



BCH
training



Surfing the BCH Central Portal

February 2010

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1 Introduction to the module

What the user will learn in this module:

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

Context:

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

Audience:

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

Purpose:

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

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

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

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2 Home Page

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

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

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

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

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

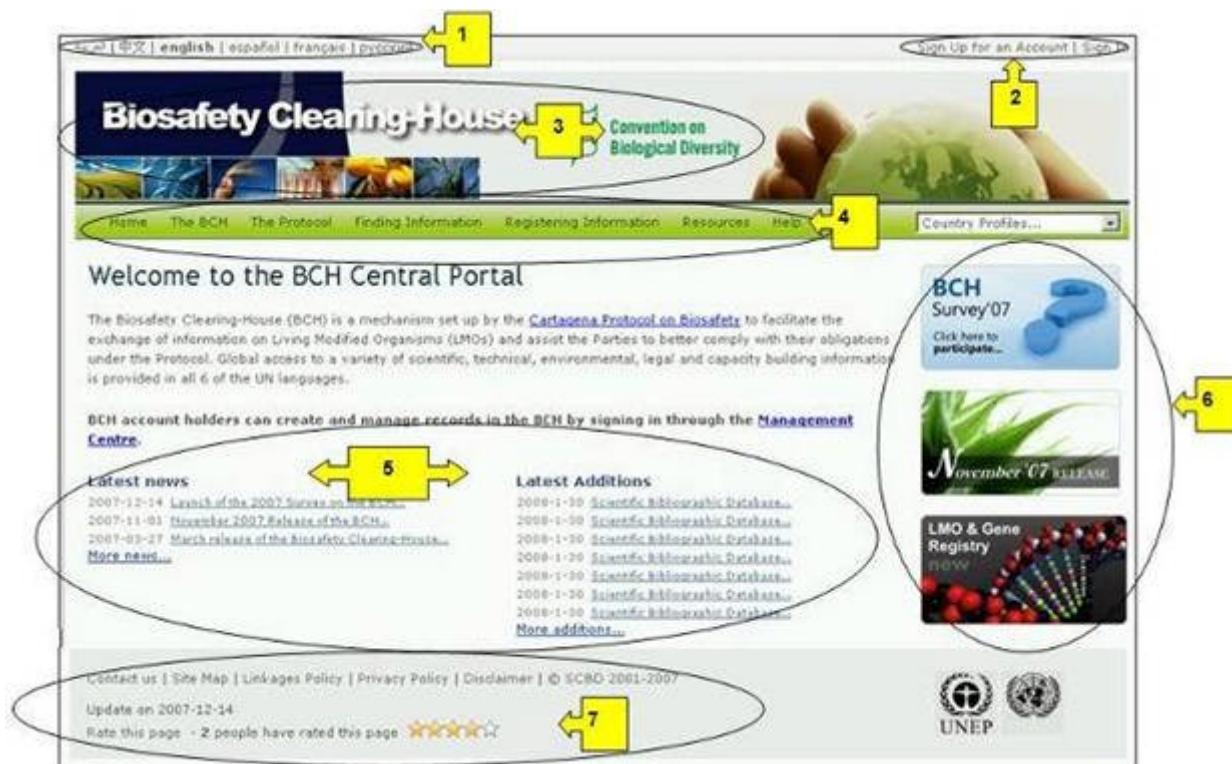


Figure 1

2.1 The Management Centre

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

Module M006 ('**Registering Information in the BCH Central Portal**' in the on-line documentation) provides detailed guidance on how to register information in the BCH.

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

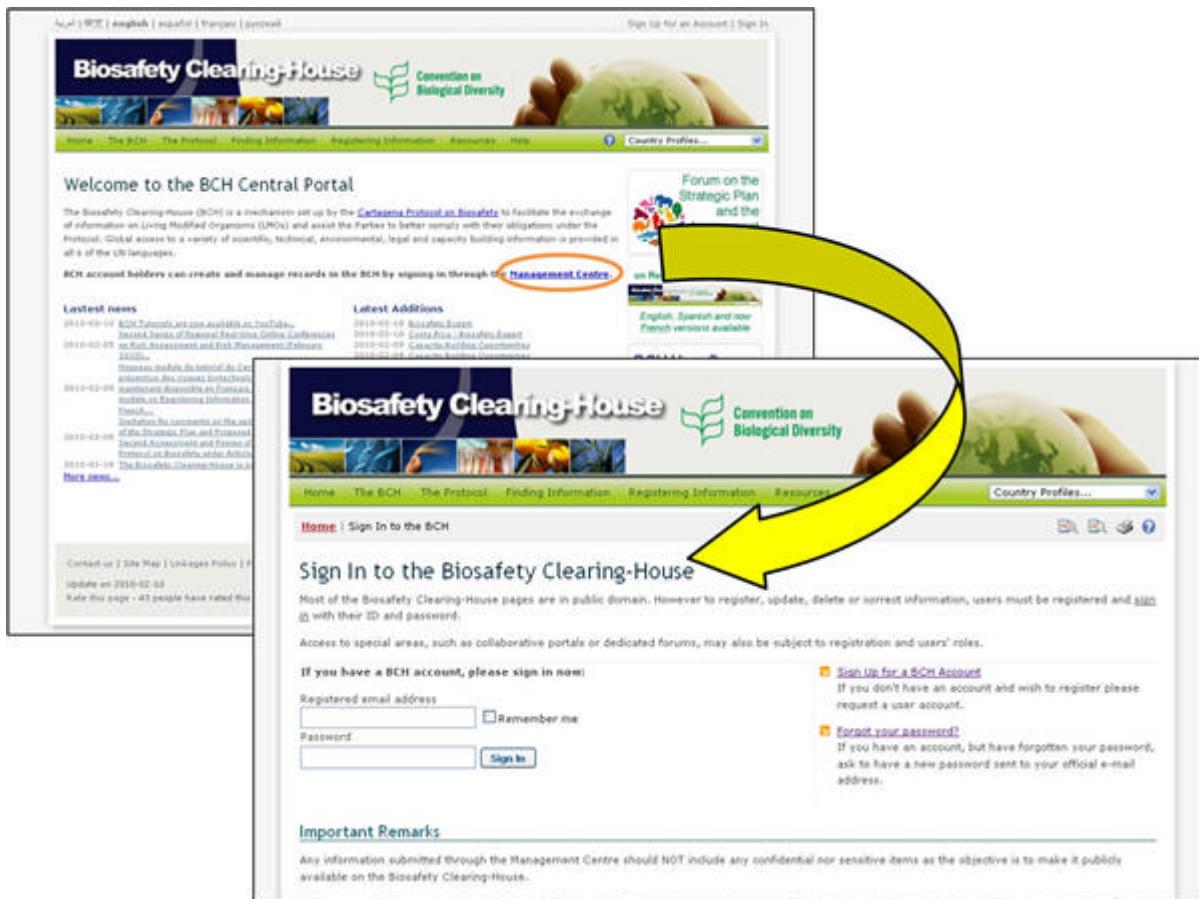


Figure 2

2.2 Latest News

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

The screenshot shows the main page of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) Central Portal. At the top, there is a green navigation bar with links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, and Log In. Below the navigation bar, a large heading says "Welcome to the BCH Central". A text block explains that the BCH is a mechanism for the exchange of information on Living Modified Organisms under the Protocol, available in all 6 UN languages. A section titled "BCH account holders can create and manage records" includes a link to "Record Centre". On the left side, there is a "Latest news" section with three items: "Launch of the 2007 Survey on the BCH...", "November 2007 Release of the BCH...", and "March release of the Biosafety Clearing-House...". There is also a link to "More news...".

Figure 3

The screenshot shows the "Biosafety Clearing-House News" page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, The BCH, Biosafety Clearing-House News, and search functions. Below the navigation bar, the title "Biosafety Clearing-House News" is displayed, along with a "Subscribe/Follow BCH News" button. A sidebar on the left contains links for "The Biosafety Clearing-House", "The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)", "Highlights", and "Policies". The main content area features a news item about BCH Tutorials available on YouTube, followed by another news item about the Second Series of Regional Real-time Online Conferences on Risk Assessment and Risk Management (February 2010). Both news items include brief descriptions and links to more details.

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 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.

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 Biosafety Clearing-House

[Home](#) | [The BCH](#)

[Home](#) | [The BCH](#)

[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](#)

[Policies](#)

[Linking External Websites Policy](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Disclaimer](#)

[Copyright](#)

[Mandate](#)

[Modality of Operation of the BCH](#)

[Multi-year Program of Work for the Operation of the BCH](#)

[Management Centre](#)

[Modalities of](#)

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 has a header 'Modalities of operation of the BCH (Annex to BS-I/3)'. Below this, a 'Sections' heading lists nine numbered points from 'Role of the Biosafety Clearing-House' to 'Periodic review'. Under 'A. Role of the Biosafety Clearing-House', there are two detailed bullet points. The left sidebar contains the same navigation menu as Figure 9, with the 'Modalities of Operation' link now highlighted in blue.

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 has a header 'Multi-year Program of Work (Annex to BS-II/2)'. A sidebar on the left contains links for 'The Biosafety Clearing-House', 'The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)', 'Highlights', and 'Policies'. The 'Multi-year Program of Work' link is highlighted in red. The main content area includes a section titled 'Programme elements' with a numbered list from 1 to 5. Below this is a section titled 'Programme element 1: Structure and function of the central portal' with a detailed objective and a list of possible activities.

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

Programme elements

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

Programme element 1: Structure and function of the central portal

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

Possible activities:

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

Figure 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. Below the navigation is a sidebar with links for The Biosafety Clearing-House, The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC), Highlights, Policies, and more. The main content area displays a section titled 'Decisions on the BCH' with two detailed articles: 'Fourth Meeting of the COP-MOP (12-16 May 2008, Bonn, Germany)' and 'Third Meeting of the COP-MOP (13-17 March 2006, Curitiba, Brazil)'. Each article includes a link to the full text.

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 includes links for The Biosafety Clearing-House, The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC), Highlights, Policies, and more. The main content area features a section titled '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 are two line graphs: 'BCH Records per Year' (showing a steady increase from 2004 to 2008) and 'Hits, Pages views & Visitors per Year' (showing total hits, total page views, and total visitors over the same period).

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 Central Portal homepage. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles. The main content area is titled 'The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)'. On the left, there's a sidebar with sections like 'The Biosafety Clearing-House', 'The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)', 'Highlights', and 'Policies'. The main content area has a heading 'Mandate of the BCH-IAC' with three bullet points: 'Mandate of the BCH-IAC', 'Meetings of the BCH Informal Advisory Committee', and 'Documents about the preparatory work on the IAC'. Below this is a section titled 'Mandate of the BCH-IAC' with a detailed description of the committee's role. At the bottom of this section, there are two links: 'Go to the BCH-IAC forum participants' and 'Go to the list of BCH-IAC forum participants'. A large yellow arrow points from the first link to the second one. The right side of the page contains logos for UNEP and CBD, and information about the meeting: 'DIST. GENERAL', 'UNEP/CBD/BG/BCH-IAC/3/3', '29 October 2007', and 'ORIGINAL ENGLISH'. Below this is a summary of the meeting outcomes.

MANDATE OF THE INFORMAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE BIOSAFETY CLEARING-HOUSE

Third meeting
Montreal, 4-5 October 2007

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

I. INTRODUCTION

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

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 'Biosafety Clearing-House' website. At the top, there's a banner for the Convention on Biological Diversity. The main navigation bar includes links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A sidebar on the left contains links for The Biosafety Clearing-House, The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC), Highlights, Policies, and more. The main content area displays a table titled 'Current list of participants to the BCH IAC forum' with 11 entries, each showing a participant's name, email, country, and organization.

Current list of participants to the BCH IAC forum	
1. Ms. Chantal Nicole Andrianarivo	Madagascar Madagascar National Parks
2. Dr. Joachim Bendiek	Germany Bundesamt für Verbraucherschutz & Lebensmittelsicherheit (BVL) - [Federal Office of Consumer Protection & Food Safety]
3. Prakash Bista	Switzerland UNEP-GEF
4. Mr. Andrew Bowers	Canada UNEP/SCBD/Biosafety
5. Dr Wendy Craig	Italy ICGEB
6. Ph.D. Lúcia de Souza	Switzerland ANBio / Public Research and Regulation Initiative (PRRI)
7. Dr. Enrique N. Fernandez-	Peru Universidad Nacional Agraria, La Molina
8. Giovanni Ferraiolo	UNEP/SCBD/Biosafety
9. Tea Garcia-Huidobro	Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente (PNUMA)
10. Ms. Anastasia Idrisova	Tajikistan National Biodiversity and Biosafety Center
11. Mr Peter Kearns	France INRA

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 (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.

Biosafety Clearing-House Convention on Biological Diversity

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

The Biosafety Clearing-House

- Modalities of Operation
- Multi-year Program of Work
- Decisions on the BCH
- Reports & Reviews
- Development of the BCH
- The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH IAC)**
- SAC mandate & writings
- SAC forum participants
- Highlights**

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! BHCPCB 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 BHCPCB'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/5PfJng>

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

Base BCH Central Portal

8 5 9

Following Following Interests

Events

Favorites

Following

0 Post base of BCHCB's news

Figure 17

3.2.7.2 BCH Latest Additions

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

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

The screenshot shows the main interface of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) Central Portal. At the top, there are language links (Arabic, Chinese, English, Spanish, French, Russian) and account options (Sign Up for an Account, Sign In). The header includes the BCH logo and the Convention on Biological Diversity logo. Below the header, a navigation bar offers links to Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles. On the left, a sidebar provides links to various sections like The Biosafety Clearing-House, The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC), Highlights, Policies, and Notifications. The main content area displays the 'Latest Additions' section, which lists several records added on February 9, 2010. One specific record is highlighted with a yellow arrow and expanded into a detailed view. This detailed view shows the record's title ('Capacity Building Opportunity'), record information (status: Published, creation date: 2010-02-09 17:21 GMT, last update: 2010-02-09 16:54 GMT, owner: urika.nissen@cbd.int), general description ('Agricultural biotechnologies in developing countries (ABDC-10) conference, Guadalajara, Mexico'), URL ('Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN'), and lead institution ('Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)').

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" (Section 3.3.6).

3.2.7.4 Meetings and Documents

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

3.2.8 Policies

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

Figure 19

3.2.8.1 Linking External Websites Policy

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

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

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

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

Figure 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 disclaimer page. At the top, there are language links (español,中文, english, français, русский) and navigation links (Mailbox, My Profile, Sign Out). The header features the BCH logo and the Convention on Biological Diversity logo. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A sidebar on the left contains links for The Biosafety Clearing-House, The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC), Highlights, and Policies. The main content area is titled "Disclaimer" and includes a section titled "Accuracy of the information" with two numbered points. At the bottom of the page are contact links (Contact us, Site Map, Linkages Policy, Privacy Policy, Disclaimer) and a copyright notice (© SCBD 2001-2009).

Figure 22

3.2.8.4 Copyright

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

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

The screenshot shows the main 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... A "Mailbox | My Profile | Sign Out" link is also present. The header features the "Biosafety Clearing-House" logo and the "Convention on Biological Diversity" logo with its emblem. Below the header, there is a banner image of a hand holding a globe. The left sidebar contains several sections with links: "The Biosafety Clearing-House" (Modalities of Operation, Multi-year Program of Work, Decisions on the BCH, Reports & Reviews, Development of the BCH), "The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)" (IAC mandate & meetings, IAC forum participants), "Highlights" (BCH News, Latest Additions, Notifications 93, Meetings and Documents 93), "Policies" (Linking External Websites Policy, Privacy Policy, Disclaimer, Copyright), and "Contact us | Site Map | Linkages Policy | Privacy Policy | Disclaimer | © SCBD 2001-2009". The main content area is titled "Copyright" and contains a note about the website's ownership by the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) and its logo.

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.

The screenshot shows the "The Cartagena Protocol" page from the BCH website. The navigation bar at the top includes "Home", "The BCH", "The Protocol" (which is highlighted in green), "Finding Information", "Registering Information", "Resources", "Help", and "Country Profiles...". The left sidebar has a section for "The Cartagena Protocol" with links to "Text of the Protocol", "Parties to the Protocol", "COP-MOP Decisions", "Reporting", "Meetings and Documents", and "Notifications". The main content area is titled "A Protocol on Biosafety" and contains a detailed description of the protocol, mentioning it is an international treaty governing the transboundary movement of living modified organisms (LMOs) resulting from modern biotechnology from one country to another. It was adopted on 29 January 2000 as a supplementary agreement to the Convention on Biological Diversity and entered into force on 11 September 2003. Below this, there is a "Sections" section with links to "Introduction", "History", "The ICCP Process", and "Timeline".

Figure 24

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

Figure 25

The Protocol page is divided into four sections that provide:

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

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

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

3.3.1 Text of the Protocol

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

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

Figure 26

3.3.2 Parties to the Protocol

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

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

- Left Page: Parties to the Protocol**
 - Header: Biosafety Clearing-House, Convention on Biological Diversity
 - Menu: Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Ratifying Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, Country Profiles
 - Section: The Cartagena Protocol
 - Text: The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity was adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on 29 January 2000. In accordance with its Article 30, the Protocol was opened for signature at the United Nations Office at Nairobi by States and regional economic integration organizations from 18 to 26 May 2000, and remained open for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 June 2000 to 4 June 2001. By that date the Protocol had received 133 signatures. The Protocol entered into force on 11 September 2003, ninety days after receipt of the fifth instrument of ratification (Article 37).
 - Table: Shows the date of signature for various countries:

#	Country	Date of signature
1.	Algeria	May 25, 2000
2.	Algeria	May 24, 2000
3.	Armenia	May 24, 2000
4.	Austria	May 24, 2000
5.	Azerbaijan	May 24, 2000
- Right Page: Country Profile - Algeria**
 - Header: Home | The Cartagena Protocol | Parties to the Protocol | Country Profile
 - Section: Country Profile
 - Text: Profile information and status for Algeria:

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	2008-01-25 15:16 UTC
 - Table: Type of document

Type of document	Number of records	Date of last update
Biosafety Expert	0	-
Capacity Building Project	0	-
Competent National Authority	0	-
Country Needs and Priorities	0	-
Country's Decision or any other Communication	0	-
Law, Regulation or Guideline	1	2008-01-25 15:16 UTC

Figure 27

3.3.3 COP-MOP Decisions

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

The screenshot shows two pages from the Biosafety Clearing-House website related to COP-MOP Decisions:

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

Figure 28

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

The screenshot shows two identical search forms for 'COP-MOP Decisions' side-by-side. Each form has three dropdown menus: 'Subject' (set to '<All>'), 'Meeting' (set to '<All>'), and 'Keywords'. The 'Keywords' dropdown lists several biosafety-related terms: Biosafety Clearing-House, Budget, Capacity-building, and Compliance. In the right-hand search form, the 'Keywords' dropdown also lists COP-MOP meetings: COP-MOP 4, COP-MOP 3, COP-MOP 2, and COP-MOP 1. A blue bar highlights 'COP-MOP 3' in this list. Both forms have a 'Search' button at the bottom right.

Figure 29

3.3.4 Reporting

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

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

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

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

National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

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

First National Report (2007):

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

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

Figure 30

3.3.4.1 National Reports

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

Surfing the BCH Central Portal

The screenshot shows the 'Reporting' section of the 'The Cartagena Protocol' page. The 'National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety' section is circled in orange. Below it, a dropdown menu set to 'France' is also circled in orange. The portal has a green header bar with links like 'Home', 'The BCH', 'The Protocol', etc., and a sidebar on the left with sections like 'Text of the Protocol', 'Parties to the Protocol', 'COP-MOP Decisions', 'Reporting', 'Meetings and Documents', and 'Notifications'.

National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

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

First National Report (2007):

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

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

Language: French Available document formats:

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

Interim National Report (2005):

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

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

Language: English Available document formats:

Figure 31

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.

First report

National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

First Regular National Report (2007)

Interim report

National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Interim National Report (2005)

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.

Report Selection

Analyze by Country Country Group (eg. Africa)

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

Armenia
Australia
Austria
Barbados
Belgium

Search for in the questions

Matrix language Only show the report matrix

Figure 33

Report Selection

Analyze by Country Country Group (eg. Africa)

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

Armenia
 Australia
 Austria
 Barbados
 Belgium

Search for in the questions

Matrix language Only show the report matrix

Figure 34

3.3.4.2 Reports on Activities of the Secretariat

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

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

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

Search the reports on CBD activities:

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

Roster of Experts Annual Report

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

- July to September: April to June 2008
- January to March: October to December 2008
- Search the reports on the operation of the Secretariat:
- [Go to the top of the page](#)

Contact us | Site Map | Linkages Policy | Privacy Policy | Disclaimer | Rate this page

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity 

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

I. INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

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

Figure 35

3.3.4.3 Roster of Experts Annual Reports

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

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

Roster of Experts Annual Reports

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

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

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

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

<Select reporting period>

Report on the Roster of Experts on Biosafety for Year 2008

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

Status of the Roster

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

Region	No. Government making nominations	No. of experts nominated	Percentage of total number of nominations
Africa	21	205	32%
Asia and the Pacific	19	133	21%

Figure 36

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

3.3.5 Cartagena Protocol Meetings and Documents

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

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

Home | 中文 | english | español | français | русский | Mailbox | My Profile | Sign Out

Biosafety Clearing-House Convention on Biological Diversity

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

The Cartagena Protocol

- [Text of the Protocol](#)
- [Parties to the Protocol](#)
- [COP-MOP Decisions](#)
- [Reporting](#)
- [Meetings and Documents](#)
- [Notifications](#)

[Home | The Cartagena Protocol | Meetings](#)

Cartagena Protocol Meetings

Search meetings

Country: Year: Keywords:

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

Upcoming Meetings

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

Figure 37

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

3.3.6 Cartagena Protocol Notifications

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

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

The screenshot shows the Biosafety Cleaning-House website interface. At the top, there are language links (arabic, 中文, english, español, français, русский) and navigation links (Mailbox, My Profile, Sign Out). The header features the "Biosafety Cleaning-House" logo and the Convention on Biological Diversity logo. Below the header is a banner with a globe and the text "2010 International Year of Biodiversity". The main menu includes Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A dropdown menu for "The Cartagena Protocol" is open, showing options like Text of the Protocol, Parties to the Protocol, COP-MOP Decisions, Reporting, Meetings and Documents, and Notifications. A search bar for "Search notifications" and a "Keywords:" input field are also present. The central content area displays a list of "Cartagena Protocol Notifications" with a title "Participation in the UNEP-GEF Project 'BCH II: Continued enhancement of building capacity for effective participation in the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH)'". The notification details include the date (4 February 2010), reference (SCBD/BIS/GP/ABw/70446), and a message from Madam/Sir. The message discusses the approval of the UNEP-GEF Project and its aim to enhance capacity for effective participation in the BCH. It also mentions the need for endorsement by GEF Operational Focal Points. The notification ends with a closing statement and contact information for further inquiries. A large yellow arrow points from the left sidebar towards the main notification list.

Figure 38

3.4 How to Find Information

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

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

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 [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

Sign 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

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 How to Register Information

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

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

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

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

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

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

Detailed instructions on using the Management Centre are provided in Module MO06A.

The Biosafety Clearing-House Management Center provides an electronic, web-based mechanism to register, update, delete or correct information. Registration of information through the Management Center of the Biosafety Clearing-House is restricted, and access to this section of the web site is reserved for the BCH National Focal Points and other authorized users.

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

Registered email address: Remember me

Password:

Important Remarks

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

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

The Management Centre is protected from unauthorized registration through a secure system of information exchange called Secure Socket Layer. It also uses a system of passwords to control access and use.

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

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

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

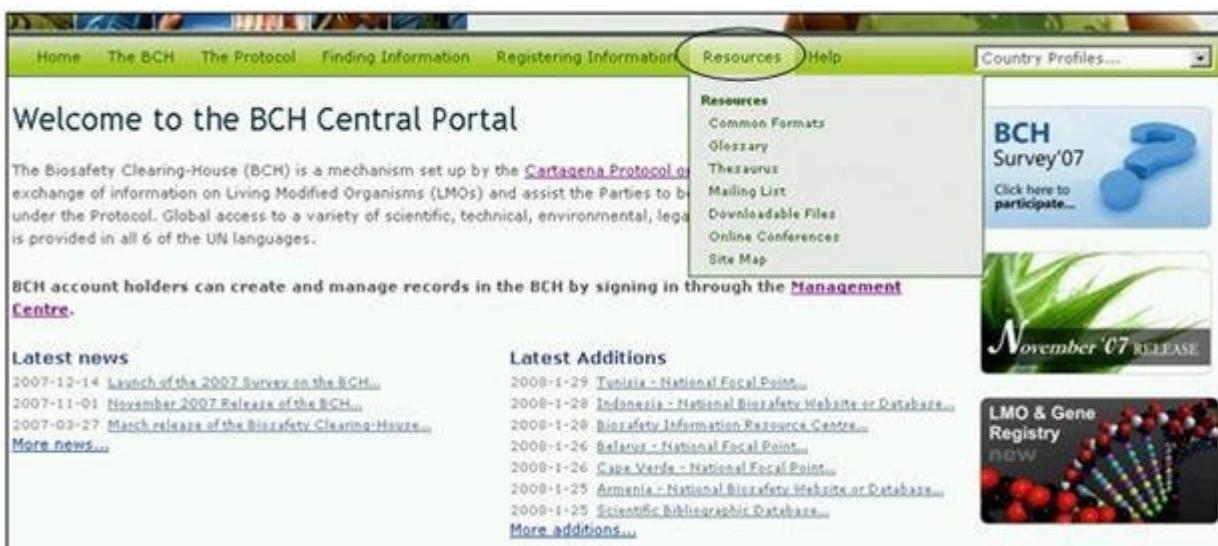


Figure 42

A screenshot of the "Resources" page of the BCH Central Portal. The page has a sidebar on the left with links to Common Formats, Glossary, Thesaurus, Mailing List, Downloadable Files, Online Conferences, and Site Map. The main content area starts with a "Home | Resources" link. Below it is a "Resources" section with a "Common Formats" subsection. It explains that common formats standardize information for easier searching. The "Glossary" section follows, stating that it provides definitions of common terms. The "Thesaurus" section describes it as a list of pre-defined terms and their synonyms. The "Mailing List" section informs users about two available listservs. The "Downloadable files" section links to downloadable files for National Contacts, National Reports, and Roster of Experts. Finally, the "Site map" section provides 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

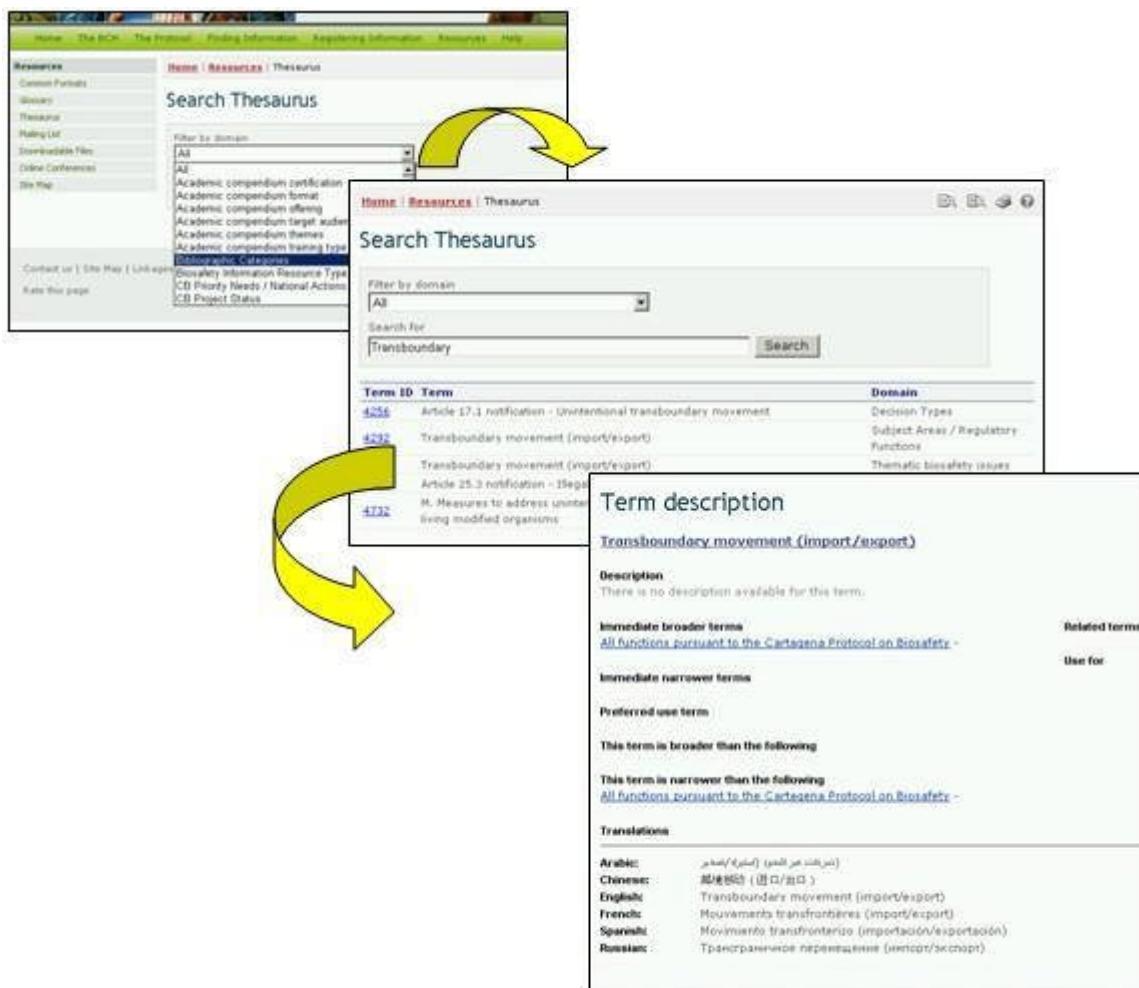


Figure 47

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:

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’.

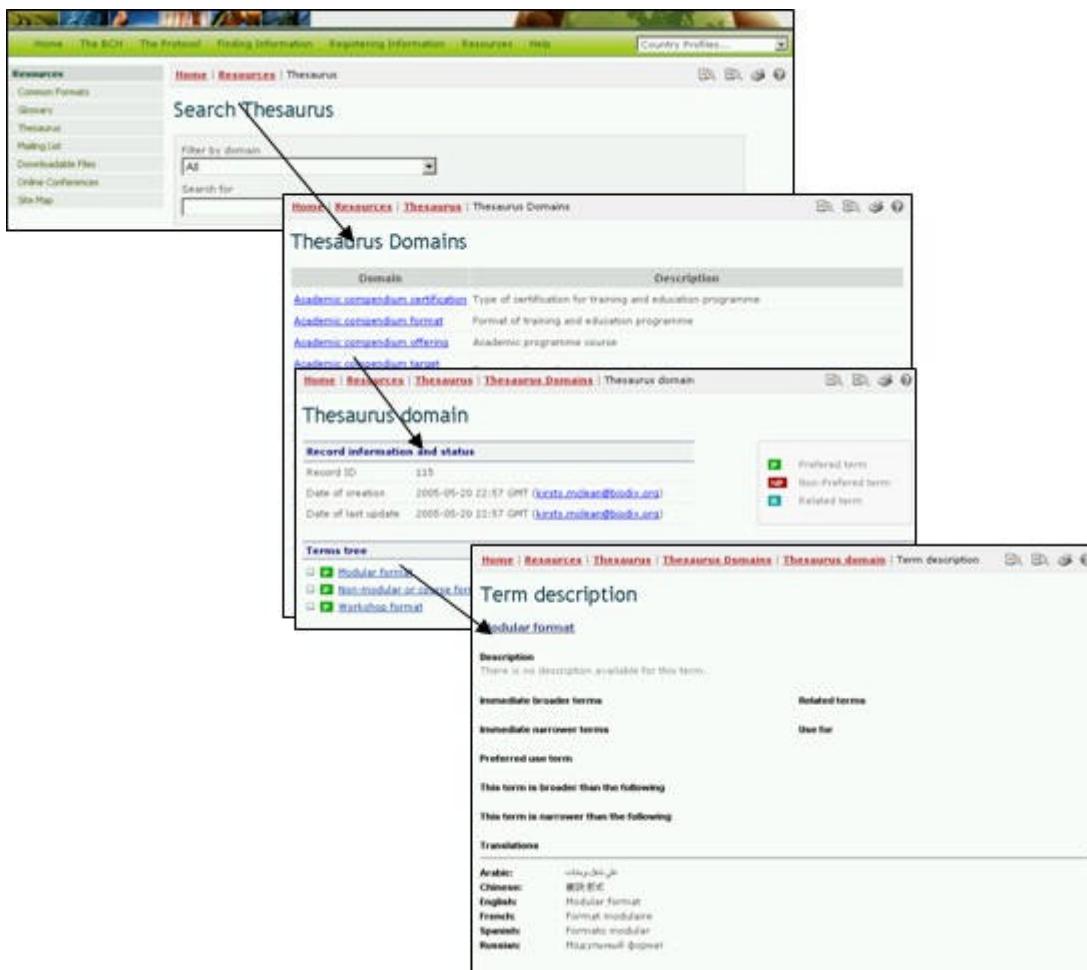


Figure 49

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 browser window for the BCH Central Portal. The title bar includes links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A search bar and a user profile icon are also present.

The main content area has a header "Sign Up for a BCH Account". Below it is a note: "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." A note below states: "Creation of accounts for online registration of most information via the Management Centre is restricted to specific user categories." Another note says: "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...](#)".

A note for other users: "Other users wishing to participate in the BCH should contact their BCH National Focal Point or the Secretariat for assistance."

A section titled "Please select the type of account you are requesting." contains several radio button options:

- 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**: A text input field is provided for this option.

At the bottom are two buttons: "Continue" and "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. 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 HTPL Documentation Web hosting information

Figure 55

3.7 Help

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

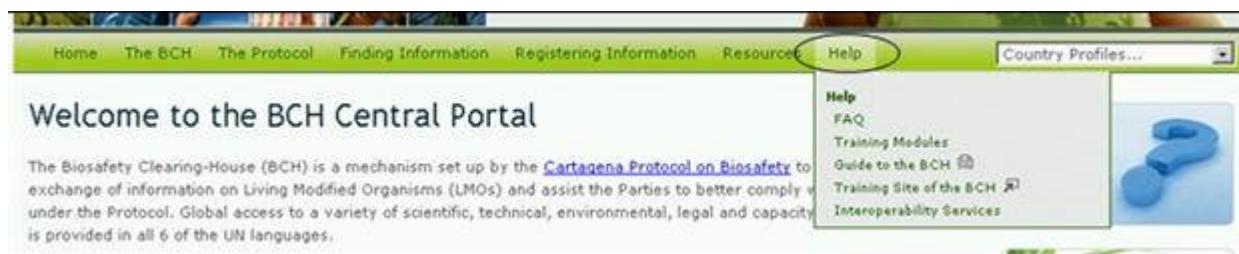


Figure 56

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 information exchange and is the sole means for Parties to provide certain information required under the Protocol.

Figure 58

3.7.2 Training Modules Link

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

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, a brief description, and a bulleted list of contents.

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

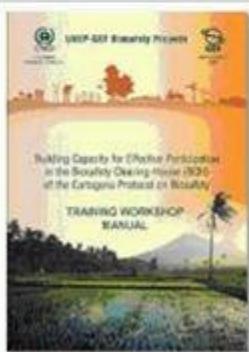
The **BCH Training Modules** are a series of five modules that provide an introduction to:

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

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

Interactive BCH Training Modules

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



[Interactive Module 1: Introduction to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety](#)

[Interactive Module 2: Introduction to the Biosafety Clearing-House](#)

Figure 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.

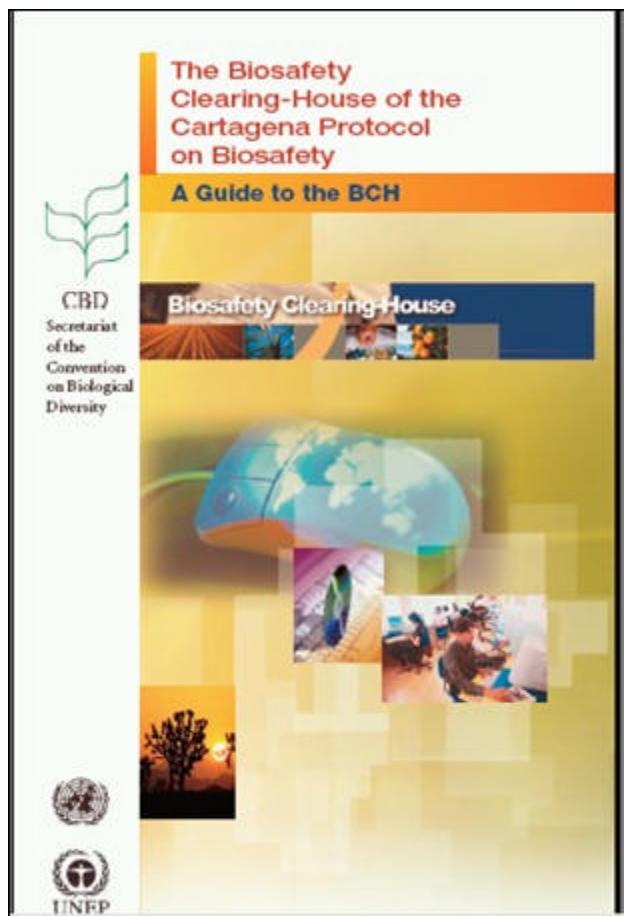


Figure 61

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 'Finding Information' section of the BCH Central Portal. A dropdown menu titled 'Sort records by' is open, showing options: Country (selected), Date of last update, Last name, and Organization name. The main area displays search results for 'Jordan'. Record 8742 is listed as 'National Focal Point' with contact 'H.E. Eng. Faris Alijundi' and source 'SCBD'. Record 8743 is also listed as 'National Focal Point' with contact 'H.E. Khaled Anis Irani' and source 'SCBD'. There are 2 record(s) found.

ID	Record	Contact	Source
8742	Jordan National Focal Point	H.E. Eng. Faris Alijundi	SCBD
8743	Jordan National Focal Point	H.E. Khaled Anis Irani	SCBD

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' on the BCH Central Portal. The results list three records from Barbados:

- 374 Barbados Biosafety Expert Dr. Wendy O. Hollingshead FARM-A/SIS Agri-Services Unit [View]
- 654 Barbados Biosafety Expert Dr. Cyril Sebastian Roberts University of West Indies [View]
- 456 Barbados Biosafety Expert Prof. Leonard Wellington University of West Indies [View]

A yellow arrow points from the search results to a detailed view of the third record (Prof. Leonard Wellington). The detailed view page is titled 'Biosafety Expert' and contains the following information:

Record information and status

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

General information

Country of the Government making the nomination

- Barbados

Person Details

Coordinates

Prof. Leonard Wellington O'Garro
 Professor of Plant Pathology
 University of West Indies
 Dept. of Biological and Chemical Sciences
 Faculty of Science and Technology
 Cave Hill Campus
 University of West Indies

Additional Information

Any other relevant information

Outreach Research Activities:

- Active collaborative research programme with Ministries of Agriculture in the OECS and Barbados since 1992 on issues of paper, tonello, 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 form.
- 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.

Figure 66