



BCH
training



A User's Guide to the Central Portal of the Biosafety Clearing-House

“Registering Information in the BCH Central Portal”

July 2012

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1. Introduction to the Manual

In this manual you will learn about the creation and management of information in the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) through its Management Centre. It explains:

- What the BCH Management Centre is and how to access it
- How to create and manage information in the BCH
- How to manage your personal profile
- How to manage National Authorized Users
- How to use BCH Training Site

Context

The UNEP-GEF Project for Capacity Building for Effective Participation in the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH-I), 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 later updated within the UNEP-GEF Project for Continued Enhancement of Capacity Building for Effective Participation in the BCH (BCH-II). It 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 manuals, each addressing one element of the BCH.

Audience

This manual is designed to provide guidance to BCH users who create and manage information in the BCH. It was developed for a non-technical audience with little or no knowledge of either the Cartagena Protocol or the BCH but who need to register information, access and manage information or set-up the IT-related components of the BCH.

Purpose

This manual demonstrates the process of registering information online directly in the BCH Central Portal through the Management Centre of the BCH.

BCH users with limited internet access may also register information offline by completing the offline common formats and submitting them, duly signed, to the Secretariat.

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2. The BCH Management Centre

The Management Centre is a tool that enables users to create and manage information in the BCH. Access is restricted to BCH users with a registered BCH account.

Access to the “Registering Information” section of the BCH is available from the green horizontal navigation bar which appears on every page of the BCH Central Portal and also from the “Sign In” link in the upper right corner.



Figure 1

Any user can search the BCH databases at <http://bch.cbd.int/> without a registered BCH account.

Registering a BCH account is only necessary if the user:

- Needs to submit information to the BCH;
- Would like to receive notifications by Email; or
- Would like to participate in the online forums and/or other interactive events organized through the BCH

3. Sign in to the Biosafety Clearing-House

When clicked on the “Registering information” or “Sign in” link, you are redirected to the “Sign in to the Biosafety Clearing-House” page, which has the following main components:

1. The “Sign in” mechanism, with the **Remember me** checkbox;
2. The **Sign up for an Account** and **Sign Up for a BCH Account** links; and
3. The **Forgot your Password?** link.



Figure 2

3.1. The “Sign in” mechanism

In order to access the “Registering Information” section, you need to sign in with your registered BCH account. To sign in: (i) enter the email address which you used to register for a BCH account in the **Registered email address** field, (ii) enter the password in the **Password** field and (iii) click the **Sign In** button.

If you select the **Remember me** checkbox, the computer you are using will remember your email address (but not the password) the next time you sign in to the Management Centre.

3.2. The “Sign up for a BCH account” links.

To register in the BCH click on the “Sign up for a BCH account” or «Sign up for an Account” link. These links open a page where you can request a “general user account” by entering your contact details and clicking the button “Submit request”.

The screenshot shows a web-based form for creating a general user account. At the top, there are links for Home, Sign Up for a BCH Account, and General User Account. Below these are sections for account confirmation and privacy policy information. The main form area is titled 'Please provide the information below.' It contains fields for Name (Title: Ms., First name: Irene, Last name: Sulawayo), Job Title, Department, Organization (University of Durban), Address, City (Durban), Country (South Africa), Phone (+27 31 228-7538), Email address (irene.sulawayo@adwil.za), Fax (+27 31 228-7500), Time Zone (GMT +2 - EET: Eastern European), and Language (English). A 'Notes' section is present but empty. At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'Submit request' and 'Cancel request'. The 'Submit request' button is highlighted with a red oval.

Figure 3

3.2.1. Choosing a password

When your account is first created, a welcome message and a temporary password will be sent to the email address provided. As a security measure, you will be asked to change this password the first time you sign in to your account.

You can also change your password at any time by selecting the **Password Change** option in the left-hand menu of the **Personal Account** section (see “Password Change” section).

The Management Centre is protected against unauthorized registration through a secure system of information exchange called Secure Socket Layer (SSL). The email address and password system is used to control access to the website. As a consequence, it is of utmost importance to choose a password that is difficult to guess and by no means should it be given out.

Choosing a good password is very important. It must be fairly long and difficult to guess but also easy to remember. BCH passwords are case sensitive and must be between 8 and 64 characters long. You can use numbers and/or letters in the password.

Some advice on selecting your password:

- Avoid using “dictionary words” (i.e. words that appear in a standard dictionary).
- Use a combination of upper and lower case letters and numbers.
- Avoid using characters that don’t appear on a standard keyboard (e.g. Euro symbol) since they may not work correctly in all circumstances (e.g. if you need to sign in to your account while travelling).
- A popular method for selecting easy-to-remember passwords is to use letters and numbers from a phrase or song lyric. For example, “The Biosafety Protocol was adopted in January 2000” becomes “TBPwaiJ2000”.

3.3. The “Forgot your password?” link

If you already have an account, but you do not remember your password, click on the **Forgot your password?** link. You will be requested to enter your registered email address. Then click on “Continue” button. A new password will automatically be sent to that email address.

If you change your email address, please update your account by using the “My profile” link in the right top corner of the web-site. In case you are the National Focal Point, contact the Secretariat to have your account updated.



Figure 4

4. The Management Centre main page

The Management Centre main page serves as the entry point for registering information in the BCH.

Once you are signed in, you can access to the following components of the Management Centre:

1. Register a new record;
2. Edit a published record;
3. Edit a draft record;
4. Records pending validation prior to publication
5. Personal Account;
6. Administration (only for NFPs).

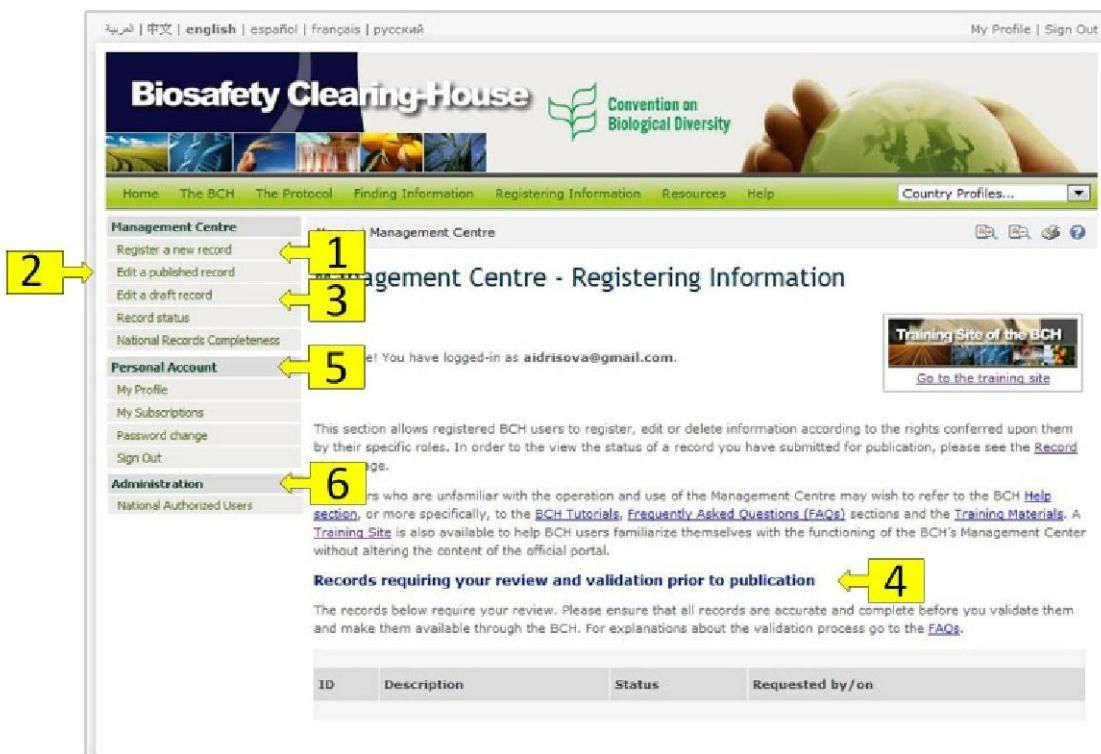


Figure 5

4.1. Register a new record

By clicking on the **Register a new record** link in the left-hand menu, registered users can create records and make them available to the public through the BCH. In the BCH, the stored documents are called records.

The registering a new record process consists of the following steps:

- Select the type of record from the list of links provided;
- Complete all of the fields on the electronic registration forms;
- Click on the **Review** button to double check the completeness and accuracy of the information entered
- Click on the **Save changes** button; and
- Click on the **Submit for publishing** button to make the record public in the BCH.

There are two categories of information in the BCH: National Records and Reference Records

The screenshot shows the BCH website interface. At the top, there's a language selection bar with icons for Arabic, Chinese, English, Spanish, French, and Russian. On the right, there are 'My Profile' and 'Sign Out' links. The header features the 'Biosafety Clearing-House' logo and the 'Convention on Biological Diversity' logo. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A dropdown arrow is shown next to 'Country Profiles...'. The main content area has a title 'Register a new record'. Underneath it, there's a section titled 'Instructions' with a note: 'From this page, registered users may submit new records in the BCH according to their role.' It also says: 'Please note the following:' followed by a bulleted list of submission requirements. A note in the sidebar states: 'Note: The pages of the BCH Management Centre have been recently updated. Access to the earlier sections My Drafts and Create and Manage Your Information have been moved to the above menu and renamed.' At the bottom of the main content area, there's a 'Sections' list with two items: 'Registering National Records' and 'Registering Reference Records'. The 'Registering National Records' link is circled in red.

Figure 6

The types of record that registered users may submit depend on their role as follows:

- BCH national focal points (BCH-NFPs) may register all types of BCH records with the exception of National Focal Point records. When submitted by BCH-NFPs, National Records are directly published while Reference Records are subject to validation by the Secretariat prior to publication in the BCH.
- National Authorized Users (NAUs) may also register all types of BCH records with the exception of National Focal Point records. When submitted by NAU, National Records are subject to validation by BCH-NFP and Reference Records are subject to validation by the Secretariat prior to publication in the BCH.
- General registered users may register all types of Reference Records, subject to validation by the Secretariat prior to publication in the BCH

The **Register a new record** page provides access to the following:

1. Categories of documents (national and reference records);
2. Names of the Common Formats;
3. Link to offline Common Formats;
4. Link to online Common Formats.

1

2

3

4

Figure 7

4.1.1. Categories of documents: national and reference records

There are two categories of documents that can be submitted to the BCH: **national** and **reference** records.

The **national records** that can be submitted are the following:

National Documents	Purpose
National Focal Points	Registering a National Focal Point (CPB, BCH or Article 17).
National Website or Database	Registering national websites and databases related to biosafety.
Competent National Authorities	Registering Competent National Authorities that are nominated and authorized by the governments for performing the administrative functions required by Article 19 of the Protocol.
Biosafety Law, Regulation, Guidelines & Regional and International Agreements	Registering any document pertaining to the national regulatory framework and relevant to biosafety or the transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms.
Country's Decision or any other Communication	Registering any national decisions or communications relevant to biosafety or the transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms.
Risk assessment generated by a Regulatory Process	Registering a summary or a report of a risk assessment or environmental reviews of LMOs generated by regulatory processes including, where appropriate, relevant information regarding products thereof, namely, processed materials that are of living modified organism origin, containing detectable novel combinations of replicable genetic material obtained through the use of modern biotechnology.
Biosafety Experts	Registering a Biosafety expert according to Decisions BS-I/4 and BS-IV/4
Report on the assignment undertaken by the Biosafety Expert	Registering a Report on a Biosafety Expert Assignment according to Decisions BS-I/4 and BS-IV/4.

The submission of national records is limited to BCH National Focal Points (BCH-NFP) and National Authorized Users (NAUs) pending BCH-NFP validation. The list of Common Formats for national records is therefore made available only to these users.

The submission of information regarding designation of National Focal Points is restricted to National Focal Points or Ministers of State and can only be registered by the Secretariat upon receipt of official written communications addressed to the Executive Secretary and endorsed by the relevant authorities (see below). Accordingly, this particular Common Format is only made available offline and cannot be submitted electronically.

- The designation of a *National Focal Point for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety* (CPB-NFP) must be endorsed by the National Focal Point for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD-NFP) or by a direct expression of the Government (i.e. a Minister of State).

- The designation of a *National Focal Point for the Biosafety Clearing-House* (BCH-NFP) must be endorsed by the National Focal Point for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB-NFP).
- The designation of a *Contact point for unintentional transboundary movements and emergency measures* (Art. 17) must be endorsed by the Biosafety Clearing-House National Focal Point (BCH-NFP).

The **reference records** that can be submitted to the BCH are the following:

Reference Documents	Purpose
Contact details	Registering contact details of a person or organization. For instance, an organization could be a representative of the private sector, research institutions, NGOs (non-governmental organizations), IGOs (Intergovernmental organizations), etc.
Capacity Building Activities, Projects, and Opportunities	Registering information concerning capacity building opportunities, projects and activities, such as fund grants, scholarships, technical assistance, training workshops, discussion forums and others.
Capacity-Building Needs Assessment	Registering information about country needs regarding biosafety capacity building. This includes main areas where capacity building is needed, and thorough details about the specific activities or resources needed.
Biosafety Organization including Laboratory for detection and identification of LMOs	Registering a Biosafety Organization for inclusion in the Directory of Biosafety Organizations. These organizations are involved in activities related to the application of the protocol on biosafety including registration of work summaries and contact details.
Biosafety Information Resource Centre (BIRC)	Registering information for inclusion in the Biosafety Information Resource Centre (BIRC). It consists of an electronic catalogue of biosafety-related publications and information resources. It aims to provide wider access to the biosafety-related resources and information available, as well as spreading their usage.
BCH News	Submitting news to the BCH.
Risk assessment generated by an independent or non-regulatory process	Registering risk assessments other than those generated by a regulatory process.
Living Modified Organisms (LMOs)	Registering summarized information on Living Modified Organisms, including the transformation event, the genetic modification, and the Unique Identifier Code.
Genetic element	Registering information on genes or DNA sequences used in LMOs. It refers to nucleic acid sequences that were used to create LMO registered in the BCH.
Organism	Registering information on parental, recipient or donor organisms related to the LMO registered in the BCH.

All registered BCH users may submit reference records. However, they will only be made public once they have been validated by the Secretariat.

Note: both national and reference records can contain, besides their own information, links to other Common Formats. For example, an LMO record can refer to other records such as an inserted gene, the parental organism, the contact details of an applicant, etc. (Figure 8)

Referencing other records greatly reduces the need to manually enter duplicate information. For example, you can enter the contact details of a Competent National Authority (CNA) only once and then simply refer to that record when registering all of the decisions that CNA has taken (i.e. rather than entering the contact details every time a decision is registered).

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://bch.cbd.int/managementcentre/edit/decision.shtml>. The page is titled 'Contact(s) or the Contact person(s) or the organization responsible for the risk assessment - if applicable'. It lists four items: 'Organization responsible for the risk assessment - if applicable', 'Contact of the main responsible risk assessor - optional', 'Risk Assessment - if applicable', and 'Country's Decision or any other Communication - record being submitted'. A note states 'Fields marked with an asterisk are mandatory.'

The 'General information' section contains fields for 'Country submitting the decision or communication *' (set to 'Philippines') and 'Competent National Authority(ies) responsible for the decision or communication *'. The 'Competent National Authority(ies)' section includes a note: 'Please select a record from your personal database, or click create to make a new record.' It features buttons for 'Continue >', 'Cancel', 'Create a new record >', and 'Search'. A dropdown menu lists five options: 'Department of Agriculture', 'Department of Environment and Natural Resources', 'Department of Health', 'Department of Science and Technology', and 'National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines'.

Figure 8

4.1.2. Common Formats

The Common Formats are formal specifications of the data that can be registered in the BCH. They enable users to store and display BCH information in a standardized way, not depending on the country, organization or person from which the information comes.

Specific Common Formats are available for each type of document, in both national and reference category of records, in six official UN languages. As information can be submitted to the BCH both on-line (using the BCH Management Centre) and off-line (via email, fax or postal mail), the Common Formats for each record type are available both for on-line registration and for download in Ms Word format (see sections below).

4.1.2.1. Offline Common Formats

Offline Common Formats are standard forms, made available on the BCH in MS Word format for download, to assist users to gather and organize information prior to submission. They are

off-line copies of the online registration forms and can be found under the BCH section **Resources** (<http://bch.cbd.int/resources/common-formats/>).

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Word document titled 'bchrecords_02_wmddatabases_en.doc - Microsoft Word'. The document displays a registration form for the Biosafety Clearing-House. At the top, there is a logo for 'Biosafety Clearing-House' and 'Convention on Biological Diversity'. Below the logo, text reads 'Common Format for Registering Information on the BCH' and 'Use this form to organize your information prior to registering it in the BCH Management Centre at <http://bch.cbd.int/managementcenter>'. A box contains the heading 'National Record¹, National Biosafety Website or Database²'. Below this, a note states 'Fields marked with an asterisk are mandatory'. The form is divided into sections: 'General information' (containing fields for Country*, Website or database name*, Description*, and Website address*) and 'Timeframe for confirmation or updating of information' (with a note about confirming or updating records after one year). The Microsoft Word ribbon and status bar are visible at the bottom.

Figure 9

It is preferable for BCH information to be submitted online through the Management Centre. However, users with limited Internet access may complete Common Formats and submit them, duly signed, to the Secretariat by email, fax or postal mail (however, Common Formats should only be faxed or mailed if sending them by email is impossible) to the following addresses:

Email: bch@cbd.int
Fax: +1 514 288 6588
Postal Address: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD)
413 St-Jacques, Suite 800
Montreal, QC, Canada, H2Y 1N9

Section 5 of this Manual describes how to complete the offline Common Formats.

4.1.2.2. Online Common Formats

The online Common Formats can be accessed by selecting the link **Register new record** from the left-hand menu of the BCH Management Centre. The specific Common Format can then be opened by clicking the corresponding computer icon  next to the record type. The whole BCH is made available in all 6 languages of the United Nations and the selection of the language in use determines the language in which the online Common Format is made available. Please note that the list of the available online Common Formats depends on the role of the user (see section “Categories of documents: national and reference records”).

Registering Reference Records

Records in this category may be submitted by all registered users. These records will be subject to review and validation by the Secretariat prior to publication (see [FAQs](#)).

Select a Common Format and click on the preferred language:

Common Format	Offline format (Step 1: Gathering Information)	Online format (Step 2: Submitting Information)
Contact Details	 Ar En Es Fr Ru Zh	
Capacity Building Activities, Projects and Opportunities	 Ar En Es Fr Ru Zh	
Capacity-Building Needs Assessment	 Ar En Es Fr Ru Zh	
Biosafety Organization including Laboratory for detection and identification of LMOs	 Ar En Es Fr Ru Zh	
Biosafety Information Resource Centre (BIRC)	 Ar En Es Fr Ru Zh	
BCH News	 Ar En Es Fr Ru Zh	
Risk assessment generated by an independent or non-regulatory process	 Ar En Es Fr Ru Zh	
Living Modified Organism (LMO)	 Ar En Es Fr Ru Zh	

Figure 10

4.1.3. Using the online registration forms

The figures below show some of the online registration forms and highlight their main types of fields and buttons.

1 Living Modified Organism

2 LMO name
Name commonly used to identify the LMO, such as the commercial name (e.g. Roundup soy, NewLeaf® potato, etc.)
EN

3 Transformation event *
Name of the transformation event, e.g. MON810

Does this LMO have a unique identifier? *

The BCH is currently using the Unique Identifier system as set out in the OECD Guidance for the Designation of Unique Identifiers for Transgenic Plants (example MON-00810-6). For more information see <http://bch.cbd.int/database/organisms/uniqueidentifiers/about.shtml>.

Yes No

4 Developer(s) *
Contact: **4.1** Other relevant website address or attached documents
Please use the same format used for phone numbers
4.2 Add Website Attach File

4.3 Add an item

Figure 11

- Record Name:** The box on the top of the online form shows the type of information you are registering.
- Field names:** The bold text is the field name in which information is to be entered.
- Radio buttons:** Click on the option you would like. Note that you can only select one of them.
- Add reference buttons:** These buttons access a drop-down menu of records already registered in the BCH that you can link to the record you are working on. If the record is not in the menu, you can create a new record with the new information by clicking on the **Create a new record** button. A second Common Format will appear on the screen where you will be able to create the new record. Once you have finished entering the information and saved the new record, you will return to the original Common Format you were working on. Some fields allow you to add references to other sources of information than BCH records:
 - 4.1. Add Website:** Enables you to add a link to a website. Because links often become broken over time, it is always preferable to attach a file instead of providing a link so that

it is permanently available.

- 4.2. Attach File:** Enables you to attach a file. You can attach files to your records in any language (“Attach File” button). However, it is highly recommended to provide courtesy translations of the documents in one or more of the United Nations official languages.
- 4.3. Add an Item:** Enables you to add further information (e.g. more telephone numbers).
- 5. Checkboxes:** When there are short lists of controlled vocabulary (i.e. a pre-defined list of possible terms; see the BCH glossary for definition), they are sometimes presented as checkboxes. To add or select one or more terms, click on the checkboxes that appear next to them.
- 6. Other button:** If the term you are looking for does not appear in the controlled vocabulary list, click the “Other” button. Select the term that most closely describes your term, or if you do not have found any closely term check the checkbox and enter a new term.

The screenshot shows the 'Management Centre' interface with a sidebar containing 'Management Centre' (Register a new record, Edit a published record, Edit a draft record, Record status, Record completeness), 'Personal Account' (My Profile, My Subscriptions, Password change, Sign Out), and 'Administration' (National Authorized Users). The main content area is titled 'Living Modified Organism'. It has tabs for Page 1, Page 2, Page 3, Review, Save changes, and Cancel. The 'LMO characteristics' section contains a 'Phenotypic changes' field (EN) and a 'LMO's common use(s)' section. The 'LMO's common use(s)' section includes a list of checkboxes: Food, Feed, Biofuel, Bioreactor, Bioremediation, Ornamental, Pharmaceutical, Research, Timber, and Vaccine. A yellow double-headed arrow labeled '5' is positioned between the two columns of checkboxes. A yellow arrow labeled '6' points to the 'Other' link at the bottom left of the 'LMO's common use(s)' section.

Figure 12

- 7. Select button** Clicking this button opens a dropdown menu of terms from the controlled vocabulary list. Click on the term you want to select and click on “Continue”.

Figure 13

- 8. Review button:** After entering all of the information you can click on the review button and view your record as it will appear upon publication. It is very important to review the record for completeness and accuracy prior to submission for publication. If there are errors in the fields, they will be displayed with an error description for each one. Mandatory fields that are not completed are also highlighted. In order to make the necessary changes, return to the registration pages.
- 9. Save changes button:** Clicking on this button opens a window where you are given the option of (i) submitting record for publishing or (ii) saving it as a draft for access at a later time.
- 10. Cancel button:** Clicking on this button opens a window and you are given the option of discarding the changes made to the draft by clicking ‘Confirm’.
- 11. Page number buttons:** In the upper and lower part of the registration page there are buttons to navigate through the different pages of the Common Format.
- 12. Language selection button:** see “Language selection” section below.

Figure 14

4.1.3.1. Mandatory fields

When creating new records, BCH users must make sure that the information is as accurate and complete as possible prior to publication. The mandatory fields are marked with a red asterisk. Records in which the mandatory information has not been provided will not be published.

The screenshot shows a registration form for a Biosafety Information Resource. At the top, there are tabs for 'Page 1', 'Page 2', 'Page 3', and 'Review'. On the right, there are buttons for 'Specify languages', 'Save changes', and 'Cancel'. A red circle highlights the 'Instructions' section, which contains the text: 'Fields marked with an asterisk are mandatory.' Another red circle highlights the 'Title *' field under the 'General Information' section. The 'Title' field is described as appearing as the title of the BCH record. Below it is the 'Author *' field, which is described as the name of the person who authored the publication or information resource. There is also a 'Language(s) *' section with checkboxes for Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish. An 'Other' dropdown menu is also present. The 'Publication date *' field is shown at the bottom.

Figure 15

4.1.3.2. Language selection

BCH users can choose the language or languages in which to register BCH records. However, it is required that all records are submitted in at least one of the six official UN languages (i.e. Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish), in addition to any other language(s) of choice. Clicking the **Specify Language** button, which appears at the top of the online registration form, opens a window which allows you to select the languages in which to enter information. The checkboxes allow for selecting official UN languages, while the dropdown menu allows for selecting any other language. Once the languages are selected, fields in the form will display an entry for each selected language.

Biosafety Information Resource

Specify languages » (circled)

Page 1 » Page 2 » Page 3 » Review »

Save changes » Cancel

Instructions

Fields marked with an asterisk are mandatory.

Select languages in which your document is available.

UN official languages

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arabic	<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> English	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> French
<input type="checkbox"/> Russian	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish

Other languages

If the document is also available in other language(s) please select from the list below the language(s) the document is available in.

Italian

Italian

Save selection » Cancel

Users are encouraged to provide courtesy translations of information in the Biosafety Clearing-House into one or more languages that are commonly used internationally, in order to minimize the burden of translation.

Add an item »

Figure 16

Biosafety Information Resource

Specify languages »

Page 1 » Page 2 » Page 3 » Review »

Save changes » Cancel

Instructions

Fields marked with an asterisk are mandatory.

General Information

Title *

This will appear as the title of the BCH record.

AR	
EN	
FR	
IT	

Author *

Name of the person who has authored the publication or information resource. Add his/her affiliation if appropriate.

Add an item »

Figure 17

4.1.3.3. References to other records

While entering information, you may be asked to refer to an existing BCH record (i.e. some fields refer to information that is registered in another document) or create a new one based on a different Common Format

Let us take as an example the references to the recipient organism or parental organisms that are required when registering an LMO.

The screenshot shows a web-based form titled "Identity of the living modified organism (LMO)". The form includes fields for "LMO name" (with a note about commercial names like Roundup soy, NewLeaf® potato), "Transformation event" (with a note about MON810), "Does this LMO have a unique identifier?" (with a note about the OECD Guidance for Unique Identifiers for Transgenic Plants and a link to the database), "Developer(s)" (with a "Contact" button), and "Description". At the bottom, there is a section for "Recipient organism or parental organisms" with a note explaining the difference between Recipient and Parental organisms. Two buttons are shown: "Organism" and "Modified Organism". The "Modified Organism" button is circled in orange.

Figure 18

LMO records require that a reference to another record is provided in the “Recipient organism or parental organisms” field. By clicking on the **Organism** or **Modified Organism** buttons, you can select a reference to an existing document from the list that appears.

Living Modified Organism identity

LMO name
Name commonly used to identify the LMO, such as the commercial name, e.g. Roundup soy, NewLeaf® potato, etc.

Transformation event *
Name of the transformation event, e.g. MON810

Is the LMO has a Unique identifier *
 Yes No

Developer(s) *
[Add a reference »](#)

Please select a record from your personal database, or click create to make a new record.

<input type="button" value="Continue »"/>	<input type="button" value="Cancel"/>	<input type="button" value="Create a new record »"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="button" value="Search"/>			
 Acinetobacter calcoaceticus - Bacteria  Aequorea victoria - Crystal jellyfish  Agrobacterium tumefaciens pTiAG  Agrobacterium tumefaciens strain CP4  Agrobacterium tumefaciens strain CP4  Arabidopsis thaliana - Thale cress			

Figure 19

If the reference that you need is not available in the list (i.e. it has never been registered in the BCH), you need to create a new record using the button “Create a new record”.

Living Modified Organism identity

LMO name
Name commonly used to identify the LMO, such as the commercial name, e.g. Roundup soy, NewLeaf® potato, etc.

Transformation event *
Name of the transformation event, e.g. MON810

Is the LMO has a Unique identifier *
 Yes No

Developer(s) *
[Add a reference »](#)

Recipient organism or parental organisms *

Please select a record from your personal database, or click create to make a new record.

<input type="button" value="Continue »"/>	<input type="button" value="Cancel"/>	<input type="button" value="Create a new record »"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="button" value="Search"/>			
 Acinetobacter calcoaceticus - Bacteria  Aequorea victoria - Crystal jellyfish  Agrobacterium tumefaciens pTiAG  Agrobacterium tumefaciens strain CP4  Agrobacterium tumefaciens strain CP4  Arabidopsis thaliana - Thale cress			

Figure 20

In this case, the form to be completed will appear on the screen over the one that was previously being edited. It will need to be completed and published before it is made available in the drop-down reference list of the previous form.

The screenshot shows a web-based form for managing living modified organisms. At the top, there's a header for 'Living Modified Organism' with a logo. Below it, a sub-header says 'Organism'. There are tabs for 'Page 1', 'Page 2' (which is active), 'Page 3', and 'Review'. On the right, there are buttons for 'Specify languages', 'Save changes', and 'Cancel'. A large orange circle highlights the 'Organism' header. Below the header, there's a section titled 'Instructions' with a note about unmodified organisms and a reminder that fields marked with an asterisk are mandatory. The main content area is titled 'Organism information' and contains sections for 'Taxonomic classification' (with a search bar), 'Scientific name synonym(s)' (with an 'Add an item' button), and 'Common name(s)' (with an 'EN' entry and an 'Add an item' button). The entire interface has a clean, modern design with blue and grey accents.

Figure 21

See section “Completing offline Common Formats” for a description about how this is implemented in offline common formats.

4.1.3.4. Fields displayed according to answers provided previously.

In some cases, when entering information, questions will be asked to the user. Depending on the answer provided, additional fields will appear on the screen to be completed.

For example, when registering “Genetic element” record and the “Protein coding sequence” option is selected under the “Category of a DNA sequence” section, a new section called “Characteristics of the protein coding sequence” will appear on the screen.

Category of the DNA sequence *

- Protein coding sequence
- Promoter
- Terminator

Is the gene / DNA sequence a synthetic molecule? *

- Yes
- No

Donor organism

Donor organism *

Select a reference ▾

Point of collection or acquisition of the donor organism(s)

EN

Characteristics of the protein coding sequence

Name of the protein expressed by the coding sequence

EN

Biological function

EN

Figure 22

Similarly, if the “Tolerance to abiotic stress” option is selected, a new section will appear displaying the list of all possible tolerances to abiotic stress.

Related trait(s) or use(s) in biotechnology

Please select the terms below that best describe the primary objective of the transformation or modification.

- Resistance to diseases and pests
- Resistance to herbicides
- Resistance to fungicides
- Tolerance to abiotic stress
- Changes in physiology and/or production
- Changes in quality and/or metabolite content
- Production of medical or pharmaceutical compounds (human or animal)
- Use in industrial applications
- Selectable marker genes and reporter genes

Tolerance to abiotic stress

- Aluminum
- Cold / Heat
- Drought
- Micronutrient deficiency
- Nitrogen deficiency
- Phosphorus deficiency
- Potassium deficiency
- Salinity

Figure 23

See section “Completing offline Common Formats” for a description about how this is implemented in offline common formats.

4.1.3.5. Additional Information fields

All of the Common Formats provide an “Additional Information” field at the end of the record where you can add text, provide an internet address (URL), and attach additional file(s).

The screenshot shows a user interface for entering additional information. At the top left is a language indicator 'EN'. Below it is a text input field with a placeholder 'Any other relevant information'. A note below the field says: 'Please use this field to provide any other relevant information that may not have been addressed elsewhere in the record.' Two buttons, 'Add Website »' and 'Attach File »', are positioned below the note. A large, empty text area labeled 'Notes' is at the bottom, with a note stating: 'The notes field is for your personal use only: you can see it when you edit the record, but it is not visible to others when the record is viewed through search pages.' The entire 'Additional Information' section is enclosed in a blue header bar.

Figure 24

4.1.3.6. Timeframes for confirming or updating document content.

In order to keep certain records, such as Competent National Authorities, up-to-date, they require confirmation or update after one year from the date of submission. After the deadline, the author of the record will be asked to confirm or update the record within 3 months. If this has not been done at the expiry of this period, the record will be marked as “Not Confirmed”.

National Competent Authority

Specify languages »

Page 1 » Page 2 » Page 3 » Review » Save changes » Cancel

Timeframe for confirmation or updating of information

Please note that this category of information requires confirmation or updating after one year from the date of submission. After the deadline you will be asked to confirm or update the record within 3 months. After this period, if no confirmation has been received, the record will be marked as "Non-confirmed".

Additional Information...

Any other relevant information

Please use this field to provide any other relevant information that may not have been addressed elsewhere in the record.

EN

Other relevant website address or attached documents

Please use this field to provide any other relevant website addresses and/or one or more relevant documents that will be stored in the database for users to download.

Add Website » Attach File »

Figure 25

The expiration period for the “Biosafety expert” records is four years from the last update of their information, after which they will be deleted unless re-nominated.

In some cases, the expiration period is optional and the author is asked, when registering the document, to indicate whether confirmation or updating will be required after two years from the date of submission. Choosing this option will mean that the author will receive a reminder after two years to keep the information up-to-date.

Country's Decision or any other Communication

Specify languages »

Page 1 » Page 2 » Page 3 » Review » Save changes » Cancel

Timeframe for confirmation or updating of information

Should this information be confirmed or updated after two years from the date of submission? *

In case the answer to this question is "Yes", after two years from the date of submission you will be asked to confirm or update the record within 3 months. After this period, if no confirmation has been received, the record will be marked as "Non-confirmed".

Yes No

Additional Information...

Any other relevant information

Please use this field to provide any other relevant information that may not have been addressed elsewhere in the record.

EN

Figure 26

National records

Type of document	Timeframe
National Focal Points	One year (mandatory)
National Biosafety Website or Database	One year (mandatory)
Competent National Authority	One year (mandatory)
Biosafety Law, Regulation, Guidelines & Regional and International Agreements	Two years (optional)
Country's Decision or any other Communication	Two years (optional)
Risk Assessment Generated by a Regulatory Process	Two years (optional)
Biosafety Expert	Four years (mandatory)
Report on the Assignment undertaken by the Biosafety Expert	No confirmation or updating required

Reference records

Type of document	Timeframe
Contact Details	One year (mandatory)
Capacity Building Activities, Projects and Opportunities	One year (mandatory)
Capacity-Building Needs Assessment	Four years (optional)
Biosafety Organization, including Laboratory for detection and identification of LMOs	One year (mandatory)
Biosafety Information Resource Centre (BIRC)	No confirmation or updating required
BCH News	No confirmation or updating required
Risk assessment generated by an independent or non-regulatory process	Two years (optional)
Living Modified Organism (LMO)	No confirmation or updating required
Genetic element	No confirmation or updating required
Organism	No confirmation or updating required

4.1.4. Reviewing and saving a record

The “Review” button found at both the top and the bottom of the Common Format, allows BCH users to review their information as it will appear in the record when published.

It is very important to review the record for completeness and accuracy prior to submission for publication.

The screenshot shows a web-based form titled "Biosafety Information Resource". At the top, there are four buttons: "Page 1", "Page 2", "Page 3", and "Review", with "Review" being highlighted and circled in orange. To the right of these are "Specify languages", "Save changes", and "Cancel" buttons. Below the buttons is a large text area with a blue header "Access to the resource". Under this header, there are sections for "Link to the resource(s)" and "How to obtain the resource". Both sections contain descriptive text and small buttons for "Add Website" and "Attach File". A language indicator "EN" is visible on the left side of the text area. At the bottom of the page is a section titled "Notes" with a note about personal use only.

Figure 27

Clicking the review button opens the review page. If there are errors in the fields, they will be displayed with an error description for each one. Mandatory fields that are not completed are also highlighted. By clicking on the “Edit” link, you return to the field that needs to be modified. If you cannot complete the form at that time, it is recommended that you save it as a draft.

Biosafety Information Resource

Specify languages »

Page 1 » Page 2 » Page 3 » Review » Save changes » Cancel

Errors

This document is **not yet ready for publishing** as it contains a number of incomplete fields or errors. Please review the errors below before submitting it for publishing.

If you are unable to complete entry of this record, **you can save it as a draft**, which will then be available in your list of drafts on the Management Centre. You or your colleagues can then continue editing the record in the current, or a later, session.

Name of the field	Description of the error	Action
Title	Field is mandatory	edit
Author	Field is mandatory	edit
Language(s)	Field is mandatory	edit
Publication date	Field is mandatory	edit
Summary, abstract or table of contents	Field is mandatory	edit
Thematic areas	Field is mandatory	edit
Type of resource	Field is mandatory	edit

Page 1 » Page 2 » Page 3 » Review » Save changes » Cancel

Figure 28

The “Save Changes” button, at both the top and the bottom of the online Common Formats, allows you to a) Submit the record for publishing or b) Save it as a draft. If you choose the latter, a saved draft will then be available in the “Edit a draft record” section for access at a later time. And when you have finished entering all information and chose the “submit for publishing” option, the record will go through the validation process (see section below).

Biosafety Information Resource

Specify languages »

Page 1 » Page 2 » Page 3 » Review » **Save changes »** Cancel

Errors

This document is **not yet ready for publishing** as it contains a number of incomplete fields or errors. Please review the errors below before submitting it for publishing.

Saving changes...

If you have finished entering all the information, you can submit the record for publishing.
[Submit for publishing »](#)

If you are unable to complete entry of this record, you can save it as a draft, which will then be available in your list of drafts on the Management Centre. You or your colleagues can then continue editing the record in the current, or a later, session.
[Save as a draft »](#) [Cancel](#)

Page 1 » Page 2 » Page 3 » Review » Save changes » Cancel

Figure 29

The “Cancel” button, at both the top and the bottom of the online Common Format, allows you to cancel the changes you have made.

The screenshot shows a software window titled "Biosafety Information Resource". At the top, there are navigation buttons: "Page 1 >>", "Page 2 >>", "Page 3 >>", "Review >>". On the right side of the header are "Specify languages >>" and two buttons: "Save changes >>" and "Cancel". A red circle highlights the "Cancel" button. Below the header is a red bar labeled "Errors". The main content area contains text about document readiness and a section titled "Canceling changes...". It includes a note about drafts and two buttons: "Confirm >>" and "Return to draft". At the bottom of the main content area is a red message: "Field is mandatory". At the very bottom of the window are the same navigation and save/cancel buttons as the header.

Figure 30

4.1.5. Validation

In order to ensure the completeness and accuracy of information made available through the BCH, most records will require “validation”, i.e. approval for publishing. National records registered by BCH-NFPs are automatically validated and immediately made available through the BCH.

All **national records** registered by National Authorized Users must be validated by the relevant BCH-NFP prior to publication. They are forwarded to the BCH-NFP’s section of Records pending validation prior to publication for review for accuracy and completeness.

All **reference records** must be validated by the Secretariat prior to publication. Therefore independently from the role of the user submitting the information, all reference records submitted to the BCH are forwarded to the Secretariat.

Once the record is validated, it becomes available to the public.

The figure below summarizes the general steps of registering information in the BCH.

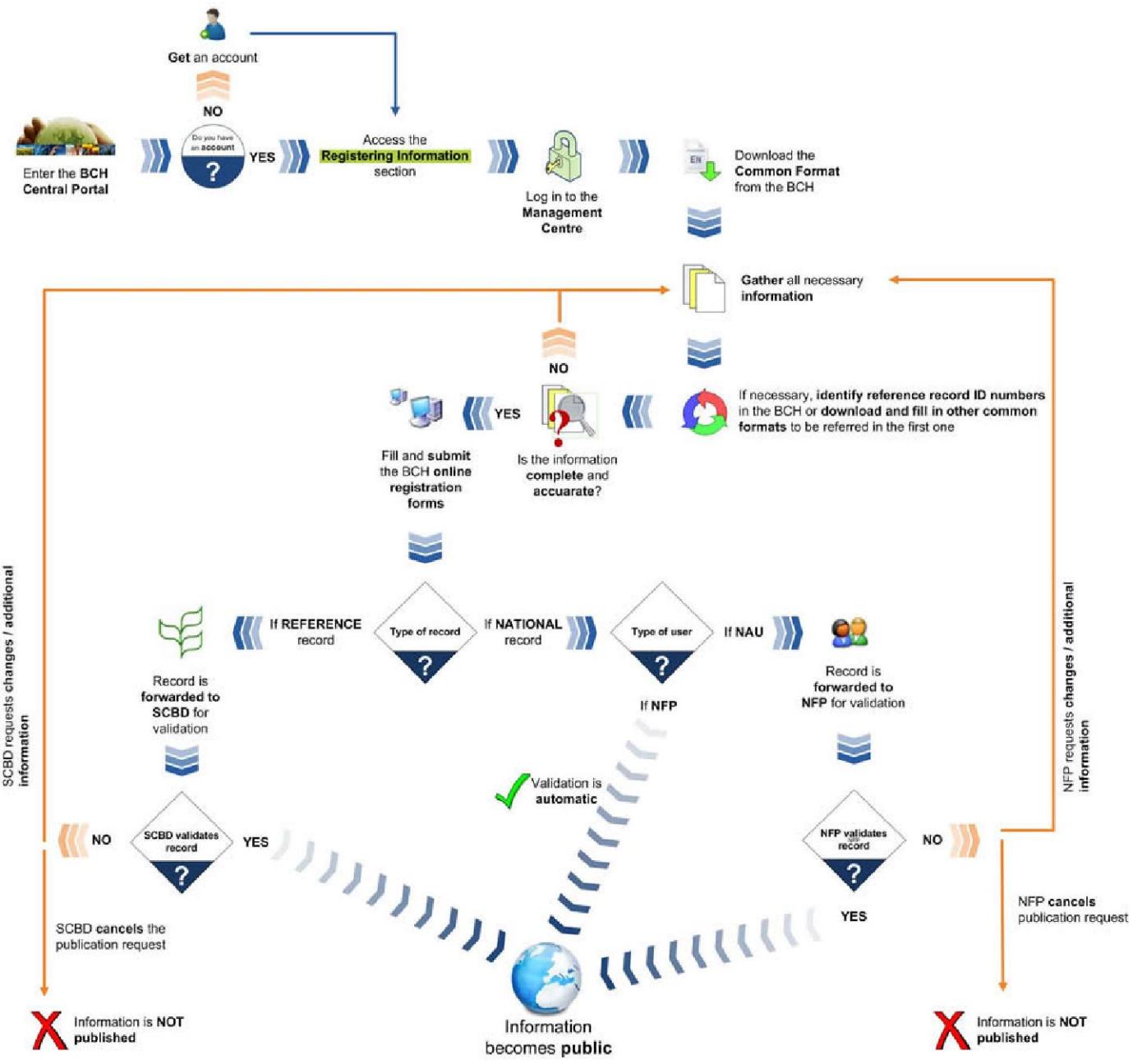


Figure 31

4.2. Edit a published record

In the left-hand menu of the Management Centre there is a link to “Edit a published record” By clicking it, you can edit or delete any existing record that you have previously published in the BCH. You can filter by record types in order to quickly identify which records you want to work on.



Figure 32

4.3. Edit a draft record

By clicking on the “Edit a draft record” link in the left-hand menu, you may edit or delete any existing drafts that you have previously saved.

As with the “Edit a published record” function, you can filter the record types in order to quickly identify which records you want to work on. Please note that Draft National Records saved here may be accessed by the BCH-NFP and any National Authorized User for editing and/or publication.

Figure 33

4.4. Validate pending records

In the Management Centre, BCH-NFPs will also find, under the heading “Records requiring your review and validation prior to publication”, any records that need to be reviewed for completeness and accuracy prior to publication in the BCH.

Arabic | 中文 | english | español | français | русский

My Profile | Sign Out

Biosafety Clearing-House

Convention on Biological Diversity

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

Management Centre

Home | Management Centre

Management Centre - Registering Information

Welcome! You have logged-in as [rvmconsult@yahoo.com](#).

Training Site of the BCH

[Go to the training site](#)

This section allows registered BCH users to register, edit or delete information according to the rights conferred upon them by their specific roles. In order to view the status of a record you have submitted for publication, please see the [Record status](#) page.

BCH users who are unfamiliar with the operation and use of the Management Centre may wish to refer to the [BCH Help section](#), or more specifically, to the [BCH Tutorials](#), [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#) sections and the [Training Materials](#). A [Training Site](#) is also available to help BCH users familiarize themselves with the functioning of the BCH's Management Center without altering the content of the official portal.

Records requiring your review and validation prior to publication

The records below require your review. Please ensure that all records are accurate and complete before you validate them and make them available through the BCH. For explanations about the validation process go to the [FAQs](#).

ID	Description	Status	Requested by/on
[new]	National Database or Website Example: example	Pending Approval	rvmconsult@yahoo.com on 22/02/22 13:27 UTC

Figure 34

4.5. Record Status

Clicking the “Record status” link in the left-hand menu opens a page where you can see the status of your records submitted for publishing and pending validation by BCH-NFP or the Secretariat. Once your request is completed, it will appear under the “Completed requests” section of the page and remain there for 30 days. After that it will be automatically removed from the list. You can also manually delete requests from the list by clicking on button “Hide”.

The screenshot shows the Biosafety Clearing-House Management Centre interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles. The left sidebar has sections for Management Centre (Register a new record, Edit a published record, Edit a draft record, Record status, National Records Completeness), Personal Account (My Profile, My Subscriptions, Password change, Sign Out), and Training Spaces (Management, Hermes, Emergency contacts). The main content area is titled "Record status" and displays a message about pending validation. It includes a "Notes:" section with two bullet points: "National/Records require validation by the BCH National Focal Point (BCH-NFP) and Reference Records require validation by the Secretariat. For explanations about the validation process go to the [FAQs](#)." and "Published records will be made publicly available through the BCH and will no longer appear on this list." Below this is a table header for "Record ID", "Description", "Status", and "Assigned to". A "Completed Requests" section follows, with a note about requests being removed after 30 days, and a table header for "Record ID", "Description", and "Desired Action / Result".

Figure 35

4.6. National Records Completeness

The COP-MOP-5 held in Japan in October 2010 has decided on some fields in the Common Formats to be mandatory in nature. As records submitted earlier may lack some of the mandatory information, they need to be reviewed and completed.

The new BCH section “National Records Completeness” provides the BCH-NFP and NAUs with national records where mandatory fields were not filled-out.

The screenshot shows the BCH Management Centre interface. The left sidebar has a 'Record completeness' link highlighted with a yellow box. The main content area displays a table of incomplete records:

ID	Description	Status	Last modified by/on
11345	Convention on the Conservation of the European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) Intentional introduction into the environment (AIA) Transboundary movement (import/export)	Published Incomplete	kirsty.mclean@biodiv.org 2006-11-16 14:45 UTC-5
11346	Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) Transboundary movement (import/export)	Published Incomplete	kirsty.mclean@biodiv.org 2006-11-16 14:38 UTC-5
11347	Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) (Bonn Convention) International introductions into the environment (AIA)	Published Incomplete	kirsty.mclean@biodiv.org 2006-11-16 14:51 UTC-5

Figure 36

4.7. Personal Account

In the section “Personal Account” you can access your profile, which contains your contact details. Please ensure you keep this page up to date as your contact details change.



Figure 37

The section provides access to each of the following components:

1. My Profile
2. My Subscriptions
3. Password change, and
4. Sign out

4.7.1. My Profile

By clicking on the “My Profile” link you can access the profile update page where you can update your personal data. Once you have updated the information, you can confirm your changes by clicking the “Update my profile” button located at the bottom of the page.

Management Centre
Register a new record
Edit a published record
Edit a draft record
Record status
Record completeness
Personal Account
My Profile
My Subscriptions
Password change
Sign Out
Administration
National Authorized Users

My Profile

Want to change your password? Click here to create a new password

Identification

Email address: InfoSee.NCP *
Cc (optional):

Only direct correspondence will be copied to the email addresses provided here, whereas bulk emails will be sent to the primary address only.

Contact details

Name: _____ First name: _____ Last name: _____ *

Job Title: _____
Department: _____
Organization: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State/Province: _____
Country: _____ Zip/Postal code: _____
Phone: _____ FAX: _____
Language: English
Time Zone: CMT - Greenwich Mean Time

Figure 38

4.7.2. My Subscriptions

By clicking on “My subscriptions” link you access the page where you can subscribe to the BCH mailing lists, as well as change or cancel your subscriptions.

Select the mailing lists you want to subscribe to by clicking on the corresponding options. Also select the frequency you would like to receive the information. You can confirm changes in your subscriptions by clicking the “Update my subscriptions” button located at the bottom of the page.

Management Centre
Register a new record
Edit a published record
Edit a draft record
Record status
Record completeness
Personal Account
My Profile
My Subscriptions
Password change
Sign Out
Administration
National Authorized Users

My Subscriptions

Please indicate to which mailing lists you would like to subscribe by ticking the appropriate boxes. Also, for each list that you join, please indicate how frequently you would like to receive this information.

BCH Current Awareness Service

This listserve sends out summaries of each new record in the selected category that has been registered with the DCII. It is usually of most interest to regulators and national focal points. The Secretariat may also send out periodic notifications of interest in each category.

Please select which categories of information you would like included in your summary:

All The following selected information

All national contact information
 All laws and regulations information
 All capacity-building information
 All roster of experts information
 Biosafety Information Resources
 All decision information

Please select how frequently you would like to receive this information:

Never Weekly summary Biweekly summary Monthly summary

Biodefense Protocol News

This listserve sends out the recent Biodefense Protocol News – a newsletter on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. The purpose of the newsletter is to promote awareness of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and provide a means through which Parties to the Protocol and other stakeholders could share news and information regarding their efforts and experiences.

Please select which categories of information you would like included in your summary:

Newsletter Subscription

Figure 39

4.7.3. Password change

By clicking on “Password change” link you access the page where you can change your password. For this, provide your current password and then enter the new one. Enter the new password again for confirmation and click the “Continue” button.

The screenshot shows the 'Management Centre' interface. On the left, a vertical menu includes 'Management Centre' (selected), 'Personal Account' (selected), and 'Administration'. Under 'Management Centre', options like 'Register a new record', 'Edit a published record', and 'Record status' are listed. Under 'Personal Account', 'My Profile', 'My Subscriptions', and 'Sign Out' are listed. Under 'Administration', 'National Authorized Users' is listed. The main content area is titled 'Password change' and contains instructions: 'To change your password, enter your original password, then enter your new password twice.' It also includes a note: 'Please note: Passwords are case sensitive. Your password should be between 8 and 64 characters.' There are three input fields: 'Original Password', 'New Password', and 'Confirm New Password'. A 'Continue >' button is at the bottom of the form. At the very bottom, there is a footer note: 'If you require additional support, please contact the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity at the following address: bch@cbd.int'.

Figure 40

4.7.4. Sign out

The “Sign out” link of the left-hand menu allows you to close your session. You can also find this link at the top right corner of the BCH web-site. For security reasons, it is highly recommended to always close your session when you finish working on the BCH.

4.8. Administration (BCH - National Focal Points only)

BCH-NFPs have access to the restricted section “Administration”, which is not visible for other BCH users. It contains the link “National Authorized Users” that opens a page where BCH-NFPs can create and manage National Authorized Users (NAUs) as well as to extend administrator roles for the Hermes national node, where applicable.

The screenshot shows the 'Management Centre - Registering Information' page of the Biosafety Clearing-House. At the top left, there's a vertical navigation menu with sections like 'Management Centre', 'Personal Account', and 'Administration'. The 'Administration' section is highlighted with a red circle. Below the menu, there's a welcome message and a link to the 'Training Site of the BCH'. A table at the bottom lists records with columns for 'ID', 'Description', 'Status', and 'Requested by/on'. At the bottom right, there are logos for UNEP and SCBD.

Figure 41

4.8.1. National Authorized Users

In some instances, BCH-NFPs may wish to delegate to National Authorized Users (NAUs) some or all of the responsibilities of registering information in the BCH or managing the Hermes instance of the BCH national node. NAUs can create and manage draft records in all of the BCH’s categories of information (with the exception of registering National Focal Points). However, all new records created by NAUs, as well as any modifications made to existing records, are subject to validation prior to publication in the BCH either by the BCH-NFP, in the case of National records, or by the Secretariat in the case of Reference records.

The process for creating a new NAU is as follows:

1. Log onto the Management Centre (at <http://bch.cbd.int/managementcentre/>);
2. Click on the “National Authorized Users” link in the left-hand menu under the Administration heading;
3. Click the «Add Authorized User” button at the bottom of the page;

National Authorized Users Management

As BCH National Focal Point (BCH-NFP) you are authorized to use the BCH Management Center to create, delete, or modify all national records pertaining to your country (National Report; National Biosafety Website or Database ; Competent National Authority (Article 19.2); Biosafety Law, Regulation, Guidelines & Regional and International Agreements; Country's Decision or any other Communication; Risk Assessment Generated by a Regulatory Process; Biosafety Expert; and Report on the assignment undertaken by the Biosafety Expert). Only BCH-NFPs have the right to validate information for their own country (i.e., make the changes publicly available).

In some instances, BCH-NFPs may wish to delegate to **National Authorized Users** (NAUs) some or all of the responsibilities of registering information in the BCH or managing the Hermes instance of the BCH national node. NAUs can create and manage draft records in all of the BCH's categories of information (with the exception of registering National Focal Points). However, all new records created by NAUs, as well as any modifications that they make to existing records, are subject to validation either by the BCH-NFP, in the case of National records, or by the Secretariat in the case of Reference records prior to publication in the BCH.

The module below allows BCH-NFPs to add, edit or delete roles of NAUs for all records or for specific types of records as well as to extend administrator rights for the Hermes national node, where applicable. When adding a new NAU, the BCH-NFP will be asked to enter the **email address** of the person to be nominated. The system will automatically search for any match in the list of the BCH registered users. If the new NAU is not yet registered, it will ask for further details. Whether the user is new or already registered, the system will present to the BCH-NFP a list of **roles** that can be added and will notify the NAU of the appointment or any changes in the appointment.

Name/Position	Organization/Division	Roles
Ernesto Ocampo ernesto@qualisys.com		National Node Edit Delete
Alain Paul Charles Lebeaupin holyseeunep@nunciokenya.org	Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to UNEP and UNCHS	National Focal Point CBD Focal Point Edit Delete

[Add Authorized User »](#)

Figure 42

4. In creating a NAU, enter the email address of the person on the space provided in a box and click the «Search» button. The system automatically searches if there is a match to the email you provided.

Nominate

1. Email address

Please enter the email address of the person you want to nominate as National Authorized User (NAU). The system will automatically search for any match.

[Search »](#)

2. Proceed with nomination

Please confirm the nomination of the selected person by pressing on "Proceed with nomination".

[Proceed with nomination »](#)

Figure 43

5. If the email address you provided yields a match, you may now proceed by clicking the “Proceed with nomination” button. And if the specified email address does not correspond to any existing BCH User Account, you can proceed with nomination by initiating the creation of a new BCH User Account. In this case, the new user will be asked to confirm his/her participation and complete contact details.

[Edit a published record](#)

[Edit a draft record](#)

[Record status](#)

[Record completeness](#)

Personal Account

[My Profile](#)

[My Subscriptions](#)

[Password change](#)

[Sign Out](#)

Administration

[National Authorized Users](#)

[National Node Admin](#)

National Authorized Users Management

As BCH National Focal Point (BCH-NFP) you are authorized to use the BCH Management Center to create, delete, or modify all national records pertaining to your country (National Report; National Biosafety Website or Database ; Competent National Authority (Article 19.2); Biosafety Law, Regulation, Guidelines & Regional and International Agreements; Country's Decision or any other Communication; Risk Assessment Generated by a Regulatory Process; Biosafety Expert; and Report on the assignment undertaken by the Biosafety Expert). Only BCH-NFPs have the right to validate information for their own country (i.e. make the changes publicly available).

In some instances, BCH-NFPs may wish to delegate to **National Authorized Users (NAUs)** some or all of the responsibilities of registering information in the BCH or managing the Hermes instance of the BCH national node. NAUs can create and manage draft records in all of the BCH's categories of information (with the exception of registering National Focal Points).

Nominate

1. Email address
Please enter the email address of the person you want to nominate as National Authorized User (NAU). The system will automatically search for any match.

bch@cbd.int [Search »](#)

Name: Biosafety Clearing-House
 Position:
 Division:
 Organization:
 Email: bch@cbd.int

2. Proceed with nomination
Please confirm the nomination of the selected person by pressing on "Proceed with nomination".

[Proceed with nomination »](#)

[Cancel](#)

Figure 44

6. Select the role(s) for a new NAU from the list of roles by ticking corresponding checkboxes and click on the “Proceed with changes” button to assign the role(s) to the user. You can also modify roles of the existing NAU by clicking the link “Edit” next to the name of the NAU. Once you finished with nomination or changing roles of the NAU, the system will notify the NAU of the appointment or any changes in the appointment.

The screenshot shows the 'Edit' screen for a new NAU. The left sidebar has links for Personal Account (My Profile, My Subscriptions, Password change, Sign Out) and Administration (National Authorized Users, National Node Administration). The main area has tabs for Identification and Roles. Under Identification, fields include First name (Biosafety), Last name (Clearing-House), and Email (bch@cbd.int). Under Roles, several checkboxes are checked: National Authorized User (all type of records), for Contact Details, for Laws, for Decisions / Risk Assessments, and for National Reports. Buttons at the bottom are 'Proceed with changes' and 'Cancel'.

Figure 45

7. To remove a NAU from the list, click on the “Delete” button, and an advice will appear on the screen. Click on the button “Proceed” if you want to effect the deletion or “Cancel” so as the action will not materialize.

The screenshot shows a confirmation dialog box titled 'Delete' with the message: 'You are about to delete an entry. Are you sure that you want to delete the selected entry?'. Below the dialog are fields for Name/Email (Biosafety) and a 'Proceed' button. The background shows the 'Edit' screen for a NAU, with the 'Delete' button highlighted.

Figure 46

5. Completing offline Common Formats

Offline Common Formats are standard forms, made available on the BCH to assist users in gathering and organizing information prior to submission. They are offline copies of the online registration forms and available for each type of record, in six official UN languages.

Offline Common Formats can be accessed in the Management Center by selecting the link “Register new record” from the left-hand menu or in the BCH section “Resources” by selecting the corresponding link from the drop-down menu on the BCH navigation bar. *Please note that while in the “Resources” section you can find the offline common formats for all types of records, the list of the offline common formats available for download in the Management Center depends on the user’s role (i.e. general BCH user will find there only common formats for reference records).* The specific common format can then be downloaded as MS Word document by clicking on the link with the preferred language.

The forms contain several different fields in which to enter information. As in the online Common Formats, there are fields which are mandatory and must be completed before the record can be published. Also, there are fields in which different kinds of information are required (text, numbers, dates) and entering the wrong type of information (e.g. adding text in a number-only field) will block the publishing of the record.

The following list describes the kinds of fields that can be found on the forms.

1. **Checkboxes:** Select the options that correspond from the list.
2. **Text entry:** Enter free text

Contact details of the focal point to be nominated		
1.	Title:	<input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input type="checkbox"/> Professor <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): <Text entry>
2.	Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms.
2	First name:*	<Text entry>

Figure 47

3. **Reference to another record:** As in online registration forms, some fields may contain a reference to another record. In this case a “BCH record number” is entered; that is, the number that the referenced record was assigned in the BCH. Sometimes the record to be referenced does not yet exist. In these cases you may wish to create the record to be referenced using the appropriate offline Common Format and attach it.

3 ➔	5. Recipient organism or parental organisms: [*]	<BCH record number> <i>Please enter the BCH record number containing this information or attach an “Organism” common format⁷</i>
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Figure 48

4. **URL and website name:** Provide the name and internet address of a website.
5. **Attachment:** Attach a document to the offline Common Format.

Any other relevant information: ⁶	<Text entry> <i>and/or <URL and website name></i> ➔ 4 <i>and/or <Attachment></i> ➔ 5
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Figure 49

6. **Date:** Enter a valid date using the specified date format. For example, if the specified date format is 'YYYY-MM-DD', then the date "20-jan-2010" must be entered as "2010-01-20".
7. **Registered email address:** Enter an email address that was registered in the BCH to identify the referenced person.

6	Date*: <YYYY-MM-DD>
7	Name of the person submitting the request*: <Text entry>
7	Contact details of the person submitting the request <registered e-mail address> <i>Please enter the e-mail address that is registered in the BCH or, if not registered, attach a "Contact details" common format¹²</i>

Figure 50

8. **Value:** Enter a numeric value
9. **Currency:** Enter a currency

8	9
Course/Programme fee(s):	<Value> and <Currency>

Figure 51

10. **Country name:** Enter a valid country name
11. **Language:** Enter a language or a valid language code

10	Country submitting the decision or communication*: <Country name>
11	Language(s)*: <Language(s)>

Figure 52

12. **Dropdown list:** A list of options is displayed when clicking on the field “Click here to choose one option”. Select one of the options.

Is the decision taken prior to entry into force of the Protocol?*

<Click here to choose one option>

Possible options are: Yes; No.

Is the decision taken prior to entry into force of the Protocol?*

<Click here to choose one option>

Possible options

<Click here to choose one option>

Yes

No

Figure 53

13. **Section to be filled depending on the answer provided:** Some sections of the Common Formats need to be filled only if you provide specific answer to the previous question. In the online registration forms additional fields will appear on the screen automatically (see section 4.1.3.4), in offline Common Formats such sections have a note “*Please fill this section only if...*”. Accordingly, you should fill the section only if you have selected the indicated answer, and if not, you should proceed to the next section, or to the section you are asked to go (e.g. you can be asked to “Go to section D”).

General information

1. Name of the gene or DNA sequence: **<Text entry>**

Protein coding sequence (gene, cDNA, etc.)

Promoter

Terminator

Other (specify): **<Text entry>**

Characteristics of the protein coding sequence

Please fill this section only if, in question 2 above, you have indicated that the category of DNA sequence is "Protein coding sequence"

5. Name of the protein expressed by the coding sequence: **<Text entry>**

6. Biological function: **<Text entry>**

7. Specific trait(s) or use(s) in biotechnology:
 Resistance to **<diseases and pests>**

<input type="checkbox"/> Bacteria <input type="checkbox"/> Pseudomonas syringae	<input type="checkbox"/> Nematodes <input type="checkbox"/> Beet cyst eelworm (Heterodera schachtii) <input type="checkbox"/> Cereal cyst nematode (Heterodera spp.)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fungi <input type="checkbox"/> Insects <input type="checkbox"/> Coleoptera (beetles)	<input type="checkbox"/> Viruses

Figure 54

6. Training Site

In order to familiarize yourself with the BCH, and particularly with its Management Centre, you are encouraged to visit the Training Site of the BCH. It is a mirror copy of the official BCH and has been implemented to help BCH users familiarize themselves with the functioning of the BCH Management Center without altering the content of the official portal. The Training Site is available through the “Resources” and “Help” sections of the BCH.

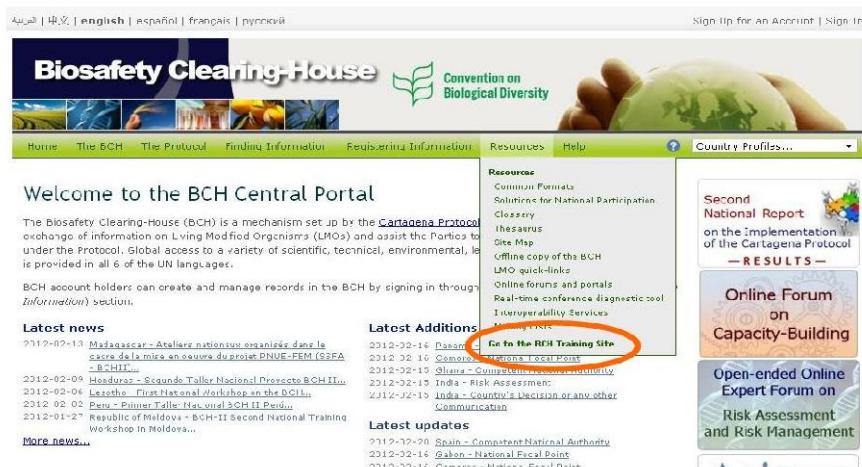


Figure 55

When you click on “Go to the BCH Training Site” link in the “Resources” or “Help” section, you will be directed to the “Sign-In” page. Once signed in (using your registered email address and password), you will proceed to the main page of the Training Site.



Figure 56

To practice registering information in the BCH you should first select the training database from a menu “Training Space” located at the right most part of the Training Site’s main page. By clicking the down arrow key, all the currently existing training instances will appear for your selection. Unless directed otherwise (e.g. during a dedicated workshop), please use the default value “Public BCH Training”, all other instances will require a password to continue.



Figure 57

With the “training space” already selected, click the down arrow key under the “Government” section and select the name of the country as indicated in the list. If you leave this field blank you may only train as a *general registered user* for submission of Reference records.



Figure 58

Once the “government” is selected, you can choose a role you wish to train for. If you are a designated BCH-NFP, you can select the “Training: BCH National Focal Point” role so you can practice with records validation.

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 without altering the content of the official portal.

Users accessing this Training Site may practice submitting records, **for training purposes only**, as (i) a general Registered User or, by selecting a country, (ii) a BCH National Focal Point (BCH-NFP) or (iii) a National Authorized User (NAU). For more information on these roles see the question [Who can submit information to the BCH?](#) in the BCH's FAQ section.

To start your training, please use the drop-down menus and the button(s) on the right side of this page:

- The **Training Database** menu allows you to choose among all the currently existing training instances. Unless directed otherwise (e.g. during a dedicated workshop) please use the default value **Public BCH Training**, all other instances will require a password to continue.
- The **Government** menu allows you to access the training site as a representative of a Government and therefore with the right to submit **National Records**. If you leave this field blank, you may only train as **general Registered User**.
- The **Select a role** button(s) allow you to choose the role you wish to train for. If a **Government** is selected, you may choose to train as **BCH National Focal Point** or as **National Authorized User** for all records for the submission of **National Records** on behalf of the selected country. Otherwise you may simply train as **Registered user** for the

Figure 59

Upon selection of the role, you will be directed to the Management Centre of the Training Site of the BCH, where you can now start practicing its different functionalities under a training ID indicated at the right side of the page. By clicking on the appropriate link in the left-hand menu you can: (i) register a new record (or save it as a draft); (ii) edit a published record; (iii) edit a draft record; and or (iv) check the status of your records.

Management Centre - Registering Information

Welcome! You have logged-in as **rvmconsult@yahoo.com**.

You are in the Training Site of the Biosafety Clearing-House

At any time you may [Change settings](#) or [Leave the training site](#) by clicking on the relevant links in the top banner.

By using the links in the left-hand menu you can [Register a new record](#) (or save it as a draft); [Edit a published record](#); [Edit a draft record](#) and/or [Check the status](#) of your records as you would use the official BCH.

Please note that any changes made on the Training Site will NOT affect the official BCH site and will remain visible to all Training Site users for the duration of 7 days.

This section allows registered BCH users to register, edit or delete information according to the rights conferred upon them by their specific roles. In order to view the status of a record you have submitted for publication, please see the [Record status](#) page.

BCH users who are unfamiliar with the operation and use of the Management Centre may wish to refer to the [BCH Help](#).

Account ID: rvmconsult@yahoo.com
Role: Training: DCII National Focal Point
Government: Holy See
Database: Public BCH Training
[Change settings / Leave the training site](#)

Your current training ID is:
Account ID: rvmconsult@yahoo.com
Role: Training: BCH National Focal Point
Government: Holy See
Database: Public BCH Training

Figure 60

Should you wish to change your role (from NAU to NFP or vice versa), click the “Change setting” link located at the top most right of the page. You will note the changes with the training ID, indicating the new role.



Figure 61

The information registered on the Training Site does not affect the official BCH site and is not made publicly available. However it remains visible to all Training Site users for the duration of 7 days.

When you finish your training session you can return to the official BCH site by clicking the “Leave the training site” link located at the top most right of the page.