



BCH
training



Surfing the BCH Central Portal

February 2010

Reproduction

The content of this publication may be reproduced in whole or in part and in any form for educational or non-profit purposes without special permission from the copyright holder, provided acknowledgment of the source is made. UNEP would appreciate receiving a copy of any publication that uses this publication as a source. No use of this publication may be made for resale or any other commercial purpose whatsoever without prior permission in writing from UNEP. The use of information from this website concerning proprietary products for publicity or advertising is not permitted.

Disclaimers

The content and views expressed on this website do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the contributory organizations or the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and neither do they imply any endorsement. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this website do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UNEP concerning the legal status of any country, territory or city or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Mention of a commercial company or product in this publication does not imply the endorsement of UNEP.

Table of Contents

1. Introduction to the module	3
2. Home Page	4-5
2.1. The Management Centre	5-6
2.2. Latest News	6-7
2.3. Latest Additions	7-9
3. The Navigation Bar	10-11
3.1. Country Profiles	11
3.2. The BCH	11-13
3.2.1. Modalities of operation	13
3.2.2. Multi-year Program of Work	13-14
3.2.3. Decisions on the BCH	14-15
3.2.4. Reports and reviews	15
3.2.5. Development of the BCH	15-16
3.2.6. The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)	16
3.2.6.1. IAC Mandate & Meetings	16-17
3.2.6.2. IAC Forum Participants	17-18
3.2.7. Highlights	18
3.2.7.1. BCH News	18-19
3.2.7.2. Latest Additions	19-21
3.2.7.3. Notifications	21
3.2.7.4. Meetings and Documents	21
3.2.8. Policies	21
3.2.8.1. Linking External Websites Policy	21-22
3.2.8.2. Privacy Policy	22-23
3.2.8.3. Disclaimer	23-24
3.2.8.4. Copyright	24
3.3. The Protocol	24-25
3.3.1. Text of the Protocol	25-26
3.3.2. Parties to the Protocol	26-27
3.3.3. COP-MOP Decisions	27-28

3.3.4. Reporting	28-29
3.3.4.1. National Reports	29-31
3.3.4.2. BCH Annual Reports	31-32
3.3.4.3. Roster of Experts Annual Reports	32-33
3.3.5. Meetings and Documents	33-34
3.3.6. Notifications	34
3.4. Finding Information	34-36
3.5. Registering Information	36-37
3.6. Resources	37-39
3.6.1. Common Formats	39-40
3.6.2. Glossary	40-41
3.6.3. Thesaurus	41-44
3.6.4. Solutions for National Participation (Hermes and the BCH Ajax Plug-In)	44
3.6.5. Mailing List	44-46
3.6.6. Downloadable files	46-47
3.6.7. Online Conferences	47
3.6.8. Site Map	47-49
3.7. Help	49
3.7.1. FAQ	49-50
3.7.2. Training Modules	50-51
3.7.3. Guide to the BCH	51-52
3.7.4. Training Site of the BCH	52-53
3.7.5. Interoperability Services	53-54
3.8. Managing Search Results	54
3.8.1. Sorting Results	54-56
3.8.2. Exporting results to XML	56-57

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.

© UNEP 2010 all rights reserved

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 provides detailed guidance on how to register information in the BCH.

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

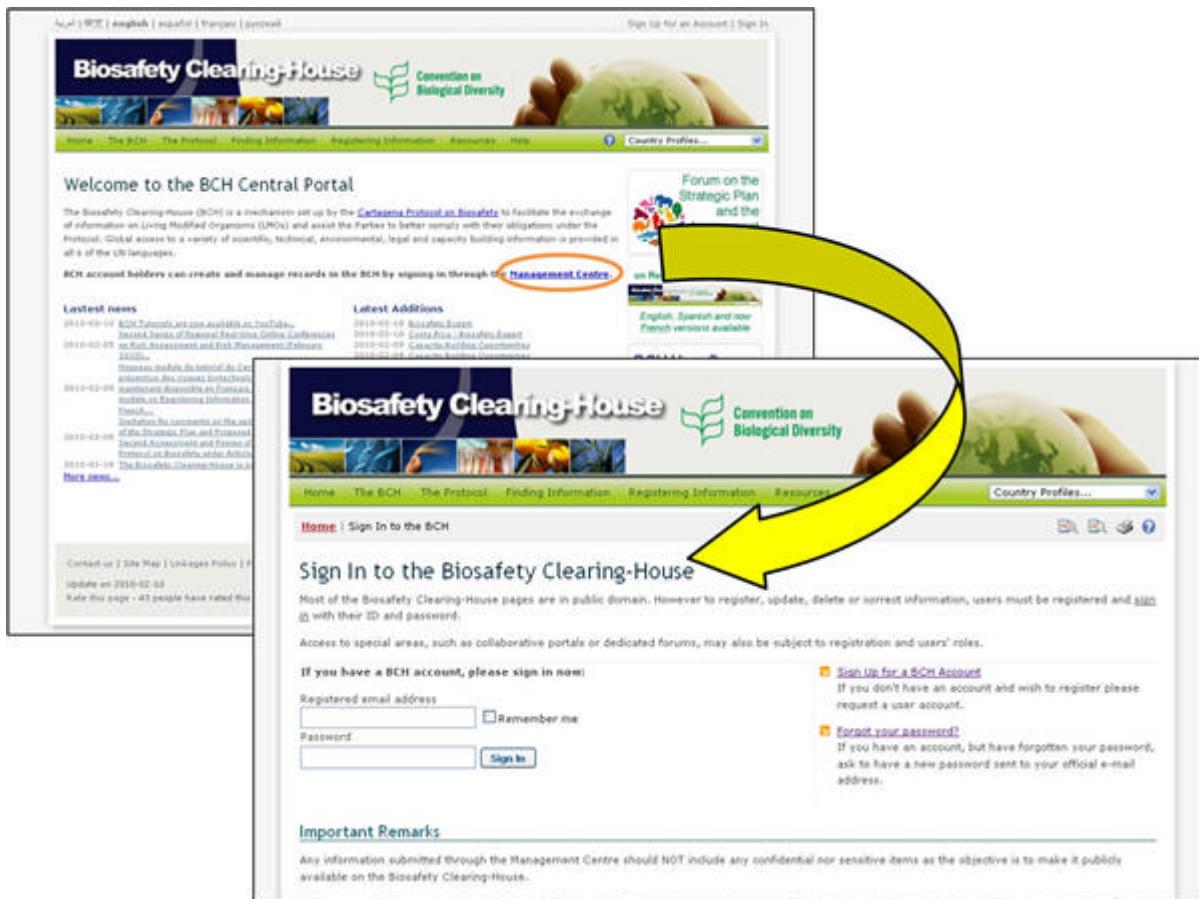


Figure 2

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 for "Home", "The BCH", "The Protocol", "Finding Information", and "About". Below the navigation bar, a large blue header section says "Welcome to the BCH Central". Underneath the header, there is a brief introduction about the BCH as a mechanism for exchange of information on Living Modified Organisms under the Protocol. It mentions global access and availability in all 6 UN languages. A section titled "BCH account holders can create and manage records in the Record Centre." is 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 the "Biosafety Clearing-House News" page. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with sections like "The Biosafety Clearing-House", "The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)", "Highlights", and "Policies". The main content area has a header "Biosafety Clearing-House News" and a "Subscribe/Follow BCH News" button. Below this, there is a news item titled "BCH Tutorials are now available on YouTube" with a sub-section about YouTube and a link to "BCH Tutorial Pages". Another news item titled "Second Series of Regional Real-time Online Conferences on Risk Assessment and Risk Management (February 2010)" is also shown.

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's search results page. At the top, there is a green navigation bar with three items: "Registering Information", "Resources", and "Help". Below this, the main content area starts with the word "tal". A large, bolded section title "Search results for: 'Biosafety'" is displayed. Under this title, there is a heading "Latest Additions" enclosed in an oval. Below this heading, several links are listed, each with a date and a brief description. The first link is "2008-1-26 Belarus - National Focal Point...". The second link is "2008-1-26 Cape Verde - National Focal Point...". The third link is "2008-1-25 Armenia - National Biosafety Website or Database...". The fourth link is "2008-1-25 Scientific Bibliographic Database...". The fifth link is "2008-1-25 Scientific Bibliographic Database...". The sixth link is "2008-1-25 Scientific Bibliographic Database...". At the bottom of the "Latest Additions" section, there is a blue link "More additions..." also enclosed in an oval.

Search results for: 'Biosafety'

Latest Additions

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...

[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-trait 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 ('Finding Information' in the on-line documentation) 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 ('Registering Information in the BCH Central Portal' in the on-line documentation) 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 (<https://bchtraining.cbd.int/member/training-signin.aspx?returnurl=%>

[2fdefault.shtml\).](#)

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.

The term "clearing-house" refers to a mechanism or institution that brings together seekers and providers of goods, services or information, thus matching demand with supply.

Accordingly, with respect to biosafety information, Article 20, paragraph 1, of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety established a BCH as part of the [Clearing-House Mechanism \(CHM\)](#) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in order to:

- Facilitate the exchange of scientific, technical, environmental and legal information on, and experience with, living modified organisms; and
- 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 centres of origin and centres of genetic diversity.

The BCH fulfills its mandate by providing a dynamic platform where information is registered through the [Management Centre](#) and where it can be easily searched and retrieved.

Currently, the primary sources of guidance on the functioning and implementation of the BCH are found in the [Modalities of Operation](#).

Figure 8

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 9

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 is titled 'Modalities of operation of the BCH (Annex to BS-I/3)'. It features a sidebar with links to '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 , Meetings and Documents), and 'Policies' (Linking External Websites Policy, Privacy Policy, Disclaimer, Copyright).

The main content area lists 'Sections' including:

- a. [Role of the Biosafety Clearing-House](#)
- b. [Characteristics of the Biosafety Clearing-House](#)
- c. [Administration of the Biosafety Clearing-House](#)
- d. [Role of the Biosafety Clearing-House focal points](#)
- e. [Technical oversight and advice](#)
- f. [Obligations of partner organizations](#)
- g. [Reports on activities](#)
- h. [Periodic review](#)

Under 'A. Role of the Biosafety Clearing-House', there are two main points:

- 1. The role of the Biosafety Clearing-House in the provision and exchange of information in support of implementation of the Protocol, is clearly articulated in the Protocol. At a minimum, the Biosafety Clearing-House has a role in providing access to information relating to:
 - a. Existing national legislation, regulations and guidelines for implementing the Protocol, as well as information required by Parties for the advance informed agreement procedure (Article 20 paragraph 3 (a));
 - b. National laws, regulations and guidelines applicable to the import of LMOs intended for direct use as food or feed, or for processing (Article 11 paragraph 5);

Figure 10

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 is titled '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'.

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 11

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 on the right. 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. It also includes links for full texts of specific decisions.

Figure 12

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 'BCH Reports & Reviews' page. The sidebar on the left is identical to Figure 12. The main content area features a heading 'BCH Reports & Reviews' with a brief description of the Secretariat's annual reports. Below this is a 'Sections' section with links to 'BCH Log Reports', 'BCH Annual Reports', and 'User survey, feedback and other publication on the BCH'. At the bottom, there are two line graphs: 'BCH Records per Year' (blue line for total records submitted by countries, red line for total number of records in the BCH) and 'Hits, Pages views & Visitors per Year' (red line for total hits, green line for total page views, blue line for total visitors).

Figure 13

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.' The '2008' section highlights the 'September 2008: Update of the BCH help system' and 'April 2008: Translation of the BCH into the 6 official UN languages and a new Help section.' A note at the bottom states: 'Thanks to the UNEP-GEF BCH Project a new Help section of the BCH is now available to help facilitate the use of the BCH. This'.

Figure 14

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 'The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)' page. The left sidebar includes links for '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', and 'IAC forum participants'. The main content area displays the 'Mandate of the BCH-IAC' section, which includes links to 'Decision B5-1/3', 'Meetings of the BCH Informal Advisory Committee', and 'Documents about the preparatory work on the IAC'. Below this is the 'Mandate of the BCH-IAC' section, which notes that the BCH-IAC adopted its first meeting's operations at its 4th meeting. It also mentions the 4th IAC meeting held in Monreal. A yellow arrow points from the left margin towards the 'BCH-IAC forum participants' link in the main content area.

Figure 15

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 BCH Central Portal. It lists 11 participants to the IAC forum, each with their name, email, country, and organization:

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	Idrisova@biodr.tajikiston.com	Tajikistan	National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center
11.	Mr Peter Kearns	peter.kearns@iceland.is	France	

Figure 16

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** ('**Registering Information in the BCH Central Portal**' in the **on-line documentation**), 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. On the left, there's a sidebar with links like '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)', 'SAC mandate & writings', 'SAC forum participants', and 'Highlights'. A yellow arrow points to the 'Highlights' link. Another yellow arrow points from the 'Latest News' section on the left to the 'Users of the Biosafety Clearing-House' section on the right, which features a Twitter integration.

Biosafety Clearing-House News

Subscribe/Follow BCH News

The Biosafety Clearing-House is now on Twitter!

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

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

Users of the Biosafety Clearing-House

Hey there! BHCOPB is using Twitter.

BCHCPB 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 BHCOPB's tweets.

BCHCPB

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

Study of Users and Potential Users of the Biosafety Clearing-House : A study of users and potential users of the ... (<http://bit.ly/5PjngI>)

Study of Users and Potential Users of the Biosafety Clearing-House : A study of users and potential users of the ... (<http://bit.ly/5PjngI>)

Figure 17

3.2.7.2 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.

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

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 features the BCH logo and the Convention on Biological Diversity logo. Below the header, a navigation bar includes links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A sidebar on the left provides links to various sections like 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), Highlights, Policies, and Copyright.

The main content area displays the 'Latest Additions' section, which lists recently added records. A yellow arrow highlights the first record in the list:

Date	Record ID	Holder and Type	Description
2010-02-09	57396	Capacity Building Opportunity	Agricultural biotechnologies in developing countries (ABDC-10) conference, Guadalajara, Mexico
2010-02-09	57395		
2010-02-09	57394		
2010-02-09	57393		
2010-02-09	57392		
2010-02-03	57391		
2010-02-03	57390		
2010-02-03	57389		

When the 'Capacity Building Opportunity' record is clicked, a detailed view is shown in a modal window. The modal has tabs for 'Item', 'Findings Information', and 'Record details'. The 'Record details' tab is active, showing the following information:

Capacity Building Opportunity

Record information and status

- Record ID: 57396
- Status: Published
- Date of creation: 2010-02-09 17:21 GMT ([urika.nissen@cbd.int](#))
- Date of last update: 2010-02-09 16:54 GMT ([urika.nissen@cbd.int](#))
- 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](#))
- UN and other specialized agency of the UN Common System

Type of organization providing the support:

- UN and other specialized agency

Figure 18

Figure 18

3.2.7.3 Notifications

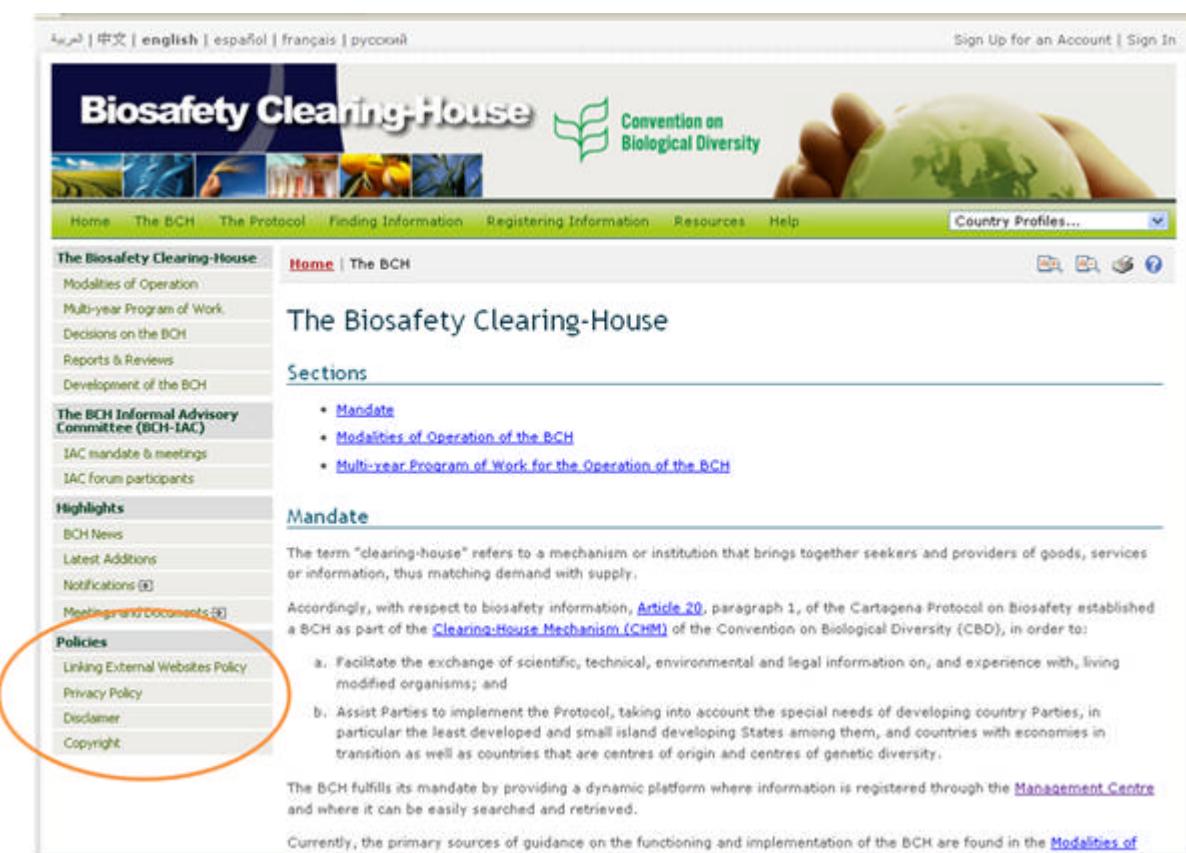
This link takes the user to the [Cartagena Protocol Notifications](#) page, which is under the "The Protocol" section of the BCH. See "The Protocol" > "Notifications".

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".

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.



The screenshot shows the main interface of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... There is also a 'Sign Up for an Account' and 'Sign In' button. The main content area features a banner for the Convention on Biological Diversity. Below the banner, the title 'The Biosafety Clearing-House' is displayed. On the left, there is a sidebar with several 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, Meetings and Documents), and 'Policies' (Linking External Websites Policy, Privacy Policy, Disclaimer, Copyright). The 'Linking External Websites Policy' link is circled in red. The main content area below the sidebar contains sections for 'Sections' (Mandate, Modality of Operation of the BCH, Multi-year Program of Work for the Operation of the BCH) and 'Mandate' (definition and purpose). It also includes a note about Article 20 of the Cartagena Protocol and a statement about the BCH's role in facilitating information exchange and assisting Parties.

Figure 19

3.2.8.1 Linking External Websites Policy

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

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.

The screenshot shows the main navigation bar at the top with links for Home, English, Español, Français, and Русский. On the right, there are links for Mailbox, My Profile, and Sign Out. Below the navigation is the BCH logo and the Convention on Biological Diversity logo. The main content area has a banner with a globe. The left sidebar contains sections for The Biosafety Clearing-House, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles. Under 'The Biosafety Clearing-House', there are links for Modality of Operation, Multi-year Program of Work, Decisions on the BCH, Reports & Reviews, and Development of the BCH. Under 'The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)', there are links for IAC mandate & meetings, IAC forum participants, BOH News, Latest Additions, Notifications, and Meetings and Documents. Under 'Policies', there are links for Linking External Websites Policy, Privacy Policy, Disclaimer, and Copyright. 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 the process of maintaining links to biosafety-relevant information at external sites. At the bottom of the page are links for 'Go to the top of the page' and 'Policy Objective'.

Figure 20

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 BCH website's 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 Contact information. The main content area displays the "Privacy Policy for the Biosafety Clearing-House" page, which includes sections on "Information provided to the BCH" (listing National Focal Points, other visitors, and security) and "Visitor identification" (questions about cookie collection). Below this is a section titled "Information provided to the BCH" under "Official Information of National Focal Points".

Figure 21

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.

The screenshot shows the BCH website's 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 Contact information. The main content area displays the "Disclaimer" page, which includes a section titled "Accuracy of the information" containing two numbered points. Point 1 states that the Secretariat does not guarantee the accuracy of the information provided. Point 2 encourages users to submit comments regarding the database to the Executive Secretary.

Figure 22

3.2.8.4 Copyright

This link takes the user to the [Copyright](#) page, which contains the copyright statement for the BCH.



Figure 23

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.

On 29 January 2000, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted a supplementary agreement to the Convention known as the [Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety](#). The Protocol seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by [living modified organisms](#) resulting from modern biotechnology. It establishes an [advance informed agreement \(AIA\)](#) procedure for ensuring that countries are provided with the information necessary to make informed decisions before agreeing to the import of such organisms into their territory. The Protocol contains reference to a [precautionary approach](#) and reaffirms the precaution language in Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. The Protocol also establishes a [Biosafety Clearing-House](#) to facilitate the exchange of information on living modified organisms and to assist countries in the implementation of the Protocol.

Figure 25

On 29 January 2000, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted a supplementary agreement to the Convention known as the [Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety](#). The Protocol seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by [living modified organisms](#) resulting from modern biotechnology. It establishes an [advance informed agreement \(AIA\)](#) procedure for ensuring that countries are provided with the information necessary to make informed decisions before agreeing to the import of such organisms into their territory. The Protocol contains reference to a [precautionary approach](#) and reaffirms the precaution language in Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. The Protocol also establishes a [Biosafety Clearing-House](#) to facilitate the exchange of information on living modified organisms and to assist countries in the implementation of the Protocol.

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. Related links to COP decisions, meetings of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on Biosafety and relevant publications.

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 links to 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.



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.

[Home](#) | [The Protocol](#) | [Parties to the Protocol](#)

Parties to the Protocol

Status of Ratification and Entry Into Force

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 its Article 36, the Protocol was opened for signature at the United Nations Office at Nairobi by States and regional economic integration organizations from 15 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 103 signatures. The Protocol entered into force on 11 September 2003, ninety days after receipt of the 50th instrument of ratification (Article 37).

The list below contains the latest information concerning dates of signature, ratification, and entry into force received from the Depositary of the Protocol - the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The column entitled 'Ratification' indicates the dates when the instrument of ratification (rtf), acceptance (acc), approval (apr) or accession (acs) is deposited with the Depositary. The column entitled 'Entry into force' indicates the dates when the Protocol enters into force for respective State or regional economic integration organization, i.e. ninety days after it deposits instrument of ratification, approval, acceptance or accession.

#	Country	Date of signature	Date of ratification	Date of entry into force
1	Albania		Feb 08, 2005 ACS	May 09, 2005
2	Algeria	May 25, 2000	Aug 05, 2004 RTF	Nov 03, 2004
3	Antigua and Barbuda			

[Home](#) | [The Protocol](#) | [Parties to the Protocol](#) | [Country Profile](#)

 **Country Profile**

Profile information and status

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
Profile last updated on	-

Type of document

Type of document	Number of records	Date of last update
☒ National Focal Point	2	2008-01-25 15:09 UTC

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.

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

Search COP-MOP Decisions

COP-MOP 1 Decisions Full text

Arabic | Chinese | English | French | Russian | Spanish

Arabic | Chinese | English | French | Russian | Spanish

Show help

Search Criteria

Biosafety-related subject: <Any subject> COP-MOP Meeting COP-MOP 3

Group results by: Meeting Date Title Contains

Go

Results 1 to 18 of 18 results found.

1. COP-MOP 3 (Cartagena, 13 - 17 March 2006)

BS-III/1 Compliance Subject(s): Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety Biosafety Subject(s): Compliance

BS-III/2 Operations and activities of the Biosafety Clearing-House Subject(s): Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety Biosafety Subject(s): Biosafety Clearing-House

Back to Search Page

NOP BS-III/1

BS-III/1. Compliance

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 second meeting of the Compliance Committee, in particular the recommendations of the Committee regarding general issues of compliance (UNEP/CBD/BSC/COP-MOP/3/2), recognizing that capacity-building is an essential element in supporting developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and the small island developing States amongst them, and Parties with economies in transition to comply with their obligations under the Protocol,

Recognizing also that it is too early to undertake the review of the effectiveness of the compliance procedure and mechanisms as provided for in section VII of the annex to decision BS-1/7,

Recalling paragraph 2 (d) of section VI of the procedures and mechanisms on compliance under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety as annexed to decision BS-1/7,

Taking note of the experience of other multilateral environmental agreements in addressing cases of repeated non-compliance within their respective compliance procedures and mechanisms, as presented in section II of the note by the Executive Secretary on the subject (UNEP/CBD/BSC/COP-MOP/3/2/Add.1),

Noting the absence of any submission to date of a case of non-compliance by a Party to the Protocol with respect to itself or with respect to another Party,

Recognizing the need to resolve the differences that emerged at the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol regarding rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the Committee on voting in a manner that ensures efficiency and effectiveness of the Committee and the independence of its members in taking decisions,

1. Decides to undertake the review of the effectiveness of the procedures and mechanisms on compliance as provided for in section VII of decision BS-1/7, including addressing the issue of measures concerning repeated cases of non-compliance as well as rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the Compliance Committee, at its fourth meeting within the framework of the overall evaluation of the effectiveness of the Protocol in accordance with Article 35 and in accordance with the modalities established in decision BS-III/15 of the present meeting regarding such evaluation;

Figure 29

The search criteria include biosafety-related subjects; a choice of COP-MOP meeting; keywords; or words in the title. The results can be grouped by meeting date or meeting group.

Search COP-MOP Decisions

COP-MOP 1 Decisions Full text

Arabic | Chinese | English | French | Russian | Spanish

Arabic | Chinese | English | French | Russian | Spanish

Show help

Search Criteria

Biosafety-related subject: <Any subject> Biosafety Clearing-House Capacity-building Compliance

Group results by: Meeting Date Title Contains

Go

Search Criteria

Biosafety-related subject: <Any subject> COP-MOP Meeting COP-MOP 3

Group results by: Meeting Date Title Contains

Go

Search Criteria

Biosafety-related subject: <Any subject> COP-MOP Meeting COP-MOP 3

Group results by: Meeting Date Meeting Group

Go

Figure 30

3.3.4 Reporting

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

1. National Reports.
2. Annual Reports of the operation of the BCH.
3. Annual Reports of the operation of the Roster of Experts.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the following details:

- Header:** Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, Country Profiles...
- Left Sidebar (The Protocol):**
 - Text of the Protocol
 - Parties to the Protocol
 - COP-MOP Decisions ** [link]
 - Reporting
 - Meetings and Documents ** [link]
 - Notifications ** [link]
- Main Content Area:**
 - Section Title:** Reporting
 - Links:** National Reports, BCH Annual Reports, Annual Reports on the Roster of Experts
 - Section:** National Reports
 - Description:** 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.
 - Note:** * First Reports (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.

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 BCH Central Portal. The 'National Reports' link is circled in yellow. Below it, a dropdown menu for 'Swaziland' is also circled in yellow. Further down, another dropdown menu for 'Finland' is circled in yellow.

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 screenshot shows the 'National Reports of the Cartegena Protocol on Biosafety' interface. Two yellow boxes highlight the 'First Report' and 'Interim Report' sections. Both sections include dropdown menus for 'Report Selection' (with options like 'Analyze by Country') and 'Search for' (with a 'Matrix language' dropdown set to 'English').

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.

The screenshot shows the 'Report Selection' interface. At the top, there is a radio button group labeled 'Analyze by' with two options: 'Country' (which is selected) and 'Country Group (eg. Africa)'. Below this, a message says '66 Countries' and 'Please use <Ctrl+Click> to select multiple items in the list'. A scrollable list box contains the names of 66 countries: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Barbados, and Belgium. Below the list is a search bar with the placeholder 'Search for [] in the questions'. Underneath the search bar is a 'Matrix language' dropdown set to 'English' and a checkbox labeled 'Only show the report matrix'. To the right of the checkbox is a 'Go' button.

Figure 34

This screenshot is identical to Figure 34, except the 'Analyze by' radio button is now set to 'Country Group (eg. Africa)', indicated by an oval around the radio button. All other elements, including the country list, search bar, matrix language selection, and 'Go' button, remain the same.

Figure 35

3.3.4.2 BCH Annual Reports

The **BCH Annual Reports** cover the operation of the BCH 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 in the search box takes the user to the relevant **Annual Report** page which provides the text of the report.

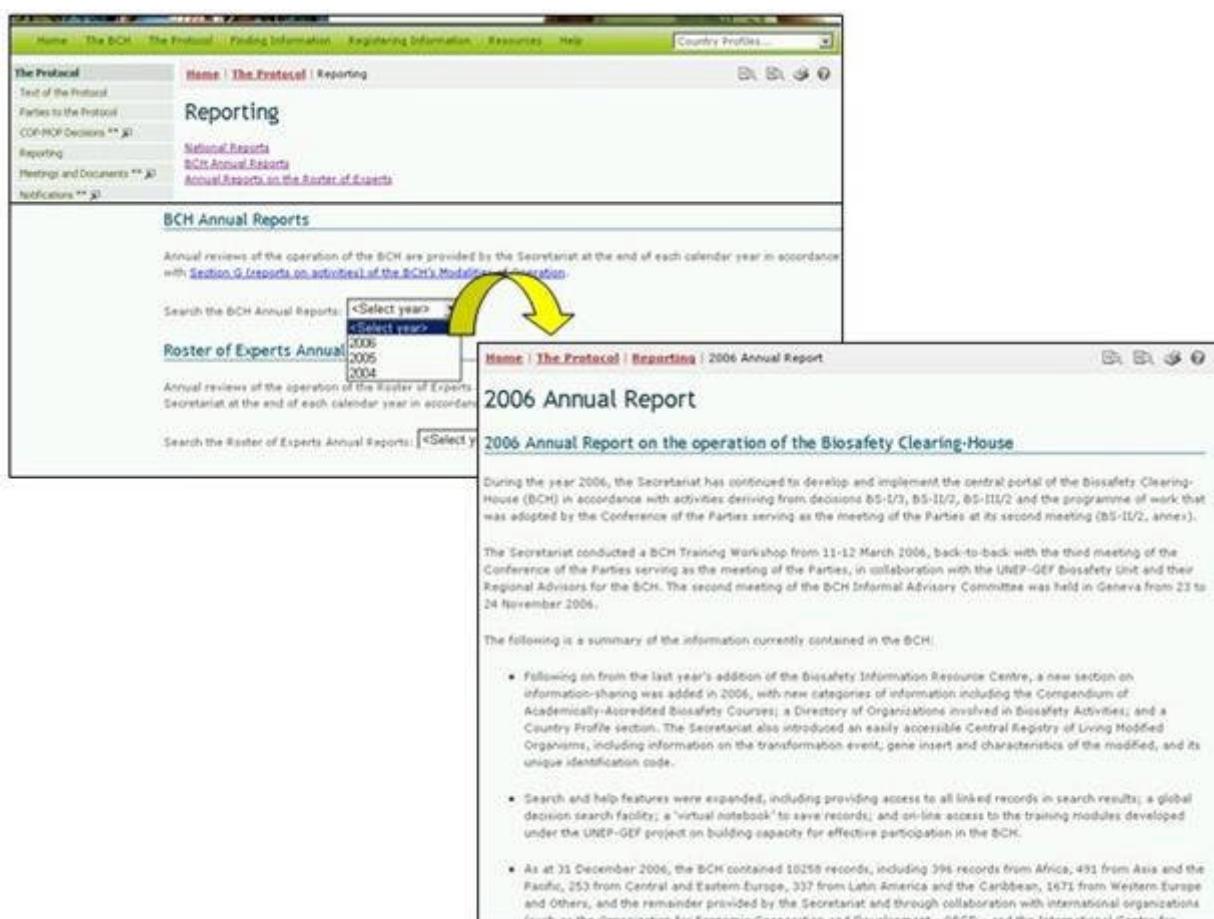


Figure 36

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.

The screenshot shows a web interface for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for 'Protocol', 'Finding Information', 'Registering Information', 'Resources', 'Help', and 'Country Profiles...'. Below this, a breadcrumb trail shows 'Home | The Protocol | Reporting'. The main content area is titled 'Reporting' and contains three sub-links: 'National Reports', 'BCH Annual Reports', and 'Annual Reports on the Roster of Experts'. A large blue button labeled 'Roster of Experts Annual Reports' is present. To its right, a yellow arrow points to a detailed report titled 'Report on the Roster of Experts on Biosafety for Year 2006'. The report text discusses the annual summary report on the status and use of the roster of experts on biosafety for the year 2006, including a brief report on the pilot phase of the voluntary fund for the use of the roster. It also mentions the regional breakdown of nominations at the end of 2006. A table provides this data:

Region	No. of Governments making nominations	No. of experts nominated	Percentage of total number of nominations
Africa	21	205	32%
Asia and the Pacific	19	138	22%
Central and Eastern Europe	12	90	14%
Latin America and the Caribbean	13	76	12%
Western Europe and Others	12	130	20%
TOTAL	77	639	100%

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 Meetings and Documents

The link to **Meetings and Documents** takes the user to the **Calendar of SCBD Meetings** page that provides links to PDF copies of a list of upcoming SCBD meetings and a list of tentative upcoming SCBD meetings. The date of last update of these lists is provided above these links.

The **Calendar of SCBD Meetings** page also provides a search facility to identify meetings related to specific aspects of the CBD.

If the user selects **Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety** in the **Subject** box and clicks on **Go**, a list of past, confirmed and tentative meetings is provided below the search facility. The table of search results provides links to documents for the meetings, where these are available.

The search for meetings related to the Protocol can be refined by selecting specific search parameters such as the subject of the meeting; the country that hosted or will host the meeting; year; month and words from the title.

The screenshot shows a search interface for SCBD meetings. In the search criteria section, the subject is set to 'Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety'. The results list shows three notifications for 2008-01-30:

- SCBD/OES/AD/moc/61798 (2008-013)**
Notification to: CBD National Focal Points – Asia and the Pacific Regional Group
Asia and the Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 17-18 May 2008 – Maritim Hotel in Bonn, Germany
I have the honour to inform you that, thanks to the generous financial support of the Government of Spain, the Asia and the Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity will take place on 17-18 May 2008 at Maritim Hotel in Bonn, Germany.
Subject(s): Conference of the Parties
- SCBD/OES/AD/moc/61797 (2008-012)**
Notification to: CBD National Focal Points – Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Group
Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 17-18 May 2008 – Maritim Hotel in Bonn, Germany
I have the honour to inform you that, thanks to the generous financial support of the Government of Spain, the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity will take place on 17-18 May 2008 at Maritim Hotel in Bonn, Germany.
Subject(s): Conference of the Parties
- SCBD/OES/AD/moc/61796 (2008-011)**
Notification to: CBD National Focal Points – African Regional Group
African Regional Preparatory Meeting for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 17-18 May 2008 – Maritim Hotel in Bonn, Germany
I have the honour to inform you that, thanks to the generous financial support of the Government of Spain, the African Regional Preparatory Meeting for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity will take place on 17-18 May 2008 at Maritim Hotel in Bonn, Germany.
Subject(s): Conference of the Parties

Figure 38

3.3.6 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, select **Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety** from the **Subject Box** drop down menu and, where possible, refine the search with a word from the title of the document or the year the document was published. Click the **Go** button to obtain the search results. If the Notification Reference number is known, it can be entered into the ‘reference’ field and the Notification will be retrieved by clicking the **Go** button.

3.4 Finding 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.

Welcome to the BCH

The Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) is exchange of information on Living Modified Organisms under the Protocol. Global access to a is provided in all 6 of the UN languages.

BCH account holders can create an account at the [BCH Centre](#).

Latest news

- 2007-12-14 Launch of the 2007 Survey...
- 2007-11-01 November 2007 Release of...
- 2007-03-27 March release of the Biosafety...
- [More news...](#)

Finding Information

- National Contacts
- Laws and Regulations
- Country's Decisions and other Communications
- LMOs, Genes or Organisms
- Roster of Experts
- Capacity-building
- Biosafety Information Resource Centre
- Scientific Bibliographic Database
- Organizations

Compiled Information

- National Contacts
- LMOs-UIDs Registry
- Organisms Registry
- Gene Registry

Protocol on Biosafety to facilitate the Parties to better comply with their obligations environmental, legal and capacity building information

igning in through the [Management](#)

ditions

- Angola - National Focal Point...
- Indonesia - National Biosafety Website or Database...
- Biosafety Information Resource Centre...
- El Salvador - National Focal Point...
- Togo - National Focal Point...
- Armenia - National Biosafety Website or Database...
- 2008-1-25 Scientific Bibliographic Database...
- [More additions...](#)

BCH Survey'07
Click here to participate...

November '07 RELEASE

LMO & Gene Registry new

Figure 39

Each category listed on this page links to a search interface that is designed to optimize the location of specific information. From the page of the search interface it is also possible to browse all entries in any one of the categories by utilizing a 'Browse all records' button.

Finding Information

[Home](#) | Finding Information

Finding Information

Welcome to the 'Finding Information' section of the BCH. Here a wide variety of scientific, technical, environmental, legal and capacity building information can be accessed.

National Contacts

Follow this link to search for: (i) National Focal Points; (ii) Competent National Authorities and (iii) National Biosafety Websites and Databases

Laws and Regulations

Follow this link to search for: (i) National Laws, Regulations and (ii) Guidelines and Bilateral, Regional and Multilateral Agreements

Country's Decisions and other Communications

Follow this link to search for: (i) Decisions on LMOs under Advance Informed Agreement; (ii) Decisions on LMOs for food, for feed or for processing under Article 11; (iii) Other decisions & declarations; (iv) Risk Assessment Reports

Capacity Building

Follow this link to search for: (i) Biosafety Capacity Building Projects; (ii) Capacity-Building Opportunities; (iii) Compendium of Academically-Accredited Biosafety Courses; and (iv) Capacity-Building Needs and Priorities

Roster of Experts

Follow this link to access a database of experts in biosafety, searchable using various fields.

Directory of International Organizations involved in Biosafety Activities

Follow this link to access information about international organisations involved in activities relevant to implementation of the Biosafety Protocol with summaries of their activities and contact information.

LMOs

Follow this link to search for: (i) the LMO-UID Registry; (ii) Gene Registry and (iii) Organism Registry

Biosafety Information Resource Centre

Follow this link to access electronic catalogues of biosafety-related publications and information resources including: news services; e-mail listservs; online databases and search engines; reports and case studies; journals and newsletters; and teaching materials (manuals, toolkits and presentations). Its objective is increase the accessibility and utilization of available biosafety information and resources by policymakers, educators, researchers, and the general public.

Scientific Bibliographic Database on Biosafety

Follow this link to access a bibliographic collection of scientific studies relevant to biosafety and risk assessment of biotechnology. This searchable database is updated monthly and contains records of scientific articles (full reference + abstract) published in national and international scientific periodicals from 1990 onwards. Each record is vetted by ICGEB scientists for its contribution to the numerous scientific debates concerning Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs).

Figure 40

The types of data stored in the BCH databases and instructions for finding information are detailed in Module MO04.

3.5 Registering 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 MO06A.

The screenshot shows the 'Sign In to the Management Centre' page. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links: Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information (which is circled in red), Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... On the right side of the header are icons for print, email, and help.

The main content area has a heading 'Sign In to the Management Centre'. Below it, a paragraph explains the purpose of the Management Center. A form for logging in is present, with fields for 'Registered email address' and 'Password', and a 'Sign In' button. There's also a 'Remember me' checkbox. To the right of the login form are two links: 'Sign Up for a BCH Account' and 'Forgot your password?'. Below these links, there are two paragraphs of text. The first paragraph discusses what information should NOT be submitted. The second paragraph provides instructions for reporting differences between submissions and the website. A third paragraph at the bottom states that the Management Centre uses SSL for secure communication.

Figure 41

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

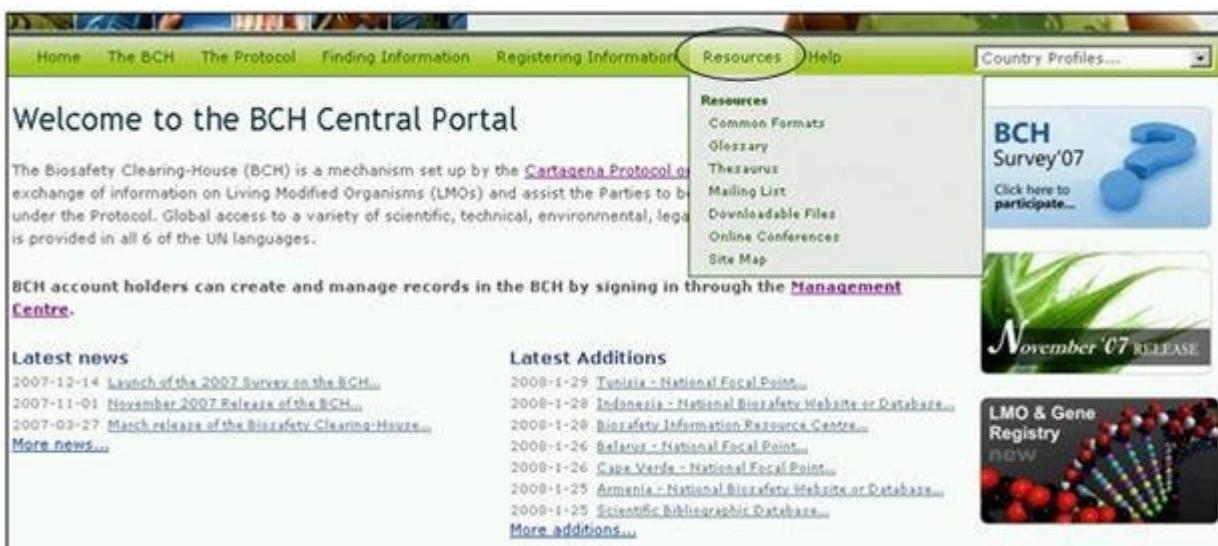


Figure 42

A screenshot of the "Resources" page from the BCH Central Portal. The page has a sidebar on the left with links to "Home", "Resources", "Common Formats", "Glossary", "Thesaurus", "Mailing List", "Downloadable Files", "Online Conferences", and "Site Map". The main content area starts with a "Resources" section, followed by "Common Formats", which contains a note about standardizing information for searching. Next is the "Glossary" section, which provides definitions for common terms. The "Thesaurus" section follows, explaining its purpose in indexing and retrieval. The "Mailing List" section describes two available listservs. The "Downloadable files" section provides a link to access files like National Contacts and Reports. Finally, the "Site map" section offers a detailed map of the site.

Figure 43

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.

Common formats

Information is made available to the BCH by using standardized structures for organizing information known as common formats. Word files or PDFs of the common formats are available for download below (alternatively information may be reported directly online through use of the Management Centre).

[Sample formats](#) | [Core Forms](#) | [National Contacts](#) | [Laws and Regulations](#) | [Decisions and Declarations](#) | [Risk Assessments](#) | [Modified Organisms](#) | [Capacity-Building](#) | [Roster of Experts](#) | [Information-Sharing](#)

Sample formats

To download model common formats in each category that have been completed with sample information, follow this [link](#).

Core forms

- 1. Contact Details Reference**
Common format for providing Contact Details for a person or organization, for reference when creating other records.
Latest edition: 14 February 2007.
[Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
[Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
- 2. Organism (Non-modified)**
Common format for registering a parental, recipient or donor Organism. Latest edition: 14 February 2007.
[Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
[Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
- 3. Inserted Gene**
Common format for registering an inserted gene. Latest edition: 29 January 2007.
[Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
[Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)

National Contacts

- 1. National Focal Point**
Common format for registering a National Focal Point (Article 17, Article 19, Biosafety Clearing-House Focal Point). Latest edition: 31 January 2007.
[Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [ar](#) | [en](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
[Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [ar](#) | [en](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
- 2. Competent National Authority**
Common format for registering a Competent National Authorities (Article 19). Latest edition: 31 January 2007.
[Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [ar](#) | [en](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
[Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [ar](#) | [en](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
- 3. National Database or Website**
Common format for registering a National Database or Website (nb: records will also automatically be included in the Biosafety Information Resource Centre). Latest edition: 22 February 2007.
[Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [ar](#) | [en](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)
[Word](#) | [PDF](#) | [ar](#) | [en](#) | [es](#) | [fr](#) | [ru](#) | [zh](#)

Figure 44

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.

The screenshot shows the 'Resources' page of the BCH Central Portal. The left sidebar lists 'Common Formats', 'Glossary', 'Thesaurus', 'Mailing List', 'Downloadable Files', 'Online Conferences', and 'Site Map'. The 'Glossary' link is highlighted with a red circle. Below it, the text 'when registering records in the BCH, common formats make searching the BCH databases easier and more efficient. To access all common formats for registering information in the BCH databases, please [follow this link](#)' is also circled in red. The main content area is titled 'Glossary' and includes a 'Disclaimer' section and a detailed description of the 'Advance Informed Agreement procedure (AIA)'.

Figure 45

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.

The screenshot shows the 'Resources' page of the BCH Central Portal. The left sidebar lists 'Common Formats', 'Glossary', 'Thesaurus', 'Mailing List', 'Downloadable Files', 'Online Conferences', and 'Site Map'. The 'Thesaurus' link is highlighted with a yellow arrow. The main content area is titled 'Search Thesaurus' and includes a 'Filter by domain' dropdown menu set to 'All' and a 'Search for' input field with a 'Search' button.

Figure 46

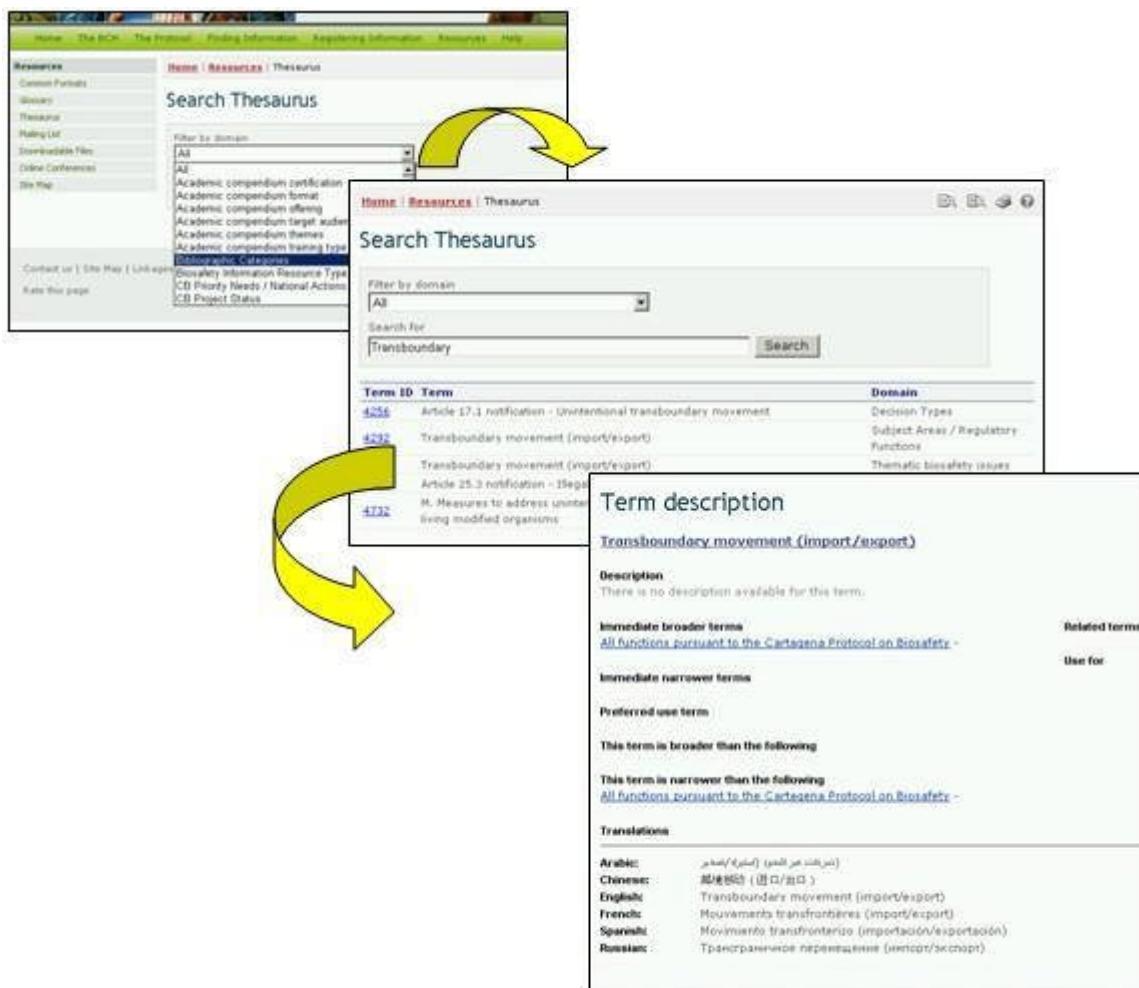


Figure 47

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 the 'Search Thesaurus' interface. In the search bar, 'Transboundary' is entered. The results table shows several terms, with 'Transboundary movement (import/export)' highlighted. A detailed view of this term is shown in a right-hand panel.

Term description: Transboundary movement (import/export)

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:	الحركة عبر الحدود [الحركة عبر الحدود]
Chinese:	跨境移动 (进口/出口)
English:	Transboundary movement (import/export)
French:	Mouvements transfrontières (import/export)
Spanish:	Movimiento transfronterizo (importación/exportación)
Russian:	Трансграничное перемещение (импорт/экспорт)

Figure 48

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’ or ‘non-preferred’.

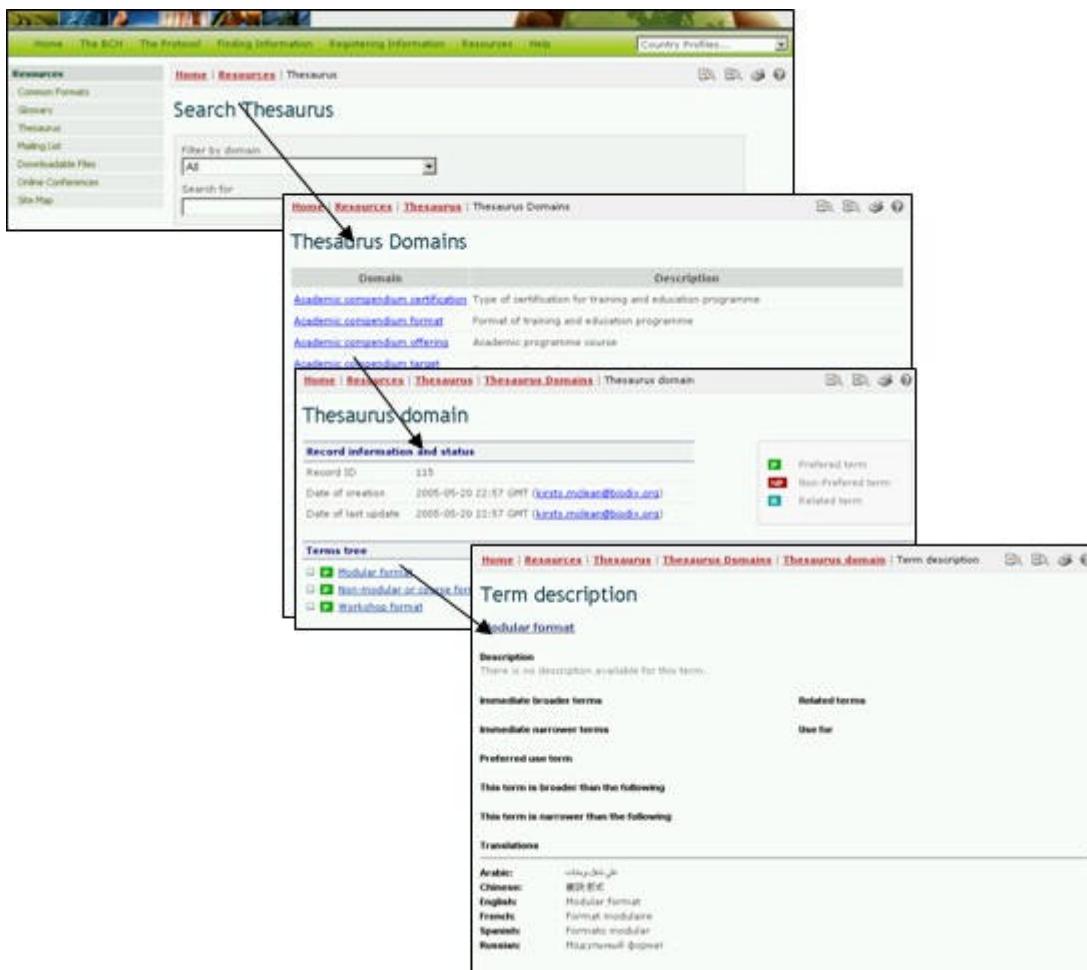


Figure 49

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

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.

The screenshot shows the BCH Central Portal's "Resources" section with a sub-menu for "Mailing List". The main content area displays two sections: "BCH Current Awareness Service" and "BCH Information Technology Specialist Updates". Both sections provide descriptions of the services and links for subscription. A callout box highlights the "follow this link" button for the "BCH Current Awareness Service".

Figure 50

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 MO06A.

The screenshot shows a web page titled "Sign Up for a BCH Account". At the top, there is a navigation bar with links to Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... There is also a search bar and a user profile icon.

The main content area has a heading "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." Below this, a note states that creation of accounts for online registration 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 51

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.
- 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.
- 3. Roster of Experts nomination form**
This is a printable version of the Roster of Experts nomination form.

Each item has download links in multiple languages (ar, en, es, fr, ru, zh).

Figure 52

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 with 'Online Conferences' highlighted. The main content area is titled 'Online Conferences' and displays the message: 'Currently there are no on-line conferences.'

Figure 53

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.

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

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 Authorities+ National Websites and Databases+ Regulatory Information National Frameworks+ Regional and International Agreements and Regulations+ Decision Information All decisions and declarations+ Decisions under AIA+ Decisions under Article 11+ Other decisions+	LMO registry Gene registry About unique identification Risk Assessment Summaries+ Capacity-Building Opportunities+ Projects and Initiatives+ Country Needs and Priorities+ Information Sharing and Networking Mechanism Action Plan Background Information Roster of Experts Biosafety Experts+	Management Centre Sign In Forgotten Password Sign Up for a BCH account Welcome* Manage your information* Register new information* Password Change* My Profile* My subscriptions * Background Information Roster of Experts Biosafety Experts+	Information sharing Biosafety Information Resource Centre+ Directory of Organizations+ Country Profiles+ Capacity-building Network BCH Current Awareness Service (listserv)

Figure 54

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 Focal Points+ Competent National Authorities+ National Websites and Databases+ Regulatory Information National Frameworks+ Regional and International Agreements and Regulations+ Decision Information All decisions and declarations+ Decisions under AIA+ Decisions under Article 11+ Other decisions+	LMO registry ADDITIONAL RESOURCES 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 FEATURES Search Search BCH databases+ and thesauri+ Search BCH and national vocabulary and websites Search hints Virtual notebook Downloading results Linked records	BCH THESAURUS BCH Thesaurus Controlled vocabulary About the controlled 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 HTPI Documentation Web hosting information

Figure 55

3.7 Help

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

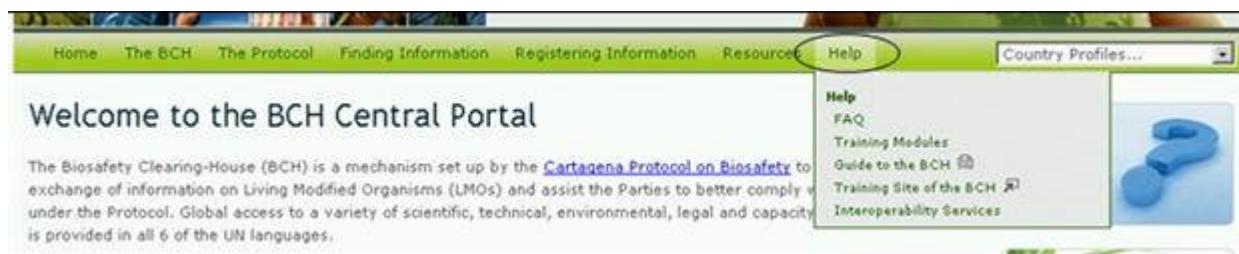


Figure 56

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 57

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.

The screenshot shows the 'Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)' section of the BCH Central Portal. The left sidebar includes links for Help, FAQ (circled in red), Training Modules, Guide to the BCH, Training Site of the BCH, and Interoperability Services. The main content area has a header 'Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)' with a sub-section '1. What is a Clearing-House?'. This section contains a detailed text about the historical and modern uses of a clearing-house. Below it is another question '2. What is the Biosafety Clearing-House of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety?' followed by a list of two points detailing its functions. A note at the bottom states that the BCH facilitates general exchange of information, including certain required under the Protocol.

Figure 58

3.7.2 Training Modules

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.

The screenshot shows the 'BCH Training Modules' page. The left sidebar includes links for Help, FAQ, Training Modules (circled in red), Guide to the BCH, Training Site of the BCH, and Interoperability Services. The main content area has a header 'BCH Training Modules' with a sub-section 'BCH Training Modules'. It states that five training modules were developed under the UNEP-GEF Biosafety Clearing-House project, in collaboration with UNITAR and SCBD. Below this are two module descriptions: 'Module 1: An introduction to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety' and 'Module 2: An introduction to the Biosafety Clearing-House'. Each module has a thumbnail image, a title, and a brief description of its content.

Figure 59

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

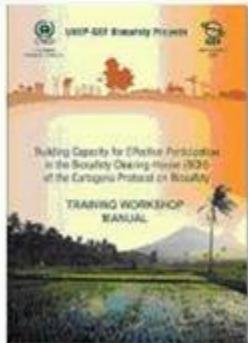
The **BCH Training Modules** are a series of five modules that provide an introduction to:

1. The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
2. The Biosafety Clearing House;
3. The BCH Central Portal;
4. Finding Information about the BCH Central Portal; and
5. Registering Information about 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 60

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.

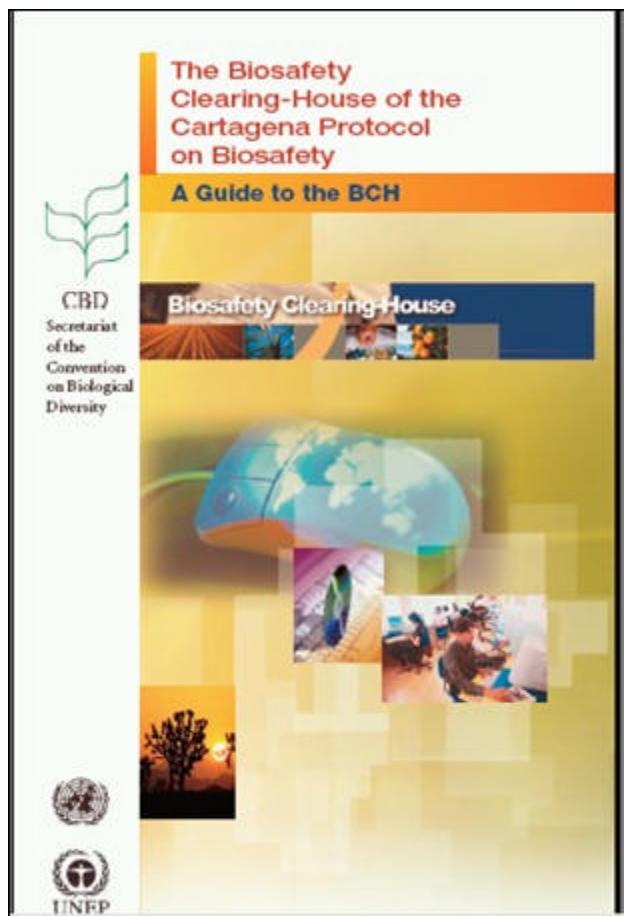


Figure 61

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).

Welcome to the Training Site of the Biosafety Clearing-House.

This **Training Site** has been implemented to help BCH users familiarize themselves with the functioning of the BCH's Management Center.

The information registered on the **Training Site** does not affect the official BCH site and, because the site is secure, it is not made publicly available. Similarly, the information registered on the official BCH site is not always available on the **Training Site**.

In order to use the **Training Site** you require a BCH training account. When your account is activated you are issued a password that provides access.

If you have a BCH account and would like to use the Management Centre, please sign in now:

Email Address / Account ID: Remember me:

Password: Sign In

Request a BCH Training Account
If you don't have an account and you wish to use the BCH Training Site please [contact us](#).

Forgot your password?
If you have an account, but have forgotten your password, please [contact us](#) to have a new password sent to you.

Figure 62

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 63

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 64

3.8 Managing Search Results

This section shows several options to sort results and the usage of XML in order to export results to interoperate with other systems.

3.8.1 Sorting Results

To change how the results of a search are sorted, the user can select one of the options from the drop-down menu, **Sort results by**, that appears at the top of any search results page. The list of options will include only those options that are relevant to the type of search the user has conducted.

The screenshot shows the 'Search results' page of the BCH Central Portal. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for 'Protocol', 'Finding Information', 'Registering Information', 'Resources', and 'Help'. A dropdown menu 'Country Profiles...' is also visible. Below the navigation, the URL 'Home | Finding Information | Search results' is shown, along with icons for print, export, and help.

The main area is titled 'Search results' and features a dropdown menu labeled 'Sort records by' with the option 'Country' selected. Other options in the dropdown include 'Date of last update', 'Last name', and 'Organization name'. To the right of the dropdown are navigation links '< Previous | 1 | Next >' and a 'Source' link. Below this, it says '2 record(s) found'.

Two records are listed:

- 8742 Jordan** National Focal Point [H.E. Eng. Faris Alijundi](#) [SCBD](#)
Biosafety Clearing-House Focal Point, Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety Secondary National Focal Point, Emergency Measures (Article 17) Contact Point, CBD National Focal Point
- 8743 Jordan** National Focal Point [H.E. Khaled Anis Irani](#) [SCBD](#)
Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety National Focal Point

Figure 65

The sorting options that may be available to users include the following:

Country: Displays search results alphabetically by country name;

Date of last update: Displays search results by the date they were added or updated, with the most recently modified records appearing first;

Last name: Displays search results alphabetically by last name of the person or contact point;

LMO trait: Displays search results alphabetically by introduced trait or characteristic. (For a full list of introduced traits, see the 'LMO traits' domain in the BCH Thesaurus);

Name of the gene: Displays search results alphabetically by name of the inserted gene. (For a full list and description of inserted genes, see the Gene Registry);

Organism name: Displays search results alphabetically by name of the parental, recipient or donor organism (For a full list and description of organisms in the BCH, see the Organisms Registry);

Organization name: Displays search results alphabetically by name of the organization (organizations may include competent national authorities or biosafety organizations);

Start date: Displays search results by the date on which capacity-building projects or opportunities will start;

Subject area: Displays search results grouped according to the subject area addressed (e.g.. type of LMO, or intended use);

Taxonomic status: Displays search results alphabetically according to the scientific name of the organism;

Technique used: Displays search results alphabetically by the technique used to introduce the modification;

Title: Displays search results alphabetically by the title of the record;

Type of record: Displays search results grouped according to the type of record;

Unique identification: Displays search results alpha-numerically by the unique identification code. (For a full list and description of unique identification codes, see the LMOs-Ulids Registry.)

3.8.2 Exporting results to XML

The user can export or download information from the BCH Central Portal to use in other applications by using the **Export Results** function. The exported information is provided in Extensible Markup Language (XML) format, a general-purpose *specification* for creating custom markup languages. Its primary purpose is to facilitate the sharing of data across different systems, particularly systems connected via the Internet.

The export facility is found at the bottom of each **Search results** page and each record.

The user can select the **Export Results** function to export either individual records or the results of a database search. These results can be imported into another program such as a word processor or spreadsheet.

The screenshot shows a search results page for 'Biosafety Expert'. A yellow arrow points from the search results to a detailed view of a specific record.

Search results

Sort records by [Country]

ID In record holder and type Source

3 record(s) found

ID	Name	Type	Source
374	Barbados Biosafety Expert	Dr. Wendy O. Hollingshead FAO/IASTI Agri-Services Unit	View Record
654	Barbados Biosafety Expert	Dr. Cyril Sebastian Roberts University of West Indies	View Record
456	Barbados Biosafety Expert	Prof. Leonard Wellington O'Garro University of West Indies	View Record

[Export all results as XML](#)

Please consult the [following page](#) for further information on using the search function.

Biosafety Expert

Record information and status

Record ID: 456 Status: Published Date of creation: 2003-06-18 21:55 GMT (andrew.bowers@cdi.uwi.edu.bb) Date of last update: 2006-09-21 21:04 GMT (andrew.bowers@cdi.uwi.edu.bb) Owner: logans@umichill.edu.bb

General information

Country of the Government making the nomination

- Barbados

Person Details

Coordinates

Additional Information

Any other relevant information:

Research Activities:

- Active collaborative research programme with Ministries of Agriculture in the OECS and Barbados since 1992 on issues of paper, tonette, moist and papaya.
- Coordination and delivery of three practical training courses, each of 4 months duration, to plant pathologists in the OECS and Barbados (1993-95).
- Provided an organizational structure for an Agricultural Research Unit proposed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Grenada upon request for assistance from the Grenada Government (1995).
- Founder of the Agricultural Research Fund of the Barbados Society for Technologists in Agriculture. The fund, which is the first of its kind in Barbados, provides small research grants for scientific research. (1996)
- Implemented a programme of research support to control yam anthracnose in Dominica (2000- -).
- Provided research support to Grenada and St. Lucia for expansion of papaya cultivation through control of bunchy top and bacterial leaf blight. In Grenada, commercial papaya cultivation has received an infected name.
- Research support for large scale cultivation of arithrum under forest canopy in St. Lucia to prevent deforestation. Arithrum culture requires shade which could be provided by forest canopy. The research support includes identifying specific agroforestry conditions favouring optimum arithrum productivity in both yield and quality and providing disease-free arithrum plants for the project.

(Export or copy this document, modified 07/06/2006)

Figure 66