the user accesses the **The BCH Thesaurus** page, which provides on its top a *search interface* and below it a *list of term domains* in alphabetical order.



Figure 47

This screenshot shows the 'Search Thesaurus' results for the term 'Transboundary'. A large yellow arrow points from the left sidebar to the search results table. The search results table has columns for 'Term ID', 'Term', and 'Domain'. It lists three entries: '4256 Article 17.1 notification - Unintentional transboundary movement' (Decision Types / Subject Areas / Regulatory Functions), '4252 Transboundary movement (import/export)' (Thematic biosafety issues), and '4732 Transboundary movement (import/export) Article 25.3 notification - 19 legal M. Measures to address unauthorised modified organisms' (Thematic biosafety issues). Below the table is a 'Term description' section for 'Transboundary movement (import/export)'. It includes sections for 'Description', 'Immediate broader terms', 'Immediate narrower terms', 'Preferred use terms', 'Translations' (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish, Russian), and 'Related terms' and 'Use for'.

Term ID	Term	Domain
4256	Article 17.1 notification - Unintentional transboundary movement	Decision Types Subject Areas / Regulatory Functions
4252	Transboundary movement (import/export)	Thematic biosafety issues
4732	Transboundary movement (import/export) Article 25.3 notification - 19 legal M. Measures to address unauthorised modified organisms	Thematic biosafety issues

Figure 48

The **The BCH Thesaurus** interface provides a drop down menu for selection of domains within the Thesaurus and a box for use of keywords or terms in the search. The user enters the domain and/or keyword(s) of interest and selects the **Search** button.

In the results list, a term is selected from the **Term ID** column for more information about its use in the BCH Central Portal. This takes the user to the **Term description** record, which provides detail on the meaning of the term and how it is used in the BCH Central Portal, including broader, narrower and preferred uses of the term and translations into the six official UN languages.

Example: If a user wishes to understand the use of the term “transboundary” in activities related to the Protocol, the user enters the search terms “All” in the **Filter by domain** box and “transboundary” in the **Search for** box on the **The BCH Thesaurus** page. Selecting the **Search** button will provide a list of records describing how the term “transboundary” is used in various domains within the BCH Central Portal. The search results (in January 2008) identified five uses of the term in four domains within the BCH.

The screenshot shows two main windows. The left window is titled 'Search Thesaurus' and displays a table of search results. The right window is titled 'Term description' for the term 'Transboundary movement (import/export)'.

Search Thesaurus Results:

Term ID	Term	Domain
4256	Article 17.1 notification - Unintentional transboundary movement	Decision Types
4232	Transboundary movement (import/export)	
4286	Transboundary movement (import/export)	
4593	Article 25.3 notification - Illegal transboundary	
4232	H. Measures to address unintentional and/or illegal living modified organisms	

Term description (Right Window):

Description: Transboundary movement (import/export)

Immediate broader terms: Administrative framework

Immediate narrower terms:

Preferred use term:

This term is broader than the following: General biosafety - Administrative framework

This term is narrower than the following:

Translations:

- Arabic: تبادل عابر للحدود / تبادل غير مقصود
- Chinese: 跨境贸易 (进口/出口)
- English: Transboundary movement (import/export)
- French: Movements transfrontières (import/export)
- Spanish: Movimiento transfronterizo (importación/exportación)
- Russian: Транзитные международные (импорт/экспорт)

Figure 49

The *list of term domains* provides access to an alphabetical list of terms used in each domain. A key is provided to indicate which terms are ‘preferred’, non-preferred’ or ‘related’.

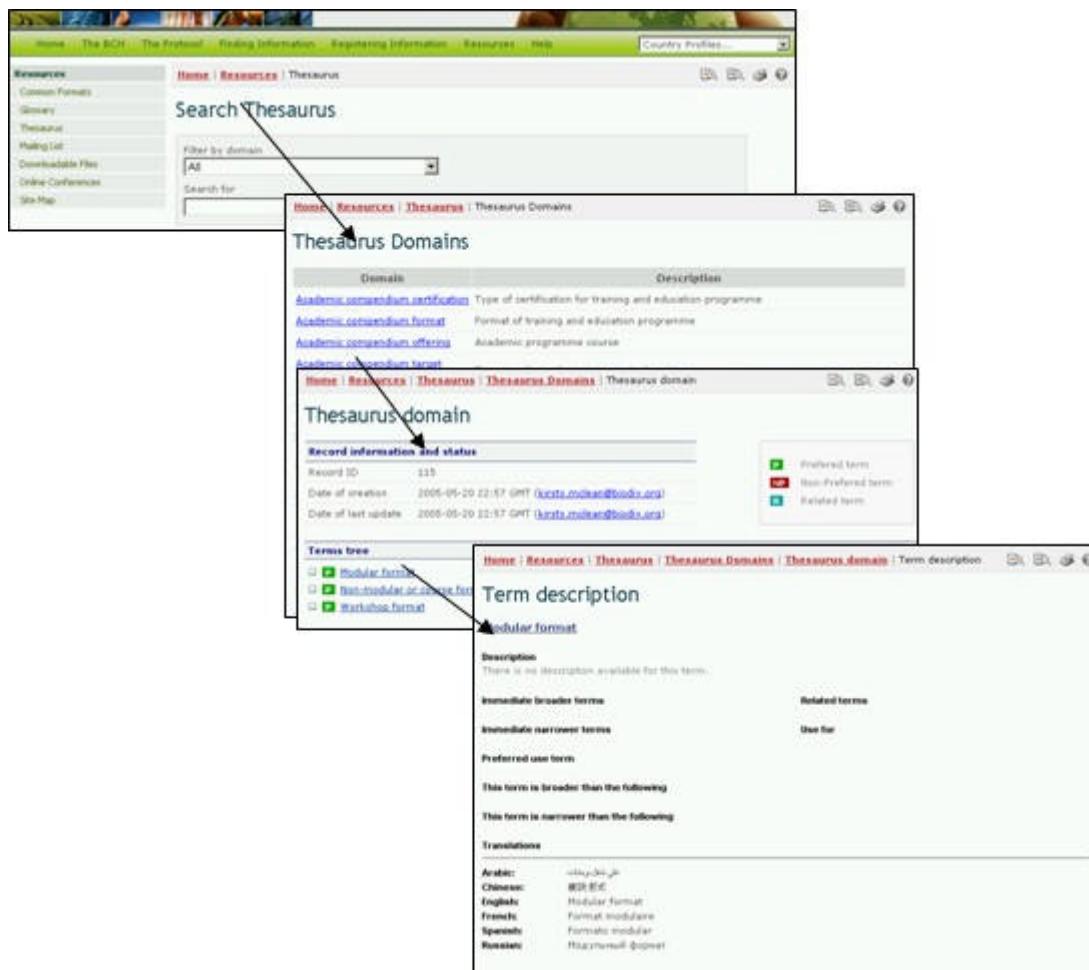


Figure 50

Selecting a term from the Terms tree list on the **The BCH Thesaurus** takes the user to the **Term Description** record. This record provides detail on the meaning of the term and how it is used in the BCH, including broader, narrower and preferred uses of the term and translations into the six official UN languages. Within a term description, the **preferred use term** in the controlled vocabulary is a term selected from among synonyms to be used for indexing and retrieval purposes. For example, maize is the preferred use term over corn in the BCH.

3.6.4 Solutions for National Participation (Hermes and the BCH Ajax Plug-In)

The **Solutions for National Participation** links take the user to a page which provides technical information (and links to the manuals) on Hermes and the BCH Ajax Plug-In.

Both of these solutions are aimed toward improving the ease of accessing information in the BCH in response to identified needs of users. They were created to assist countries developing their BCH national nodes to be interlinked and interoperable with the Central Portal.

3.6.5 Mailing List

The **Mailing List** provides access to the listservs that are available through the BCH Central Portal. Listservs are lists of e-mailing addresses for people who have signed up to receive regular information about a particular topic.

The **BCH Current Awareness Service** sends out regular updates summarizing new information that has

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

been added to the BCH. While it is sent directly to users by e-mail, it is also possible to receive the updates by fax (please contact the Secretariat to enlist your fax number for this service).

The categories of information included in the current awareness summaries, as well as the frequency of their delivery, may be individually customized by each user.

The **BCH Information Technology Specialist Updates** sends out information that is intended to be of use to IT professionals who are involved in maintaining databases or websites that are interoperable with the BCH. It includes updates on changes to the BCH web service.

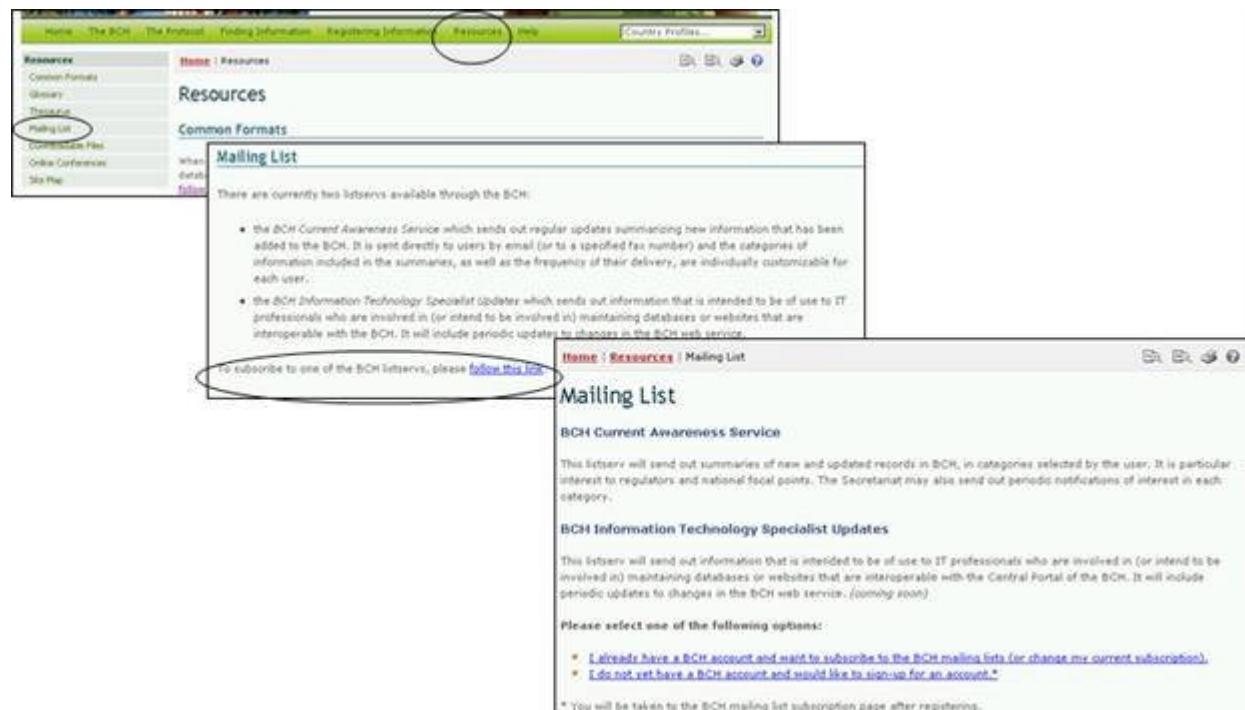


Figure 51

The **Mailing List** page also provides links to subscribe to the available services or to manage/update user's subscriptions.

The first link takes the user to the **Sign In to the Management Centre** page. Once signed into the Management Centre the user may subscribe to a listserv.

The second link opens the **Sign Up for a BCH Account** page. Users register according to their affiliation with the BCH (e.g. BCH National Focal Point, Capacity-building Organization, Biosafety Expert, etc.)

Details on using the Management Centre are provided in **Module MO06 ('Registering Information in the BCH Central Portal' in the on-line documentation)**.

Please note that any user can search the BCH databases and website WITHOUT an account, and that completion of this registration process is only necessary if you require the ability to register information with the BCH.

Creation of accounts for online registration of most information via the Management Centre is restricted to specific user categories.

A user ID and password can be requested by completing this online application process or by sending a signed letter or fax to the Secretariat. Certain types of accounts (e.g. BCH National Focal Points) may require additional verification before they can be created. Once registered, you will be sent a welcome message and a temporary password. If you would like further information about who should get a BCH user account then please [follow this link...](#)

Other users wishing to participate in the BCH should contact their BCH National Focal Point or the Secretariat for assistance.

Please select the type of account you are requesting.

BCH National Focal Point
Authorized by your government to register, modify and validate information under your jurisdiction. Please note that the Secretariat **MUST** receive official confirmation of your designation in this role before your National Focal Point account can be created.

National Authorized User
Authorized by your BCH National Focal Point to register and modify information under your jurisdiction. Please note that your BCH-NFP **MUST** authorize you in this role before your National Authorized User account can be created.

Registered Biosafety Expert
Authorized by your BCH National Focal Point to modify information pertaining to your own record in the Biosafety Roster of Experts. Please note that your BCH-NFP **MUST** authorize you in this role before your Registered Biosafety Expert account can be created.

Capacity-building Organization
Authorized by your organization to register and modify information pertaining to your records in the capacity-building projects and opportunities databases.

General User Account
A General User Account will allow you to select your preferences (default language and time zones), manage your subscriptions (BCH Current Awareness Services) and participate in the BCH discussion forums.

Other - please provide details

Continue **Cancel request**

Figure 52

3.6.6 Downloadable files

The **Downloadable Files** page provides access to files designed to help Parties fulfill their responsibilities with respect to the Protocol's information and reporting requirements. It also provides links to guidelines and templates for entering information. The downloadable files are available in MS Word and PDF format in the six official United Nations languages and are grouped as follows:

- Forms
- Biosafety Documents
- List of Competent National Authorities and National Focal Point Lists (updated daily)
- Roster of Experts Reports (updated daily) and summary statistics

The screenshot shows the 'Resources' menu on the left with 'Downloadable Files' highlighted. The main content area is titled 'Downloadable Files' and lists three items:

- 1. Interim Guidelines for the Pilot Phase of the Voluntary Fund for the Roster of Experts on Biosafety**
The pilot phase of the Voluntary Fund for the Roster of Experts is established to support developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, to pay for the use of experts selected from the roster.
[ar](#) | [en](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
[ar](#) | [en](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
- 2. Interim Guidelines for the Roster of Experts**
The Interim Guidelines for the Roster of Experts on Biosafety explains the operations of the roster and the roles and responsibilities of the administrator (the Executive Secretary), nominating governments, and experts. The current version was endorsed by ICCP at its second meeting.
[ar](#) | [en](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
[ar](#) | [en](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
- 3. Roster of Experts nomination form**
This is a printable version of the Roster of Experts nomination form.
[ar](#) | [en](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
[ar](#) | [en](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)

Figure 53

3.6.7 Online Conferences

The **Online Conferences** page provides access to the ongoing online conferences managed by the Secretariat. These conferences are organized to provide discussion and consultation platforms for Parties and interested stakeholders on specific aspects of the Protocol and its implementation.

The screenshot shows the 'Resources' menu on the left. The main content area is titled 'Online Conferences' and displays the message: 'Currently there are no on-line conferences.'

Figure 54

3.6.8 Site Map

A detailed **Site Map** is provided to show how the BCH Central Portal is organized.

A key identifies information categories that can be accessed via a searchable database and information that can be accessed only by a registered user.

Protocol Finding Information Registering Information Resources Help Country Profiles...    

[Home](#) | [Resources](#) | Site Map

Site Map

+ Indicates searchable database
* Requires user to be signed in

CENTRAL PORTAL AND PRIMARY DATABASES

SITE ADMINISTRATION	FINDING INFORMATION	FINDING INFORMATION	REGISTERING DATA	INFORMATION SHARING
		Organisms LMO database+ National Contacts National Focal Points+ Competent National		
Home		LMO registry Gene registry About unique identification		
About this site		Authorities+ National Websites and Databases+		
Modalities of Operation		Risk Assessment Summaries+ Regulatory Information		
Database sources		Capacity-Building Opportunities+ National Frameworks+		
Privacy policy		Projects and Initiatives+ International Agreements and		
Linked sites policy		Country Needs and Priorities+ Regional and International Agreements and		
Disclaimer		Information Sharing and Networking Mechanism Decisions under AIA+ Decisions under Article		
Biosafety Protocol		Action Plan Background Information		
Parties to the Protocol				
Clearing-house mechanism				
Reporting				
Protocol reports+				
BCH reports				
ROE reports				
Contact us				
	11+ Other decisions+	Roster of Experts Biosafety Experts+		

Figure 55

Home | Resources | Site Map    

[Home](#) | [Resources](#) | Site Map

Site Map

+ Indicates searchable database
* Requires user to be signed in

CENTRAL PORTAL AND PRIMARY DATABASES

SITE ADMINISTRATION	FINDING INFORMATION	FINDING INFORMATION	REGISTERING DATA	INFORMATION SHARING
		Organisms LMO database+ National Contacts National Coment		
Home		LMO registry Additional Resources		
About this site				
Modalities of Operation				
Database sources				
Privacy policy				
Linked sites policy				
	NEWS	HELP	SEARCH FEATURES	BCH THESAURUS
	News Latest additions to the database BCH News Biosafety in the media National News Items Secretariat Notifications Upcoming biosafety meetings	Help FAQ Guide to the BCH BCH Training Modules BCH Training Site (Old) Toolkit Glossary Site map	Search Search BCH databases+ and thesauri+ Search websites Search hints Virtual notebook Downloading results Linked records	BCH Thesaurus Controlled vocabulary About the controlled thesaurus Search thesaurus Browse the thesaurus Source vocabularies Webservices Updates Propose a term
				OTHER RESOURCES
				Discussion forums General discussions Technical discussions Online conferences Current conference Archives Downloads Downloadable Files Common Formats HTPL Documentation Web hosting information

Figure 56

3.7 Help

URL: <http://bch.cbd.int/help/>

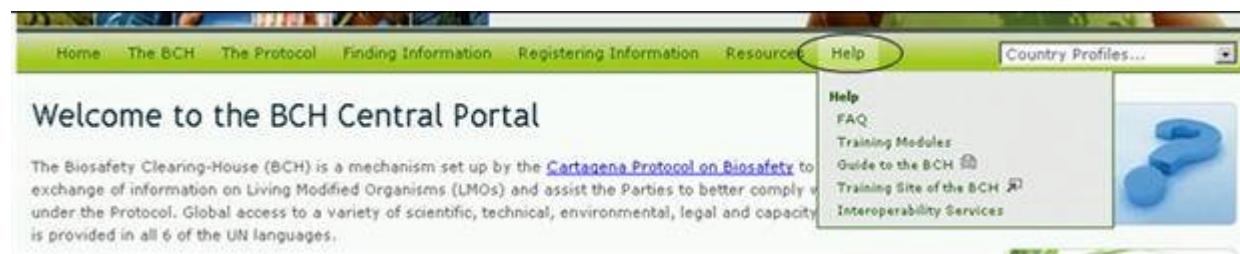


Figure 57

The **Help** page of the BCH Central Portal guides the user to five sections that provide assistance:

1. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about the BCH;
2. BCH Training Modules;
3. Guide to the BCH (brochure);
4. BCH Training Site;
5. Interoperability Services Documentation.

Figure 58

3.7.1 FAQ

The **Frequently Asked Questions** (FAQ) page lists the answers to commonly asked questions regarding the BCH. The answers provide links to articles in the Protocol and to other information available through the BCH.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. What is a Clearing-House?

The term "clearing-house" was originally used mainly in the banking sector, where it referred to a financial establishment where checks and bills were exchanged among member banks so that only the net balances needed to be settled in cash. Today, its meaning has been extended to include any agency that brings together seekers and providers of goods, services or information, thus matching demand with supply.

2. What is the Biosafety Clearing-House of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety?

[Article 20, paragraph 1, of the Biosafety Protocol](#) established a Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) to:

- (a) Facilitate the exchange of scientific, technical, environmental and legal information on, and experience with, living modified organisms; and
- (b) Assist Parties to implement the Protocol, taking into account the special needs of developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition, as well as countries that are centers of origin and centers of genetic diversity.

In addition to facilitating general exchange of information, the BCH is established as the only means through which Parties can provide certain information required under the Protocol, including information provided by Parties for the advance...

Figure 59

3.7.2 Training Modules Link

The BCH **Training Modules** were developed under the UNEP-GEF BCH project, in collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biodiversity (SCBD). The content was provided and reviewed by world-renowned experts in the field.

BCH Training Modules

Five training modules were developed under the [UNEP-GEF Biosafety Clearing-House project](#), in collaboration with the [United Nations Institute for Training and Research \(UNITAR\)](#) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biodiversity (SCBD), with content provided and reviewed by world-renowned experts in the field.

 An introduction to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	<p>Module 1: An introduction to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety</p> <p>This module briefly outlines some of the key elements of the Cartagena Protocol that are of importance for the Biosafety Clearing House. It includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • briefs on the background to and purpose of the Protocol; • working procedures that apply; and • institutional and administrative arrangements.
 An introduction to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	<p>Module 2: An introduction to the Biosafety Clearing-House</p> <p>This module briefly addresses the requirements in the Protocol for a Party to make specific kinds of information available to the BCH. It seeks to explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the purpose and functioning of the BCH; • the various categories of information available on the BCH, with regard to information that a Party is required to post on the BCH; • what information is required, and when it may need to be made available on the BCH

Figure 60

The Training Modules are provided in three formats:

1. The BCH Training Modules;

2. The Interactive BCH Training Modules; and
3. The UNEP-GEF Training Workshop Manual

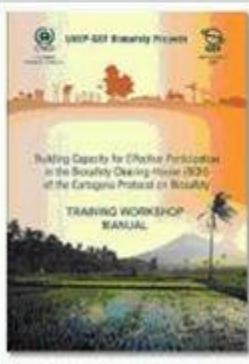
The **BCH Training Modules** are a series of five modules that provide an introduction to:

1. The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
2. The Biosafety Clearing House;
3. The BCH Central Portal;
4. Finding Information in the BCH Central Portal; and
5. Registering Information in the BCH Central Portal

The **Interactive BCH Training Modules** are designed to be used in conjunction with the UNEP-GEF training manual to train participants during a workshop.

Interactive BCH Training Modules

Two interactive BCH training modules are available that are designed to enable users to understand the concepts in a hands-on manner. The modules are designed to be used in conjunction with the [UNEP-GEF training module](#) to train participants during a training workshop. The modules are designed in Macromedia Flash and are very intuitive to use. However, these modules should be installed locally, their execution through the internet is not recommended because of the large file size.



Interactive Module 1: Introduction to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Interactive Module 2: Introduction to the Biosafety Clearing-House

Figure 61

The **UNEP-GEF Training Workshop Manual** is designed to give trainers an overview of the whole training process and to provide them with insight into some of the areas that should be covered when they are conducting BCH training workshops. The complete online training workshop module provides guidelines on how a BCH training program can be conducted.

3.7.3 Guide to the BCH

The **Guide to the BCH** is a short brochure in PDF format that introduces the functions of the BCH.

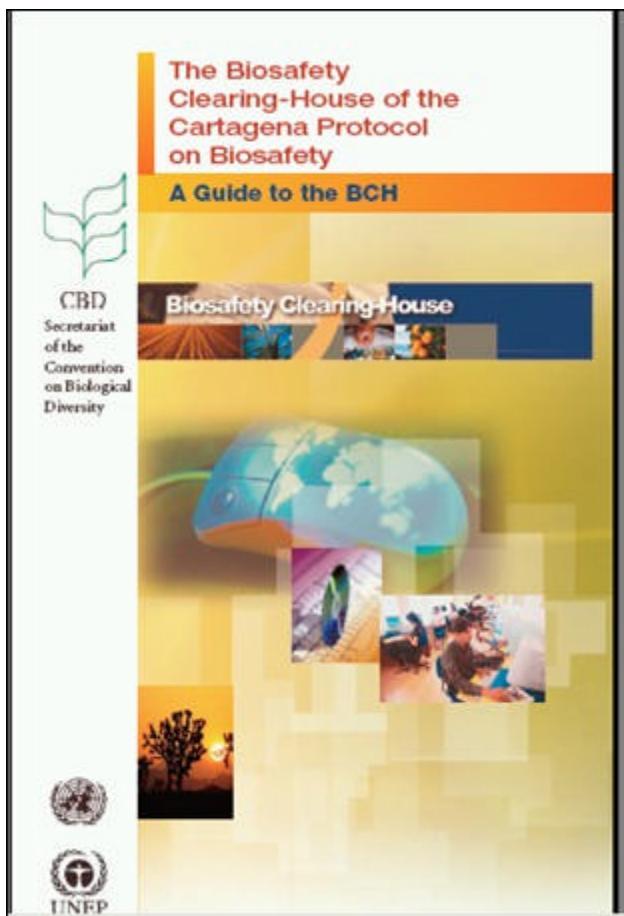


Figure 62

3.7.4 Training Site of the BCH

The ***Training Site of the BCH*** is designed to help BCH users familiarize themselves with the functioning of the Management Center without affecting the official BCH Central Portal.

In order to access the Training Site, users require BCH training accounts (which are provided upon request to the Secretariat).



Figure 63

The sign in page provides three additional, useful links for:

1. Opening a training account
2. Obtaining a reminder about a password
3. Access to the official BCH site.

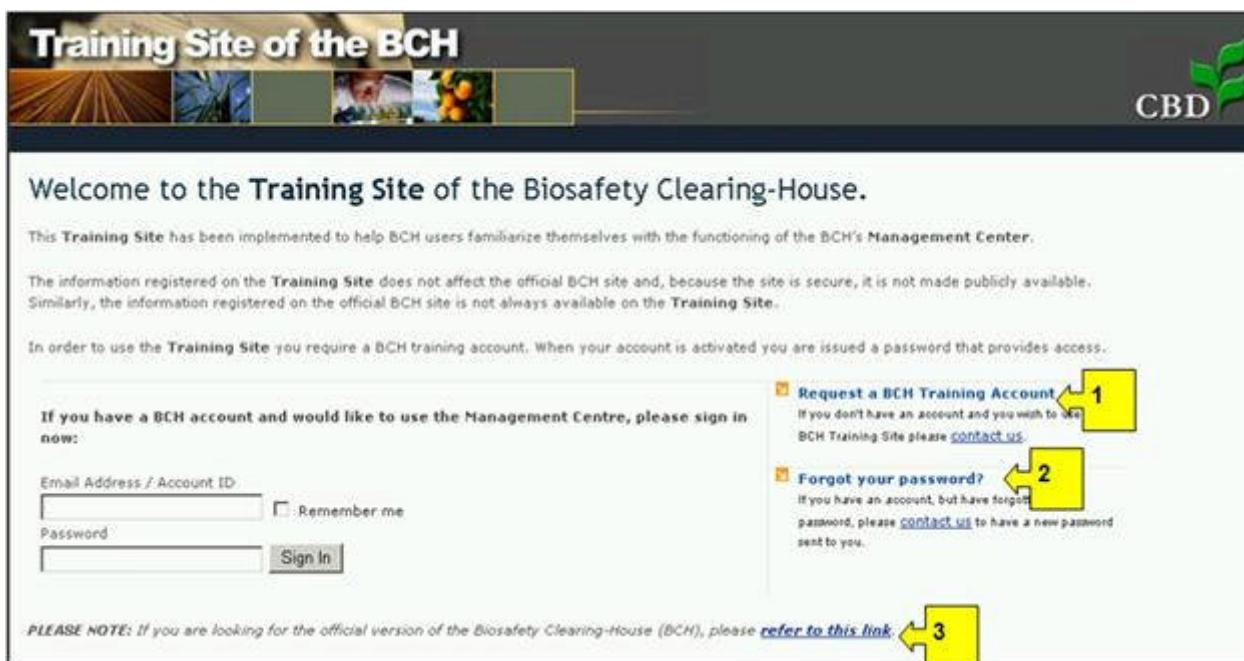


Figure 64

3.7.5 Interoperability Services

The BCH **Interoperability Services** documentation provides technical information about interoperability with the BCH including information about version 3.0 of the BCH Web Service, XML Schemas and Controlled Vocabularies. It also provides Quick Starts in VBA, C4, VB.NET, JAVA, PYTHON and PERL and relevant articles.

The page provides links to Quick Starts; XML Schemas and Web Service Methods.

BCH Interoperability Services 3.0

WSDL: <http://bch.biodiv.org/service/3.0/service.asmx?WSDL>

Quick Starts

Examples are available in:

[VBA, C#, VB.NET, JAVA, PYTHON, PERL](#)

[Verifying login and password](#)

[Validating a XML document](#)

[Registering a Decision under A11](#)

[Retrieving a previously registered document](#)

[Unregister document](#)

[Querying the BCH for documents](#)

[Retrieving list of BCH Thesaurus terms](#)

[BCH Web Service Utility 3.0](#)

[BCH Web Service Utility 3.0 Application project](#)

[C# project sample](#)

[Step by Step Microsoft Visual studio 2005 C# project guide](#)

[Java \(J2SE 5.0, Apache Axis 1.4\)](#)

[Generating BCH Web Service Stub using WSDL2Java](#)

[Thesaurus SQL Scripts](#)

Web Service Methods

XML Schemas

National Contacts

[National Focal Point \(focalPoint.xsd\)](#)

[Competent National Authority \(authority.xsd\)](#)

[National Website or Database \(nationalDatabase.xsd\)](#)

Laws and Regulations

[National Law, Regulation or Guideline \(law.xsd\)](#)

[Bilateral, Regional or Multilateral Agreement \(agreement.xsd\)](#)

Organisms, Decisions and Declarations

[Unique Identification \(modifiedOrganism.xsd\)](#)

[Decision under AIA \(decisionUnderAIA.xsd\)](#)

[Decision under Article 11 \(decisionUnderA11.xsd\)](#)

[Other Decision or Declarations \(decision.xsd\)](#)

[Risk Assessment \(riskAssessment.xsd\)](#)

Roster of Experts

[Biosafety Expert \(biosafetyExpert.xsd\)](#)

Others

[Contact \(contact.xsd\)](#)

[Organism \(organism.xsd\)](#)

[BIRC resource \(resource.xsd\)](#)

Figure 65