



BCH  
training



## Surfing the BCH Central Portal

March 2010

Revision 4.0

## **Reproduction**

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

## **Disclaimers**

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

# Module Outline

1. Introduction to the module	3
2. Home Page	4-5
2.1. The Management Centre	5-6
2.2. Latest News	6-7
2.3. Latest Additions	7-8
3. The Navigation Bar	9-10
3.1. Country Profiles	10
3.2. The BCH	10-12
3.2.1. Modalities of operation	12-13
3.2.2. Multi-year Program of Work	13
3.2.3. Decisions on the BCH	13-14
3.2.4. Reports and reviews	14
3.2.5. Development of the BCH	14-15
3.2.6. The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)	15
3.2.6.1. IAC Mandate & Meetings	15-16
3.2.6.2. IAC Forum Participants	16-17
3.2.7. Highlights	17
3.2.7.1. BCH News	17-18
3.2.7.2. BCH Latest Additions	18-19
3.2.7.3. Notifications	19
3.2.7.4. Meetings and Documents	19
3.2.8. Policies	19-20
3.2.8.1. Linking External Websites Policy	20-21
3.2.8.2. Privacy Policy	21
3.2.8.3. Disclaimer	21-22
3.2.8.4. Copyright	22-23
3.3. The Protocol	23-24
3.3.1. Text of the Protocol	24-25
3.3.2. Parties to the Protocol	25-26
3.3.3. COP-MOP Decisions	26-27

3.3.4. Reporting	27-28
3.3.4.1. National Reports	28-31
3.3.4.2. Reports on Activities of the Secretariat	31
3.3.4.3. Roster of Experts Annual Reports	31-32
3.3.5. Cartagena Protocol Meetings and Documents	32-33
3.3.6. Cartagena Protocol Notifications	33-34
3.4. How to Find Information	34-35
3.5. How to Register Information	35-36
3.6. Resources	36-38
3.6.1. Common Formats	38-40
3.6.2. Solutions for National Participation (Hermes and the BCH Ajax Plug-In)	40
3.6.3. Training Site of the BCH	40-41
3.6.4. Glossary	41-42
3.6.5. Thesaurus	42-45
3.6.5.1. Thesaurus Domains	45-46
3.6.6. Site Map	46-47
3.6.7. Downloadable files	47-48
3.6.8. Online Forums and Portals	48-49
3.6.9. Interoperability Services	49-50
3.6.10. Mailing Lists	50-52
3.7. Help	52-54
3.7.1. BCH Tutorials	54
3.7.2. FAQ	54-55

# 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, including:

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

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

© UNEP 2004-2010 all rights reserved

## 2 Home Page

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

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

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

The 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 you will find the title of the Biosafety Clearing-House and a link in the centre to the website of 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, the user can find the date of the last update of the page and a link to rate the page.

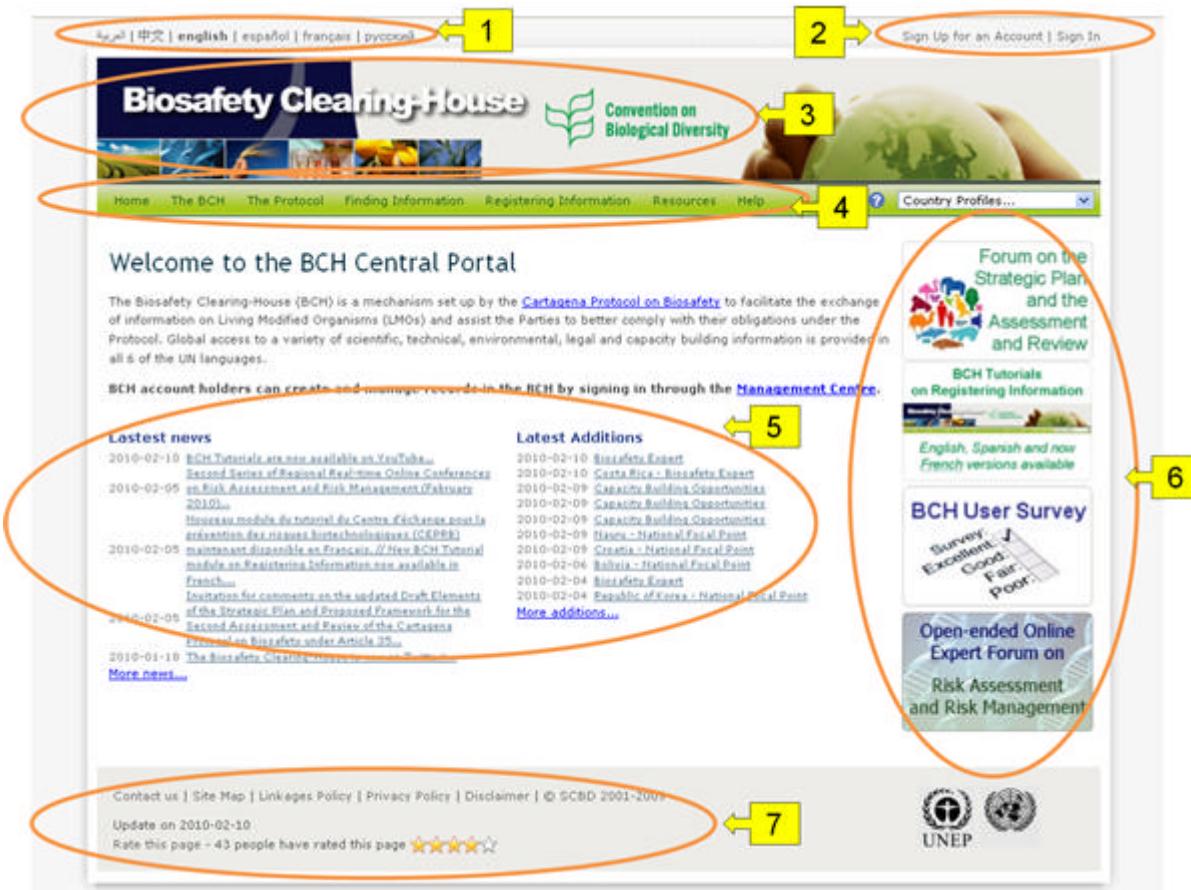


Figure 1

## 2.1 The Management Centre

Immediately below the BCH introductory paragraph there 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

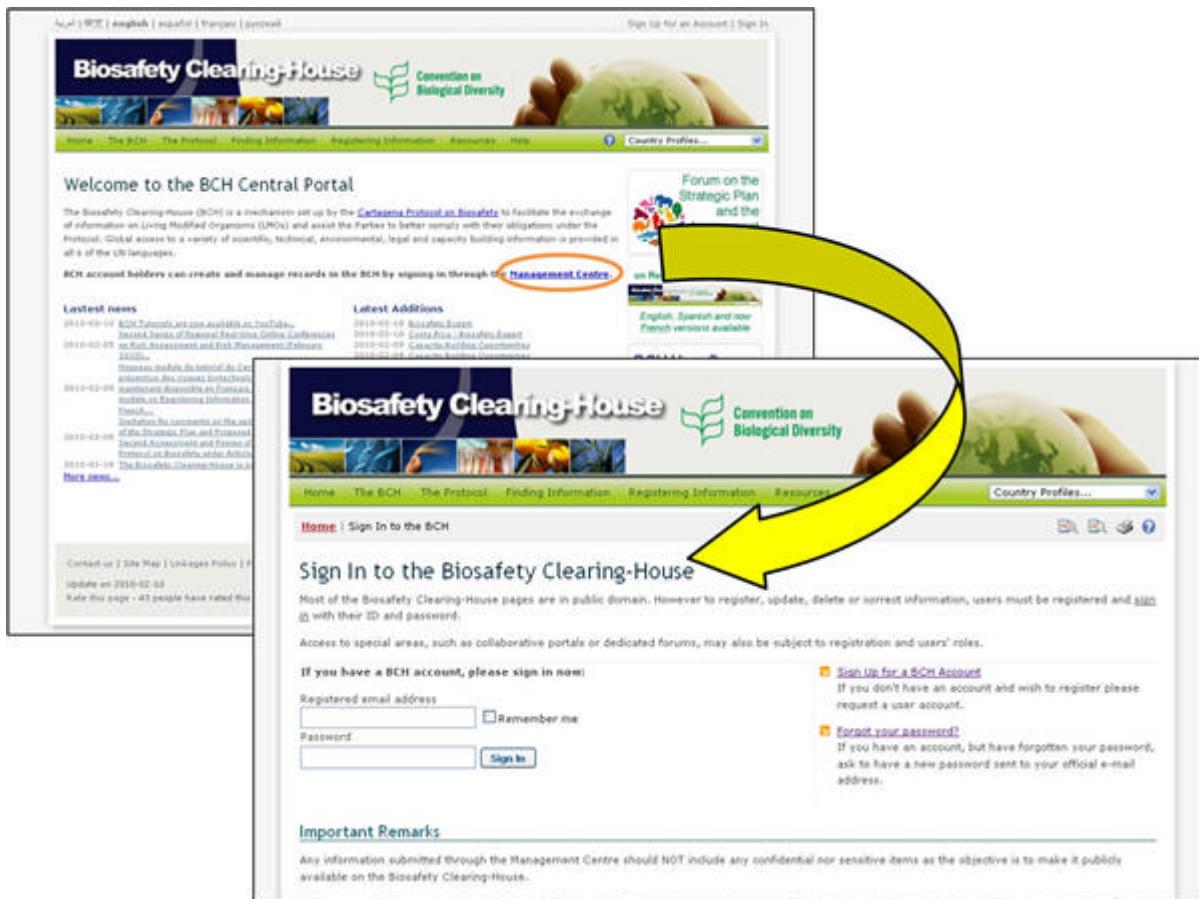


Figure 2

## 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**.

Welcome to the BCH Central Porta

The Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) is a mechanism set up by the Convention on Biological Diversity to facilitate the exchange of information on Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) under the Protocol. Global access to a variety of scientific, technical, environmental, legal and capacity building information is provided in all 6 of the UN languages.

BCH account holders can create and manage records in the Management Centre.

**Latest news**

2010-02-12 [Experiences and lessons learned in facilitating the exchange of information on, and experience with, living modified organisms \(LMOs\) through the Biosafety Clearing-House. The issue 7 of the Biosafety Protocol News is now available.](#)

2010-02-10 [BCH Tutorials are now available on YouTube...](#)

2010-02-05 [Second Session of Regional Real-time Online Conferences on Risk Assessment and Risk Management \(February 2010\)...](#)

2010-02-05 [Nouveau module du tutoriel du Centre d'échange pour la prévention des risques biotechnologiques \(CEPRB\) maintenant disponible en Français. // New BCH Tutorial module on Registering Information now available in French...](#)

2010-02-05 [Invitation for comments on the updated Draft Elements of the Strategic Plan and Proposed Framework for the Second Assessment and Review of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety under Article 39.](#)

[More news...](#)

Figure 3

The screenshot shows the 'Biosafety Clearing-House News' section of the website. On the left is a sidebar with links to 'The Biosafety Clearing-House', 'The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)', 'Highlights', and 'Policies'. The main content area has a header 'Biosafety Clearing-House News' and a link to 'Subscribe/Follow BCH News'. Below this is a news item titled 'BCH Tutorials are now available on YouTube'. The item includes a brief description, a note about watching them directly on the BCH or YouTube, and links to the BCH Pages and YouTube channel. Another news item titled 'Second Series of Regional Real-time Online Conferences on Risk Assessment and Risk Management (February 2010)' is also visible.

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 are shown in 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 the 'Latest Additions' section of the website. At the top, there are navigation links for 'Registering Information', 'Resources', and 'Help'. Below this is a heading 'Latest Additions' with a red oval highlighting it. The list contains seven items, each with a date, a title, and a link to more information. The titles include 'Mexico - Risk Assessment', 'Biosafety Information Resource', 'Colombia - Country's Decision or any other Communication', 'European Union - Country's Decision or any other Communication', and 'Spain - Country's Decision or any other Communication'. At the bottom of the list is a link 'More additions...'. The entire section is set against a light green background.

Figure 5

In many instances, after clicking on **More Additions**, the **Search results** page displayed is 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 if there are any.

The screenshot shows a web page titled "Latest Additions". At the top left are links to "Home", "The BCH", and "Latest Additions". At the top right are icons for print, search, and help. Below the title, a message says "Below you can find the newly added and updated records." A sub-section titled "Newly added records - updated each 6 hours" contains a table with the following data:

Date	Record ID	Holder and Type	Details
2010-02-09	<a href="#">57396</a>	Capacity Building Opportunity	Agricultural biotechnologies in developing countries (ABDC-10) conference, Guadalajara, Mexico AddPeriod:
2010-02-09	<a href="#">57395</a>	Contact Information	Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN
2010-02-09	<a href="#">57394</a>	Capacity Building Opportunity	Agricultural biotechnologies in developing countries (ABDC-10) conference, Guadalajara, Mexico AddPeriod:
2010-02-09	<a href="#">57393</a>	Contact Information	Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN
2010-02-09	<a href="#">57392</a>	Capacity Building Opportunity	Holistic Foundations for Assessment and Regulation of Genetic Engineering and Genetically Modified Organisms GenØk - Centre for Biosafety AddPeriod:
2010-02-03	<a href="#">57391</a>	Scientific Bibliographic Database	Providing the evidence base for environmental risk assessments of novel farm management practices.
2010-02-03	<a href="#">57390</a>	Scientific Bibliographic Database	Processing of transgenic crop residues in stream ecosystems.
2010-02-03	<a href="#">57389</a>	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 there is a ***navigation bar*** that provides links to the major components of the BCH.



Figure 7

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

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

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

**The Registering Information (Section 3.5)** menu entry is a link to the *sign in* page of 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) a page describing the solutions for National Participation (Hermes and the BCH Ajax Plug-In), (iii) Training Site of the BCH, (iv) the Glossary, (v) the Thesaurus; (vi) the Site map (vii) a list of downloadable files, (viii) Online forums and Portals, (ix) Interoperability services and (x) the available Mailing Lists.

**The Help (Section 3.7)** section provides access to the BCH Online Help System main page and some specific sections within it, namely: (i) Help on help, (ii) BCH Central Portal, (iii) Complete BCH Help Manuals, (iv) Training materials, as well as additional training resources found directly in the BCH: (v) BCH tutorials and (vi) Frequently Asked Questions.

On the right side of the navigation bar there 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 found menu icons include:

- 🌐 The link takes the user to another website
- 📄 The link to a PDF document
- 🔗 The link takes the user to a page in another section of the BCH

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

in the following url:[http://bch.cbd.int/help/trainingmaterials/En/06\)%20Ready%20Reference%20Guides/RR04En.pdf](http://bch.cbd.int/help/trainingmaterials/En/06)%20Ready%20Reference%20Guides/RR04En.pdf).

### 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.

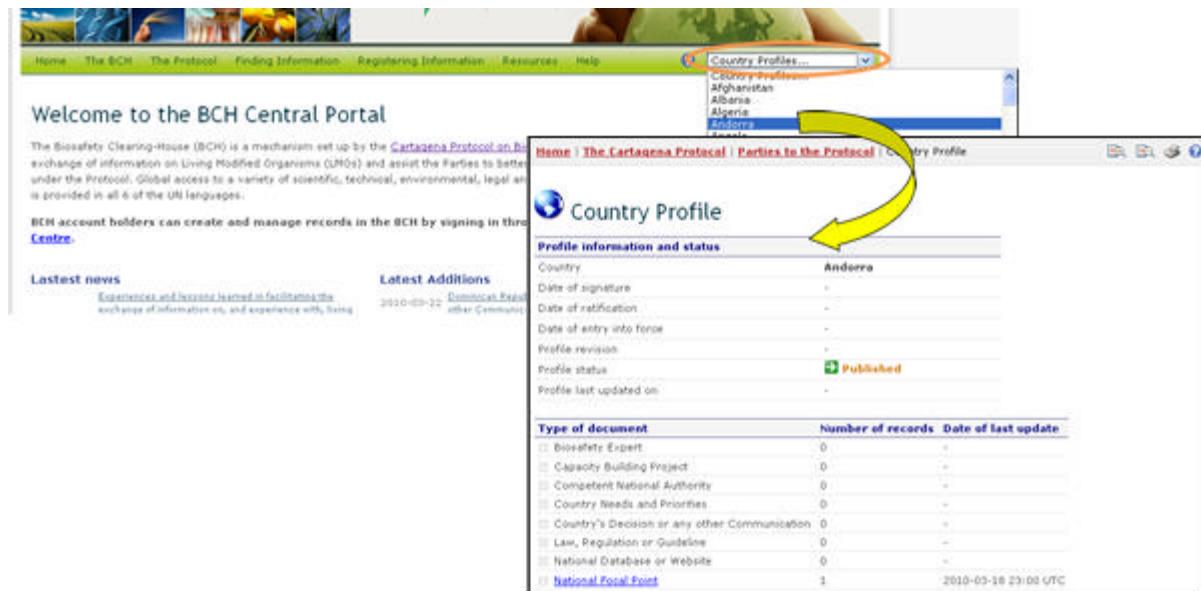


Figure 8

The country profiles contain information about each country, including: Date of signature; Date of ratification; Date of entry into force; Profile revision; Profile status and the last date in which the profile was updated. It lists the types of documents registered (e.g. National Focal Point, Law, regulation or guideline, risk assessment, etc.) and the amount of records registered for each type, with links to access those records. The number of records for each type of document, as well as the date of the last update, are indicated.

### 3.2 The BCH

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

The introductory page for the **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 the following sections:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Figure 9

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

## Surfing the BCH Central Portal



Figure 10

### 3.2.1 Modalities of operation

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

The image shows a screenshot of the 'Modalities of operation of the BCH (Annex to BS-1/3)' page. The page has a header with the 'Biosafety Clearing-House' logo and the Convention on Biological Diversity logo. The main content area is titled 'Modalities of operation of the BCH (Annex to BS-1/3)'. Below this, there is a section titled 'Sections' with a numbered list from a to h. The first section, 'A. Role of the Biosafety Clearing-House', is expanded, showing a detailed list of points. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with links to 'The Biosafety Clearing-House', 'The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)', 'Highlights', and 'Policies'.

**Modalities of operation of the BCH (Annex to BS-1/3)**

**Sections**

- [Role of the Biosafety Clearing-House](#)
- [Characteristics of the Biosafety Clearing-House](#)
- [Administration of the Biosafety Clearing-House](#)
- [Role of the Biosafety Clearing-House focal points](#)
- [Technical oversight and advice](#)
- [Obligations of partner organizations](#)
- [Reports on activities](#)
- [Periodic review](#)

**A. Role of the Biosafety Clearing-House**

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

Figure 11

### 3.2.2 Multi-year Program of Work

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

The screenshot shows the main navigation bar at the top with links for Home, English, Español, Français, and Русский, along with Sign Up for an Account and Sign In. Below the navigation is a banner featuring the 'Biosafety Clearing-House' logo and the 'Convention on Biological Diversity' logo, with a background image of a globe and hands. The main content area has a green header bar with 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 (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 page title is 'Multi-year Program of Work (Annex to BS-II/2)'. Under 'Programme elements', there is a numbered list: 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. Below this is a section titled 'Programme element 1: Structure and function of the central portal' with an objective: 'Improve ease of reporting and accessing information in the Biosafety Clearing-House in response to identified needs of users.' It lists possible activities:

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

Figure 12

The **Multi-year Program of Work** page provides information about the objectives and possible activities for each program element as decided by the 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 that were held before the entry into force of the Cartagena Protocol.

## Surfing the BCH Central Portal

Sign Up for an Account | Sign In

**Biosafety Clearing-House**

Convention on Biological Diversity

Home | The BCH | Decisions on the BCH

**Decisions on the BCH**

**COP-MOP Meetings**

**Fourth Meeting of the COP-MOP (12-16 May 2008, Bonn, Germany)**: In decision BS-IV/2, 'Operations and activities of the Biosafety Clearing-House', the COP-MOP requested the Executive Secretary, among other things, to: (i) improve the ease of browsing search results and add online tools for statistical analysis and graphic representations of data; (ii) improve the structure of the common formats and simplify the registration procedure; (iii) implement a confirmation mechanism for the updating of information by Parties; (iv) continue assisting BCH national nodes through the maintenance and improvement of Hermes and the BCH Ajax Plug-in; (v) commission a study in order to assess what information is deemed useful by BCH users; and to prioritize the BCH work programme. The COP-MOP also urged the GEF to extend and provide additional funding to the UNEP-GEF BCH project in its current form with a view to ensuring the sustainability of national BCH nodes and providing more capacity-building support.

For full texts: [Decision BS-IV/2, Documents from the meeting](#)

**Third Meeting of the COP-MOP (13-17 March 2006, Curitiba, Brazil)**: In decision BS-III/2, 'Operations and activities of the Biosafety Clearing-House', the COP-MOP among other things requested the Executive Secretary to: (i) continue to collaborate with nodes that are interlinked and interoperable with the BCH; (ii) make easily available decisions and other information on LMOs-FPP, risk assessments and decisions taken under the AIA procedure; (iii) undertake translation of the BCH into the 6 official UN languages; (iv) undertake an external security audit of the BCH and its infrastructure; (v) continue to develop non-Internet based mechanisms for countries to access information in the BCH; and undertake another survey of BCH users.

For full texts: [Decision BS-III/2, Documents from the meeting](#)

**Second Meeting of the COP-MOP (30 May – 3 June 2005, Montreal, Canada)**: In decision BS-II/2, 'Operations and

Figure 13

### 3.2.4 Reports and reviews

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

**BCH Reports & Reviews**

Once a year the Secretariat reports on the operation of the Biosafety Clearing-House. Primary data, such as the number and regional distribution of National Focal Points, as well as the number of records made available through the BCH, are reported below. Detailed reports on the activities and partnership arrangements that have been entered into, as well as feedback provided by Parties and other Governments on their experiences with the operation of the BCH, are also available from this page.

**Sections**

- [BCH Log Reports](#) (number of records and visits per year)
- [BCH Annual Reports](#) (issued by the Secretariat)
- [User survey, feedback and other publication on the BCH](#)

**BCH Log Reports (number of records and visits per year)**

**BCH Records per Year**

Year	Total records submitted by countries	Total number of records in the BCH
2004	~1,000	~1,000
2005	~2,000	~2,000
2006	~3,000	~3,000
2007	~4,000	~4,000
2008	~5,000	~5,000
Apr-09	~6,000	~6,000

**Hits, Pages views & Visitors per Year**

Year	Total Hits	Total Page Views	Total Visitors
2004	~1,000,000	~1,000,000	~1,000,000
2005	~1,200,000	~1,200,000	~1,200,000
2006	~1,500,000	~1,500,000	~1,500,000
2007	~2,000,000	~2,000,000	~2,000,000
2008	~2,500,000	~2,500,000	~2,500,000

Figure 14

### 3.2.5 Development of the BCH

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

The screenshot shows the 'Development of the Biosafety Clearing-House' page. At the top, there's a banner with the 'Biosafety Clearing-House' logo and the Convention on Biological Diversity logo. Below the banner, the 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' (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 release of new versions of the BCH Management Centre, Common Formats, and FAQs. The '2008' section highlights the update of the BCH help system and the translation of the BCH into six UN languages. A note at the bottom thanks the UNEP-GEF BCH Project for facilitating the use of the BCH.

Figure 15

### 3.2.6 The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)

In this subsection you will find information on the BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC). This committee provides guidance with respect to resolution of technical issues associated with the ongoing development of the BCH. Please note that the access to the IAC forum is limited to IAC members only.

#### 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 the IAC, the mandate of the IAC, the meeting documents and summaries of the outcomes of each meeting.

The screenshot shows the main interface of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) Central Portal. On the left, there's a sidebar with various links like 'Home', 'The BCH', 'The Protocol', etc. A large yellow arrow points from the 'BCH-IAC forum participants' link in the sidebar to the list of participants on the right side of the page. The right side displays a document titled 'SUMMARY OUTCOMES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE INFORMAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE BIOSAFETY CLEARING-HOUSE'. This document includes sections for 'INTRODUCTION', 'GOALS AND OBJECTIVES', 'MEETING AGENDA', 'MEETING OUTCOMES', and 'FUTURE WORK'. It also lists 'Participants' and 'Contributors'.

Figure 16

### 3.2.6.2 IAC Forum Participants

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

The screenshot shows the 'Participants' section of the IAC forum on the Biosafety Clearing-House Central Portal. The page header includes the 'Biosafety Clearing-House' logo, the Convention on Biological Diversity logo, and a search bar for 'Country Profiles...'. The left sidebar contains links for 'The Biosafety Clearing-House', 'The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC)', 'Highlights', and 'Policies'. The main content area displays a table titled 'Current list of participants to the BCH IAC forum' with 11 entries, each listing a participant's name, email, country, and organization.

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

Figure 17

## 3.2.7 Highlights

This section of the BCH Central Portal provides links to information about the activities of the BCH.

### 3.2.7.1 BCH News

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

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

The screenshot shows the 'Biosafety Clearing-House News' page. On the left, there's a sidebar with links like 'Modality of Operation', 'Multi-year Program of Work', 'Decisions on the BCH', 'Reports & Reviews', 'Development of the BCH', 'The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH IAC)', 'SAC mandate & writings', 'SAC forum participants', and 'Highlights'. A yellow arrow points from the 'Highlights' link to the main content area. The main content area has a heading 'Biosafety Clearing-House News' with a 'Subscribe/Follow BCH News' button. Below it, a news item says 'The Biosafety Clearing-House is now on Twitter!' followed by a link to their Twitter account. To the right, there's a 'Users of the Biosafety Clearing-House' section with a Twitter logo and a 'Join today!' button. At the bottom right, there's a 'Base BCH Central Portal' sidebar with links for 'Events', 'Favorites', and 'Following'.

Figure 18

### 3.2.7.2 BCH Latest Additions

The **Latest Additions** link takes 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 Biosafety Clearing-House website. At the top, there are language links (Arabic, Chinese, English, Spanish, French, Russian) 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.

The navigation bar includes links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A yellow arrow points from the 'Latest Additions' link in the sidebar to the detailed record view.

**Latest Additions:** Below this heading, it says "Below you can find the newly added and updated records." A yellow arrow points to the first record in the list.

**Newly added records** (updated each day):

Date	Record ID	Holder and Type	Details
2010-02-09	<a href="#">57396</a>	Capacity Building Opportunity	Agricultural biotechnologies in developing countries (ABDC-10) conference, Guadalajara, Mexico
2010-02-09	<a href="#">57395</a>		
2010-02-09	<a href="#">57394</a>		
2010-02-09	<a href="#">57393</a>		
2010-02-09	<a href="#">57392</a>		
2010-02-03	<a href="#">57391</a>		
2010-02-03	<a href="#">57390</a>		
2010-02-03	<a href="#">57389</a>		

**Capacity Building Opportunity** (Record details):

- Record information and status:**
  - Record ID: 57396
  - Status: Published
  - Date of creation: 2010-02-09 17:21 GMT ([urika.nilsen@cbd.int](mailto:urika.nilsen@cbd.int))
  - Date of last update: 2010-02-09 16:54 GMT ([urika.nilsen@cbd.int](mailto:urika.nilsen@cbd.int))
  - Owner: [urika.nilsen@cbd.int](mailto:urika.nilsen@cbd.int)
- General description:**
  - Title of capacity-building activity:** Agricultural biotechnologies in developing countries (ABDC-10) conference, Guadalajara, Mexico
  - URL:** [Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN](#)
  - Lead institution implementing the activity or providing support:** Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) (Record #15814)
  - Type of organization providing the support:** UN and other specialized agency

Figure 19

### 3.2.7.3 Notifications

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

### 3.2.7.4 Meetings and Documents

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

### 3.2.8 Policies

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

The Biosafety Clearing-House

Convention on Biological Diversity

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

**Sections**

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

**Mandate**

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

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

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

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

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

Figure 20

### 3.2.8.1 Linking External Websites Policy

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

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 IAC mandate & meetings, SAC forum participants, BCH News, Latest Additions, Notifications, and Meetings and Documents. 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, and an 'Executive Summary' section describing the policy's purpose and selection criteria.

Figure 21

### 3.2.8.2 Privacy Policy

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

The screenshot shows the main navigation bar at the top with links for Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... A green sidebar on the left contains links for The Biosafety Clearing-House, The BCH Informal Advisory Committee (BCH-IAC), Highlights, Policies, and other sections like IAC mandate & meetings, SAC forum participants, BCH News, Latest Additions, Notifications, and Meetings and Documents. 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, and an 'Information provided to the BCH' section detailing the official information of National Focal Points.

Figure 22

### 3.2.8.3 Disclaimer

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



Figure 23

### 3.2.8.4 Copyright

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

Figure 24

### 3.3 The Protocol

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

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

Figure 25

The screenshot shows the Biosafety Clearing-House website. At the top, there are language links for العربية, 中文, english, español, français, and pyccийский. On the right, there are links for Sign Up for an Account and 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, a banner image shows a hand holding a globe. A navigation bar at the top includes Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles... with a dropdown arrow. A sub-navigation menu for "The Cartagena Protocol" is visible on the left, listing: Text of the Protocol, Parties to the Protocol, COP-MOP Decisions, Reporting, Meetings and Documents, and Notifications. The main content area is titled "The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety". It contains a brief description of the protocol and its adoption. Below this, a section titled "Sections" lists: Introduction, History, The ICCP Process, and Timeline.

Figure 26

**The Protocol** page is divided into 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 several 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 **Text of the Protocol** link 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 PDF format. Links are also provided to web pages reporting the text of each article of the Protocol.

The screenshot illustrates the user interface of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) Central Portal. The main header includes links for different languages (arabic, 中文, english, español, français, иностр.) and user account options (Logout | My Profile | Sign Out). The top navigation bar features the 'Biosafety Clearing-House' logo and the 'Convention on Biological Diversity' logo, along with a decorative globe graphic.

The primary content area is titled 'Text of the Protocol'. It contains a sub-section 'Text by article' with a list of articles from Article 1 to Article 19. A blue arrow points from the 'Parties to the Protocol' link in the sidebar to the 'Parties to the Protocol' table in the second screenshot.

The second screenshot shows the 'Parties to the Protocol' table. It lists countries and their status regarding the Cartagena Protocol. The table includes columns for 'Country', 'Status of Ratification', 'Entry into Force', and 'Country Profile'. The 'Country Profile' link for each country provides detailed information about all records registered in the BCH by that country.

Figure 27

### 3.3.2 Parties to the Protocol

The link for **Parties to the Protocol** takes the user to a page which provides a summary of the *status of ratification* and *entry into force* for each Party to 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.

## Surfing the BCH Central Portal

The screenshot shows two main pages from the BCH portal:

- Left Page: Parties to the Protocol**
  - Header: Biosafety Clearing-House, Convention on Biological Diversity
  - Navigation: Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Ratifying Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, Country Profiles
  - Section: The Cartagena Protocol
    - Links: Test of the Protocol, Parties to the Protocol, COP-MOP Decisions, Reporting, Meetings and Documents, Notifications.
  - Content: Status of Ratification and Entry into Force. A table lists ratifications by country, with a red arrow pointing to the entry for Algeria.
- Right Page: Country Profile - Algeria**
  - Header: Home | The Cartagena Protocol | Parties to the Protocol | Country Profile
  - Section: Country Profile
    - Profile information and status: Country (Algeria), Date of signature (2000-05-25), Date of ratification (2004-08-05), Date of entry into force (2004-11-03), Profile revision, Profile status (Published), Profile last updated on (2008-01-25 15:16 UTC).
    - Type of document: A table showing counts for various document types: 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).

Figure 28

### 3.3.3 COP-MOP Decisions

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

The screenshot shows two pages related to COP-MOP decisions:

- Left Page: COP-MOP Decisions**
  - Header: COP-MOP Decisions
  - Search Decisions: Subject (dropdown), Meeting (dropdown), Keyword (text input), Search button.
  - Results: Decision 1 to 20 of 65, with a navigation bar (Previous, Next).
  - 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
  - Title: BS-IV/1
  - Content: Fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP 4). A yellow arrow points to the title of the report.
  - Section: BS-IV/1. Report of the Compliance Committee
    - Description: The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, taking note of the report of the Compliance Committee, including its recommendations (UNEP/CBD/BIS/COP-MOP/4/2).
    - Text: Taking note also of the information compiled by the Compliance Committee on experience of other multilateral environmental agreements in addressing cases of repeated non-compliance (UNEP/CBD/BIS/COP-MOP/4/2/Add.1); Recognizing the need for improved intersectoral coordination among members of each regional group to replace, expeditiously, Compliance Committee members who resign or are unable to complete their term; Recognizing also the absence of any submissions relating to compliance to the Compliance Committee to date;
    - Decisions:
      1. Reinforce 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. Call 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 29

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

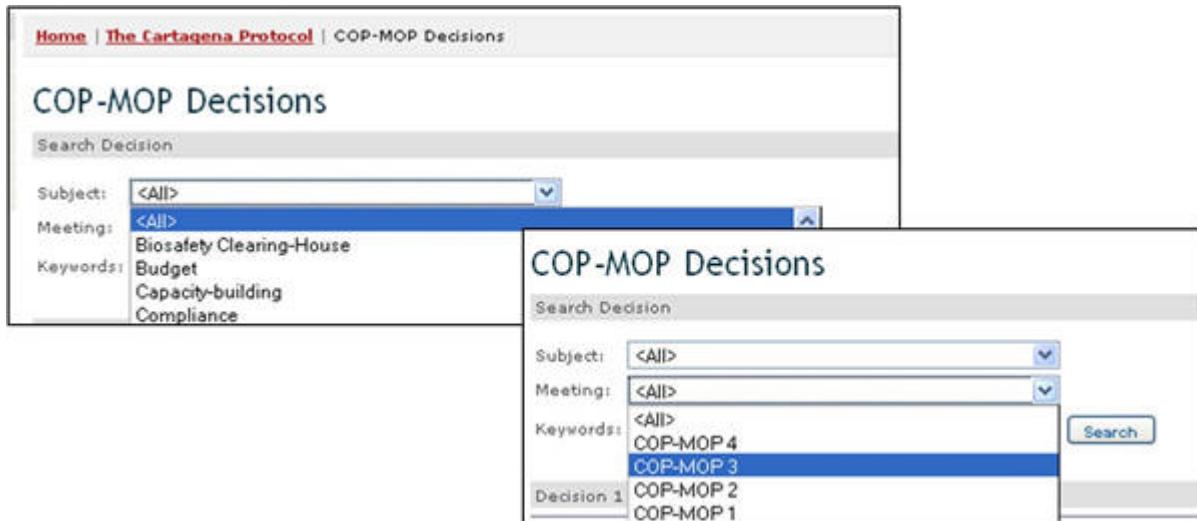


Figure 30

### 3.3.4 Reporting

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

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

The screenshot shows the 'Reporting' section of the 'The Cartagena Protocol' page. The left sidebar lists 'Text of the Protocol', 'Parties to the Protocol', 'COP-MOP Decisions', 'Reporting', 'Meetings and Documents', and 'Notifications'. The main content area has a heading 'Reporting' and a sub-section 'Sections' with a list of links:

- [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 Programme of the Convention and its Protocol](#)
- [Roster of Experts Annual Reports](#)

Below this, a section titled 'National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety' contains text about reporting requirements under Article 33 of the Protocol.

Figure 31

### 3.3.4.1 National Reports

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

[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](#) | Reporting

## Reporting

### Sections

- [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 Programme 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 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)

France

<b>Language</b>	<b>Available document formats</b>
French	

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

**Interim National Report (2005):**

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

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

France

<b>Language</b>	<b>Available document formats</b>
English	

Figure 32

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

## Surfing the BCH Central Portal

The figure consists of two side-by-side screenshots of the 'National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety' section of the BCH Central Portal.

**Left Screenshot (First report):**

- Header: 'First report' with a yellow arrow pointing to the top left.
- Page title: 'National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety'.
- Content: 'First Regular National Report (2007)'. A note states: 'These reports submitted in a format compatible with this analyzer tool have been processed. The Secretariat cannot guarantee 100% accuracy of results obtained by this analysis tool. In case of a discrepancy between the results on this page and the information in the official national report document posted at www.cbd.int/reports/first.shtml, the latter shall prevail.' Below is a 'Report Selection' form.
- Form Fields:
  - 'Analyze by': Radio buttons for 'Country' (selected) and 'Country Group (e.g. Africa)'.
  - '66 Countries': A dropdown menu listing countries: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium.
  - 'Search for': A search bar with placeholder 'in the questions'.
  - 'Matrix language': A dropdown menu set to 'English'.
  - 'Go' button.
  - 'Only show the report matrix' checkbox.

**Right Screenshot (Interim report):**

- Header: 'Interim report' with a yellow arrow pointing to the top left.
- Page title: 'National Reports on Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety'.
- Content: 'Interim National Report (2005)'. A note states: 'A comparison of more recent national reports is also available through this analyzer. Please follow this link to access the Analyzer of First Regular National Reports on Implementation of the Protocol (2007).'. Below is a 'Report Selection' form.
- Form Fields:
  - 'Analyze by': Radio buttons for 'Country' (selected) and 'Country Group (e.g. Africa)'.
  - '66 Countries': A dropdown menu listing countries: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium.
  - 'Search for': A search bar with placeholder 'in the questions'.
  - 'Matrix language': A dropdown menu set to 'English'.
  - 'Go' button.
  - 'Only show the report matrix' checkbox.

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.



Figure 34



Figure 35

### 3.3.4.2 Reports on Activities of the Secretariat

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

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

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

Search the reports on CBD activities

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

Roster of Experts Annual Report

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

Search the reports on the operation of the Roster of Experts

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

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

**CBD** Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity **INTERNATIONAL BIODIVERSITY DAY** 22 May 2008 BIODIVERSITY AND AGRICULTURE

**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 presentations and information documents were prepared, amounting to 6,540 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 36

### 3.3.4.3 Roster of Experts Annual Reports

The **Roster of Experts Annual Reports** are provided each calendar year by the Secretariat and report on the operation of the Roster of Experts as well as the voluntary fund for the use of the roster.

Roster of Experts Annual Reports

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

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

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

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

Year 2007  
Select reporting period  
Year 2008  
Year 2007  
Year 2006  
Year 2005  
Year 2004  
Year 2003  
Year 2002



Secretariat of the  
Convention on Biological Diversity



REPORT ON THE ROSTER OF BIOSAFETY EXPERTS  
January - December, 2007

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its first meeting, held in February 2004 in Kuala Lumpur, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP) adopted, in decision BS-1/4, Annex I, Interim Guidelines for the Roster of Experts describing the administrative and operational modalities for the roster. The Interim Guidelines require the Executive Secretary to prepare and make available through the Biosafety Clearing-House, once a year, a report on the operation of the

Figure 37

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

### 3.3.5 Cartagena Protocol Meetings and Documents

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

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

The screenshot shows the Biosafety Clearing-House website's 'Cartagena Protocol Meetings' section. On the left, there's a sidebar with links for 'The Cartagena Protocol' such as 'Text of the Protocol', 'Parties to the Protocol', 'COP/MOP Decisions', 'Reporting', 'Meetings and Documents', and 'Notifications'. The main content area has a header 'Cartagena Protocol Meetings' and a search bar. Below the search bar, it says 'Meetings 1 to 20 of 113' and includes a navigation bar with links like '< Previous | 1 2 3 4 5 6 | Next >'. A table lists 'Upcoming Meetings' for '2010 February'. The first meeting listed is '1 - 3 February 2010 Siem Reap, Cambodia' with the status 'Confirmed'. To the right of the meeting details, there's a link '» Documents (0)' which is circled in red. Other meetings listed include '2 February 2010 Online' (status 'Confirmed'), '4 February 2010 Online' (status 'Confirmed'), and '4 - 5 February 2010' (status 'Confirmed'). Each meeting row also has a '» Documents' link.

Figure 38

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

### 3.3.6 Cartagena Protocol Notifications

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

Below the search facility you will find a list containing all Notifications ordered by date.

## Surfing the BCH Central Portal

The screenshot shows the BCH Central Portal's main interface. At the top, there are language links (Arabic, 中文, English, Español, Français, pycceski) and a sign-out link. The header features the "Biosafety Clearing-House" logo and the Convention on Biological Diversity logo. Below the header is a navigation bar with links to 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 titled "The Cartagena Protocol" lists options like Text of the Protocol, Parties to the Protocol, COP-MOP Decisions, Reporting, Meetings and Documents, and Notifications. The main content area is titled "Cartagena Protocol Notifications". It includes a search bar, a keyword input field, and a list of notifications. One notification is highlighted with a yellow arrow pointing to it. The notification details the UNEP-GEF Project "BCH II: Continued enhancement of building capacity for effective participation in the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH)". It is dated 4 February 2009, from SCBD/B1, and is a reminder. The message is addressed to Madam/Sir and discusses the project's aims and the need for endorsement by GEF Operational Focal Points.

Figure 39

## 3.4 How to Find Information

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

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

This screenshot shows the BCH Central Portal's homepage after selecting the "Finding Information" option from the navigation bar. The "Finding Information" menu is highlighted with a red circle. The menu items include National Contacts, Laws and Regulations, Country's Decisions and other Communications, LMOs, Genes or Organisms, Roster of Experts, Capacity-Building, Biosafety Information Resource Centre (BIRC), Scientific Bibliographic Database, and Organizations. To the right of the menu, there is a welcome message for the BCH account holders and a section for the latest news. On the far right, there are promotional boxes for the Forum on the Strategic Plan and the Assessment and Review, BCH Tutorials on Registering Information, and an Open-ended Online Expert Forum on.

Figure 40

Each category listed on this page links to a search page that is designed to easily find specific information.

From each search page it is also possible to browse all records in any of the categories by using a [Browse all records](#) button.

Figure 41

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

### 3.5 How to Register Information

URL: <https://bch.cbd.int/member/signin.shtml>

The BCH Management Center provides a web-based mechanism to register, update, delete or correct information in the BCH databases. Information related to national implementation of the Protocol, which is stored in national records, can only be registered by BCH National Focal Points. The following categories of national records can be registered:

- 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 (Decisions BS-I/4 and BS-IV/4)
- Report on Biosafety Expert Assignment

Information for reference records can be submitted by any BCH registered user. These records must be validated by the SCBD before they can become public.

- Contact Details
- Capacity Building Activities, Projects and Opportunities
- Biosafety Organization
- Biosafety Information Resource Centre (BIRC)
- BCH News
- Risk assessment generated by an independent or non-regulatory process
- Living Modified Organism (LMO)
- Gene and DNA sequence
- Organism

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

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

The screenshot shows the 'Sign In to the Biosafety Clearing-House' page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information (which is circled in red), Resources, and Help. Below the navigation bar, there is a search bar and some icons. The main content area has a heading 'Sign In to the Biosafety Clearing-House'. It contains instructions for users who have a BCH account and those who don't. There are fields for 'Registered email address' and 'Password', along with a 'Remember me' checkbox and a 'Sign In' button. To the right, there are links for 'Sign Up for a BCH Account' and 'Forgot your password?'. Below the sign-in form, there is a section titled 'Important Remarks' with some general instructions and contact information.

Figure 42

## 3.6 Resources

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

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

1. Common formats;
2. Solutions for National Participation;
3. Training Site of the BCH;
4. Glossary;
5. Thesaurus;
6. Site Map;
7. Downloadable files;
8. Online Forums and Portals;
9. Interoperability services; and
10. Mailing lists

Figure 43

## Surfing the BCH Central Portal



Figure 44

### 3.6.1 Common Formats

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

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

The following records can be registered and directly published by BCH National Focal Points (BCH NFPs) in the BCH. National authorized users can also register these records subject to validation by the BCH NFP prior to publication:

- National Focal Point** - Common format for registering a National Focal Point (Article 17, 19 and/or 80-170). Latest edition: 30 July 2009.
- National Website or Database** - Common format for registering a National Focal Point (Article 17, 19 and/or 80-170). Latest edition: 2 September 2009.
- Competent National Authority** - Common format for registering a Competent National Authority (Article 17, 19 and/or 80-170). Latest edition: 3 September 2009.
- Laws and Regulations** - Common format for registering any existing National Law, Bilateral, Regional and International Agreements and Arrangements for implementation. Latest edition: 04 October 2009.
- Country's decisions or any other Communication** - Common format for registering decisions or communications (including risk assessments) (Article 17, 19 and/or 80-170). Latest edition: 2 September 2009.
- Risk Assessments** - Common format for registering risk assessments generated by NFPs. Latest edition: 2 September 2009.
- Biosafety Expert** - Common format for registering a Biosafety Expert with its Risk Assessment. Latest edition: 24 February 2009.
- Report on Biosafety Expert Assignment** - Common format for registering a Risk Assessment. Latest edition: 31 September 2009.

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

**Reference records**

The following records can be registered by any registered user subject to validation by the Secretariat prior to publication:

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

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

Figure 45

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

1. National records
  - National Focal Point
  - National Database or Website
  - Competent National Authority
  - Laws and Regulations
  - Country's decisions or any other Communication
  - Risk Assessments
  - Biosafety Expert
  - Report on Biosafety Expert Assignment
2. Reference Records
  - Contact Details Reference
  - Capacity-Building Opportunity
  - Capacity-Building Project
  - Academically-Accredited Biosafety Course
  - Biosafety Organization
  - Biosafety Information Resource
  - BCH News

- Independent Risk Assessments
- LMO - Unique Identification
- Inserted Gene
- Organism (non-modified)

### 3.6.2 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.

The screenshot shows the main navigation bar of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) website. The top banner features the BCH logo and the Convention on Biological Diversity logo. Below the banner, the navigation menu includes Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, and Country Profiles. A sidebar on the left is titled 'Resources' and lists various links such as Common Formats, Solutions for National Participation, Training Site of the BCH, Glossary, Thesaurus, Site Map, Downloadable Files, Online forums and portals, Interoperability Services, and Mailing Lists. The main content area is titled 'Solutions for National Participation' and contains a section titled 'Sections' with links to 'Hermes' and 'BCH Ajax Plug-in'. Under the 'Hermes' section, there is a detailed description of the system, a download link for the manual (available in English and Spanish), and a list of countries that have realized national nodes using Hermes. There is also a link to 'Go to the top of the page'. The 'BCH Ajax Plug-In' section is described as a client side application for dynamic integration.

Figure 46

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

### 3.6.3 Training Site of the BCH

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

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



Figure 47

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

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

### 3.6.4 Glossary

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

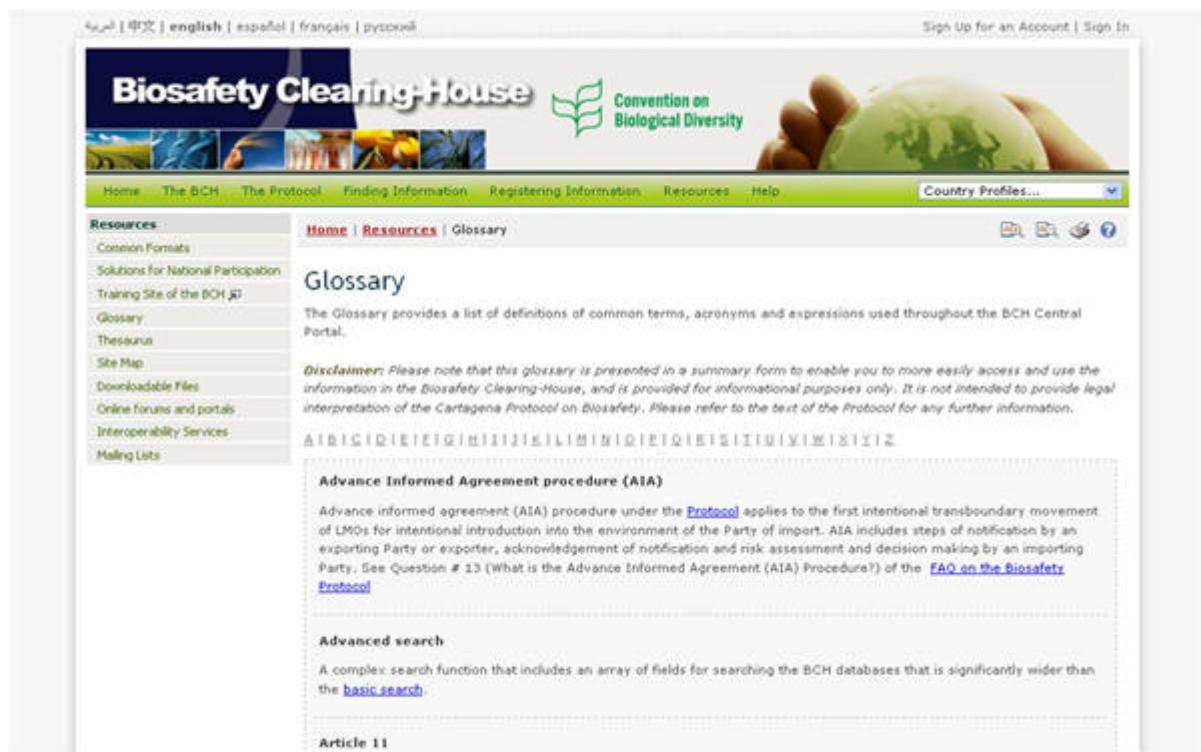


Figure 48

An alphabetical bar linking to sections in the Glossary is provided at the top of the **Glossary** page. Descriptions of all of the Glossary terms and their use are listed in alphabetical order.

### 3.6.5 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.

- A broader term indicates the more general class to which a term belongs in the controlled vocabulary; everything that is true of a term is also true of its broader term (e.g. *Gossypium* is broader than *Gossypium hirsutum*).
- A narrower term indicates a more specific term or member of a class in the controlled vocabulary (e.g. *Gossypium hirsutum* is narrower than *Gossypium*).
- A non-preferred term is a synonym to a preferred use term in the controlled vocabulary that has an equivalent meaning to the preferred use term, but is not used for indexing records (e.g. “bananas” is a non-preferred term for “banana”).
- A preferred use term in the controlled vocabulary is the term selected from among synonyms to be used for indexing and retrieval purposes. This term may also be used instead of non-preferred term. This term is translated into the six UN languages to enable multi-lingual functionality of the BCH.
- A related term brings to the user’s attention terms in the controlled vocabulary that are associated because of overlapping meanings or other relationships (e.g. taxonomic and common names for organisms).

Following the **Thesaurus** link in the **Resources** page or in the resources left-hand menu displays the **BCH Thesaurus** page, which provides features for searching for terms and for browsing all terms in the thesaurus.

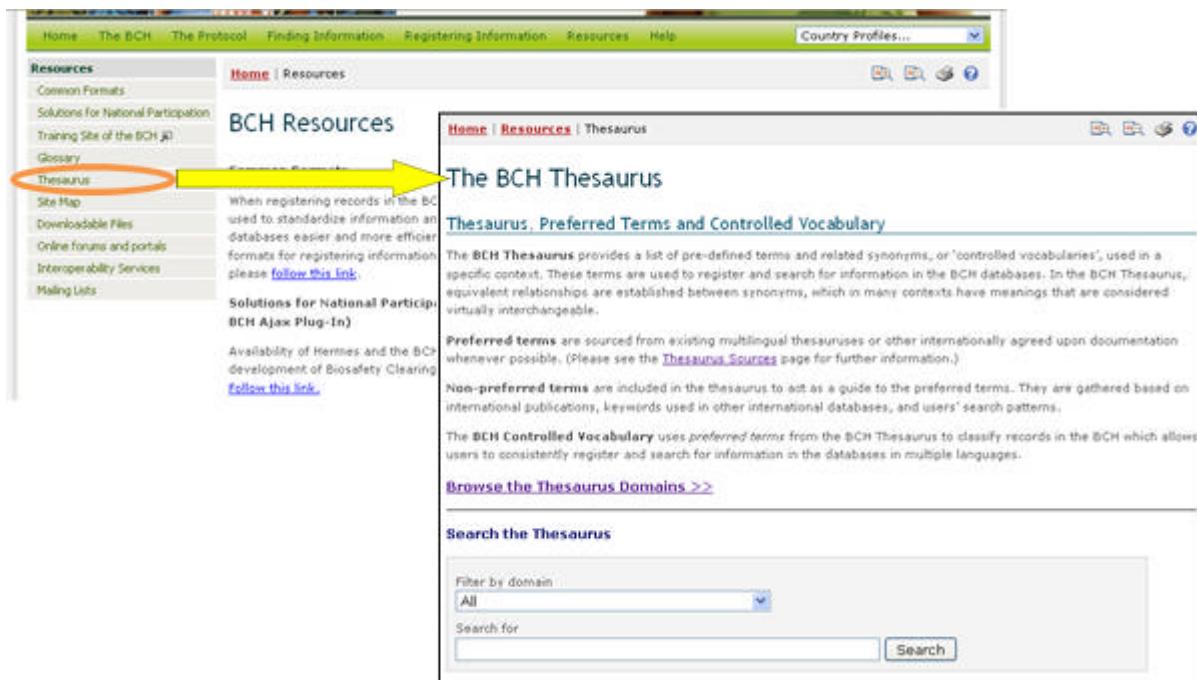


Figure 49

Terms in the BCH Thesaurus are organized into term domains, each of them containing a list of terms. The **Search the Thesaurus** section provides a drop down menu for selecting in which domain to search for terms. A box for searching for specific terms is also provided. To search for terms, enter the domain and/or keyword(s) of interest and click on the **Search** button.

In the results list, clicking on the **Term ID** of a term will display more information about its use in the BCH Central Portal. This takes the user to the **Term description** page, which provides details 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. 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.

## Surfing the BCH Central Portal

The screenshot shows the 'Search the Thesaurus' page. A yellow arrow points from the left sidebar to the search input field. Another yellow arrow points from the search results table to the 'Term description' section below.

**Thesaurus, Preferred Terms and Controlled Vocabulary**

Academic compendium offering  
Academic compendium target audience  
Academic compendium themes  
Academic compendium training type  
Bibliographic Categories  
BioSafety Information Resource Type  
CB Priority Needs / National Actions  
CB Project Status  
CB Project Types  
CBN Priority Means  
CBN Priority Needs  
CBP Elements  
CBP Funding Source  
CBP International Activities  
CBP Main Elements  
CBP National Activities  
CBP Organization Types  
CBP Regional Activities  
CBP Support Types  
Common Formats

**Search the Thesaurus**

Filter by domain: Common Formats  
Search for: Law, Regulation or Guideline  
Search

Term ID	Term	Domain
1709	National Focal Point	Common Formats
1709	Competent National Authority	Common Formats
1710	Law, Regulation or Guideline	Common Formats
1711	Regional or International Agreement	Common Formats
1712	Decision on LMO under Advance Informed Agreement	Common Formats
1713	Decision on LMO for which no feed-back procedure under Article 13, Common Formats	Common Formats
1714	Capacity Building	Common Formats
1715	Risk Assessment	Common Formats
1717	National Database	Common Formats
1718	BioSafety Expert	Common Formats
4196	Law, Regulation or Guideline	Common Formats
4197	Report on Action	Common Formats

[Home](#) | [Resources](#) | [Thesaurus](#) | [Domains](#) | [Thesaurus domain](#) | Term description

**Term description**

**Law, Regulation or Guideline**

laws, regulations and guidelines for implementation of the Protocol, as well information required by Parties for the advance informed agreement procedure, in accordance with Article 20, paragraph 3(a) of the Protocol

Immediate broader terms: [Laws and Regulations](#) - Related terms: [Use for](#)

Immediate narrower terms: [Law, Regulation or Guideline](#)

Preferred use term: [Law, Regulation or Guideline](#)

This term is broader than the following: [Law, Regulation or Guideline](#)

This term is narrower than the following: [Laws and Regulations](#)

Translations:

Arabic:	قانون أو مرسوم أو مذكرة أو ملحوظة أو ملحوظة
Chinese:	法律、管理或准则
English:	Law, Regulation or Guideline
French:	Loi, règlement ou directive
Spanish:	Ley, regulación o directriz
Russian:	Закон, нормативное положение или руководящий принцип

Figure 50

**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 **Search 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 March 2010) identified five uses of the term in four domains within the BCH.

**Search the Thesaurus**

Filter by domain  
All

Search for  
Transboundary

Term ID Term Domain

4256	Article 17.1 notification - Unintentional transboundary movement	Decision Types
4792	Transboundary movement (imp...	
4786	Transboundary movement (imp...	
45	Article 25.3 notification - Illegal...	
4732	likely to have significant adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	

**Term description**

[Article 17.1 notification - Unintentional transboundary movement](#)

**Description**  
Notification under Article 17.1 of an occurrence resulting in a release that leads, or may lead, to an unintentional transboundary movement of a living modified organism that is likely to have significant adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

**Immediate broader terms**  
[Other decisions, declarations and notifications](#)

**Related terms**  
[Use for](#)

**Immediate narrower terms**

**Preferred use term**

This term is broader than the following

This term is narrower than the following  
[Other decisions, declarations and notifications](#)

**Translations**

Arabic:	1-17.1 اعلان غير مقصود
Chinese:	第17.1条的通知
English:	Article 17.1 notification - Unintentional transboundary movement
French:	Notification aux termes de l'Article 17.1 - mouvement transfrontière non intentionnel) (source: SCBD)
Spanish:	Artículo 17.1 notificación
Russian:	Статья 17.1 Уведомление

Figure 51

The thesaurus sources link provides further information regarding the sources on which terms in the thesaurus and their translations are based.

### 3.6.5.1 Thesaurus Domains

The Browse the Thesaurus Domains link in the **BCH Thesaurus** page opens a page in which all term domains are listed. Selecting a domain will list all the terms contained in it. In this way, the user can browse through the thesaurus to find specific terms.

## Surfing the BCH Central Portal

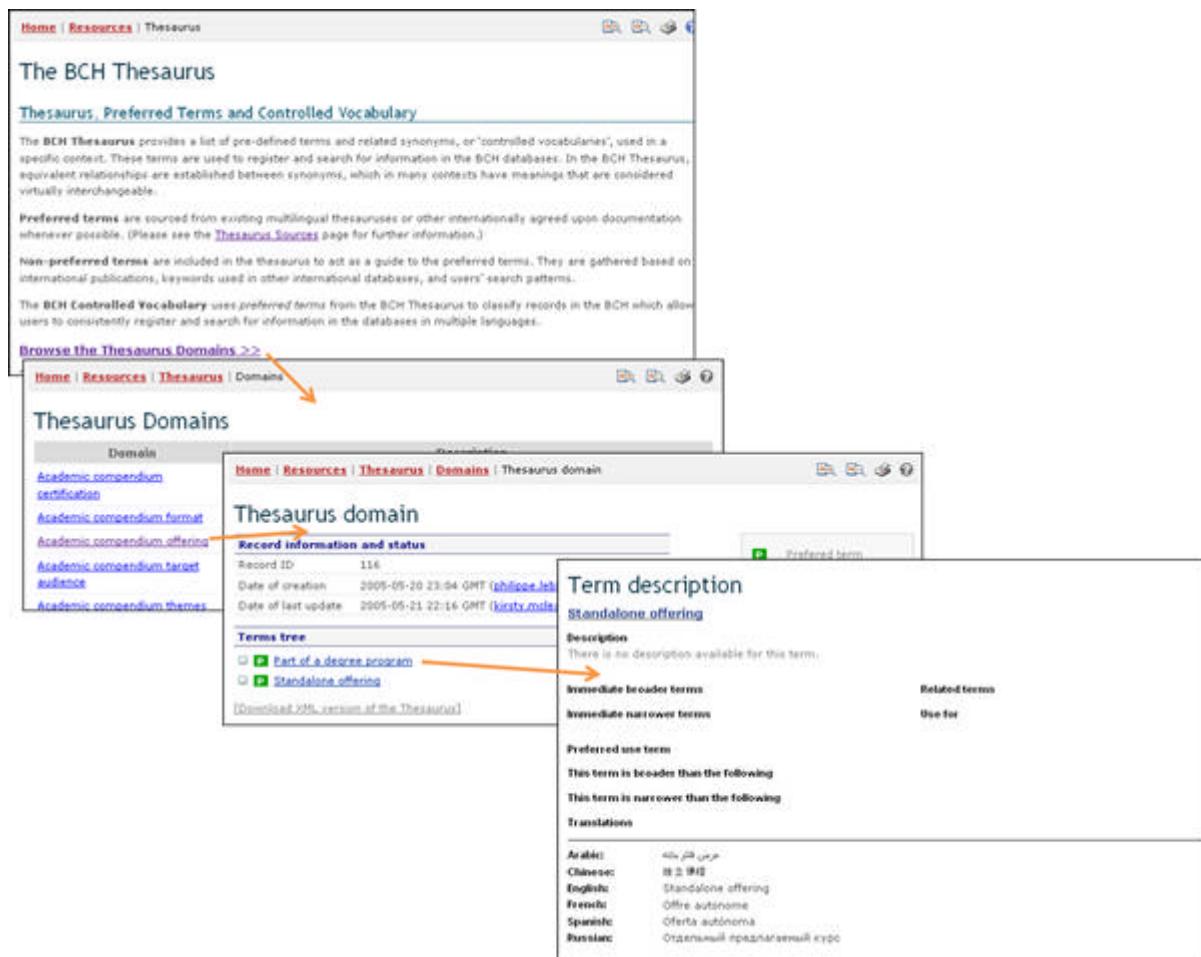


Figure 52

Selecting a term from the **Terms tree** list on the **Thesaurus Domain** page takes the user to the **Term Description** page.

### 3.6.6 Site Map

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

In the sections you will find links to each page of the BCH, including the pages of the Management Centre, which are limited to registered users only.

Figure 53

### 3.6.7 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/or PDF format in at least one of the six official United Nations languages and are grouped as follows:

- Lists of Parties to the Protocol and national contact details
- Treaty Handbook and procedures for ratification, acceptance, approval or accession
- Roster of Experts on Biosafety
- National Reports
- Examples of integration of information requirements into existing documentation for Article 18 (Decision BS-I/6)
- Capacity Building
- Offline Version of the BCH
- Text of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and COP-MOP decisions
- Essential biosafety documents

## Surfing the BCH Central Portal

The screenshot shows the 'Resources' section of the BCH Central Portal. The left sidebar lists various resources such as Common Formats, Solutions for National Participation, Training Site of the BCH, Glossary, Thesaurus, Site Map, Downloadable Files, Online forums and portals, Interoperability Services, and Mailing Lists. The main content area displays a list of 'Downloadable files and essential biosafety documents' under the heading 'Sections'. The first item in the list is 'A. Lists of Parties to the Protocol and national contact details', which includes links for 'List of Parties' and 'List of all National Contacts under the Cartagena Protocol'. The top right corner features the Convention on Biological Diversity logo and links for 'Sign Up for an Account' and 'Sign In'.

Figure 54

### 3.6.8 Online Forums and Portals

The **Online Forums and Portals** page provides numerous links to forums and portals that can help the BCH user to find further information. This page is organized into several sections:

- Forum News section, displayed at the top of the page, shows a list of latest news from the forums.
- The Ongoing Forums section provides a list of links to currently active forums.
- The Archived Forums section provides a list of links to closed forums.
- The Archived Surveys section provides access to a list of surveys previously conducted.
- The Collaborative Portals section provides links to several portals related to biosafety, in which the user can find further information and assistance.

Arabic | 中文 | english | español | français | русский

Sign Up for an Account | Sign In

**Biosafety Clearing-House**

Convention on Biological Diversity

Home | Resources | Online forums and portals

**Online forums and collaborative portals**

**forum news**

- 15-02-2010 - Closing of the survey for the Study of users and potential users of the BCH
- 01-02-2010 - Launch of the [Forum on the Strategic Plan and the Assessment and Review](#)
- 21-12-2009 - Launch of the survey for the [Study of users and potential users of the BCH](#)

**Ongoing Forums**

The following forums are currently on-going and publicly available:

- [Open-ended Online Expert Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management](#)
- [Forum on the Strategic Plan and the Assessment and Review](#)

**Archived Forums**

The following forums are closed:

- [Online Forum on Capacity-Building](#), 3-28 November 2008 and 19 January - 6 February 2009
- [Online Forum on Standards for LMO Shipments](#), 18 May - 5 June 2009

Figure 55

### 3.6.9 Interoperability Services

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

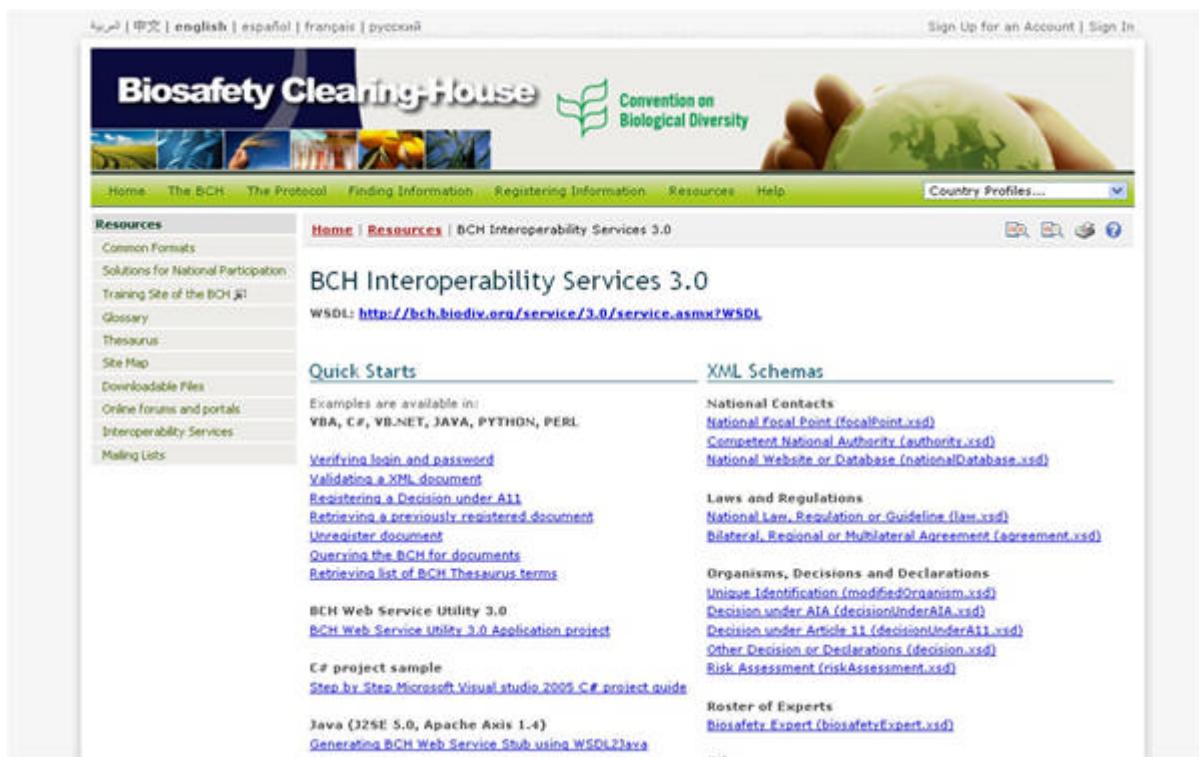


Figure 56

### 3.6.10 Mailing Lists

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.

Figure 57

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 M006 ('Registering Information in the BCH Central Portal' in the on-line documentation)**.

Home | Sign Up for a BCH Account | General User Account    

### General User Account

Your e-mail address is the primary manner by which BCH will contact you. It is used, for example, to reply to technical support requests, to send confirmation of an online requests, or to notify you of important updates.

If you wish to learn more about the Privacy Policy of the Biosafety-Clearing House then please [follow this link...](#)

Please provide the information below.

Name:	Title: Ms.	First name: Irene	Last name: Sulaweyo *
Job Title:			
Department:			
Organization:	University of Durban		
Address:			
City:	Durban	State/Province:	
Country:	South Africa *	Zip/Postal code:	
Phone:	+27 31 228-7538 *	Fax:	+27 31 228-7500 *
Email address:	renie.sulaweyo@adwiz.za		
Time Zone:	GMT+2 - EET: Eastern European		
Language:	English		
Notes:			

**Submit request** **Cancel request**



Figure 58

### 3.7 Help

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

Clicking on the **Help** menu in the navigation bar takes the user to the Online Help System of the BCH Central Portal. This help system provides thorough information on the usage of the BCH and has been designed as a context-sensitive help system. This means that the system is able to provide help content related to the BCH pages that the user is currently using. To access context-sensitive help whenever using the BCH, simply click on the blue question mark icon  to the top right of each page.

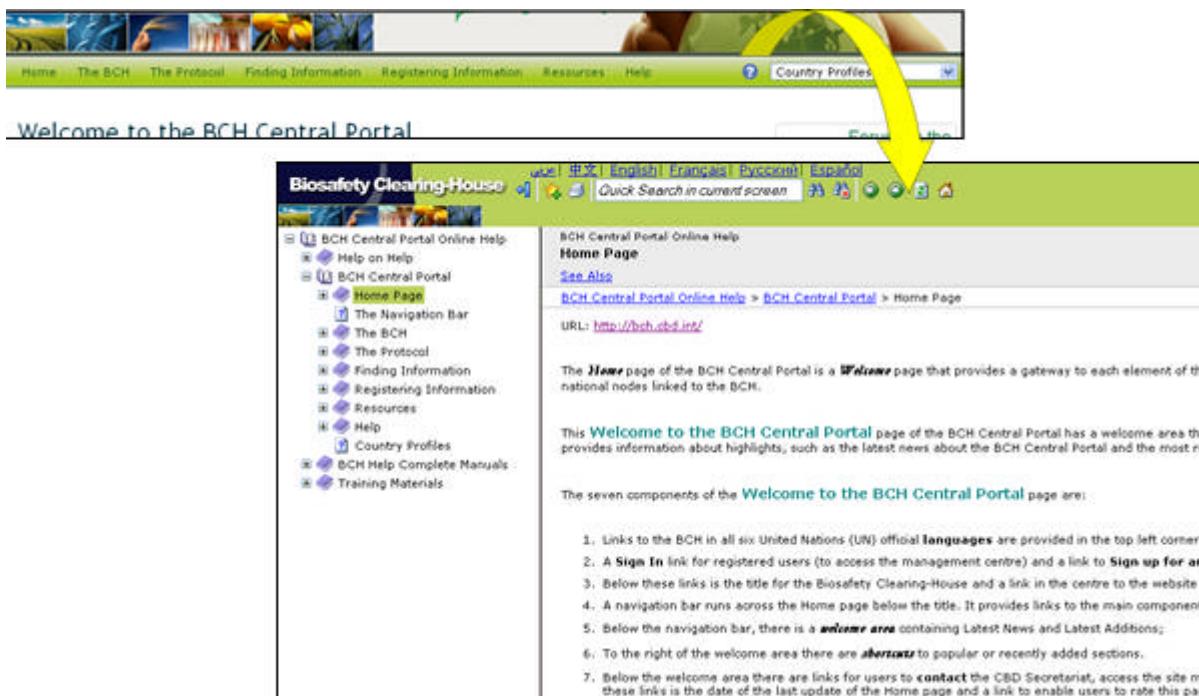


Figure 59

The help system has been developed in all six UN official languages, and the user can switch language as needed using the language bar of the Help System. This help system can also be used to read complete training manuals online.



Figure 60

The Help menu of the BCH Central Portal provides access to several help items:

- **Help:** this is a link to help contents main page in the **BCH Online Help System**.
  - **Help on Help:** this is a link to a help page with information about how to use the BCH Online Help System and which explains its main features.
  - **BCH Central Portal:** this link takes the user to a section in the Help System with comprehensive content about the BCH Central Portal.
  - **Complete BCH Help Manuals:** this link takes the user to a section in the Help System in which all training modules can be found for online reading, each of them organized into several web pages.
  - **Training Materials:** this link takes the user to a section in the Help System which provides access to all training materials available for download.

### 3.7.1 BCH Tutorials

This link in the help menu takes the user to the **BCH Tutorials** page, in which several tutorials are available for download in various languages. These tutorials have been designed for providing guidance on the basic features of the different BCH Sections.

The screenshot shows the 'BCH Tutorials' page with a navigation bar at the top. Below the navigation bar, there is a section titled 'BCH Tutorials' with a note about available modules. A link to the 'YouTube BCH Channel' is provided. Below this, a table lists five modules with their descriptions, file formats (AVI, WMV, PPT), and sizes. To the right, a YouTube video player displays 'BCH Tutorial 1 English - Common Features' with a play button and a progress bar.

BCH Tutorial Modules	AVI (large size)	WMV (large size)	PPT (small size)
1. Common Features features that can be found on all of the BCH web pages	<a href="#">English 1</a> (22.2 Mb) <a href="#">Français 1</a> (27.6 Mb) <a href="#">Español 1</a> (31.0 Mb)	<a href="#">English 1</a> (24.6 Mb) <a href="#">Français 1</a> (27.9 Mb) <a href="#">Español 1</a> (31.0 Mb)	<a href="#">English 1</a> (0.7 Mb) <a href="#">Français 1</a> (0.6 Mb) <a href="#">Español 1</a> (0.6 Mb)
2. Text Pages features that can be found on the BCH homepage as well as in two sections named 'The BCH and The Protocol'	<a href="#">English 2</a> (19.0 Mb) <a href="#">Français 2</a> (26.6 Mb) <a href="#">Español 2</a> (28.0 Mb)	<a href="#">English 2</a> (22.3 Mb) <a href="#">Français 2</a> (27.6 Mb) <a href="#">Español 2</a> (29.2 Mb)	<a href="#">English 2</a> (0.7 Mb) <a href="#">Français 2</a> (0.8 Mb) <a href="#">Español 2</a> (0.8 Mb)
3. Finding Information how to search for information through the Finding Information section	<a href="#">English 3</a> (83.7 Mb) <a href="#">Français 3</a> (88.7 Mb) <a href="#">Español 3</a> (94.0 Mb)	<a href="#">English 3</a> (87.1 Mb) <a href="#">Français 3</a> (93.1 Mb) <a href="#">Español 3</a> (97.2 Mb)	<a href="#">English 3</a> (2.0 Mb) <a href="#">Français 3</a> (2.1 Mb) <a href="#">Español 3</a> (2.0 Mb)

Figure 61

### 3.7.2 FAQ

This link in the help menu takes the user to the **Frequently Asked Questions** (FAQ) page, which displays a collection of commonly asked questions on the BCH along with their answers. The answers provide links to articles in the Protocol and to other information available through the BCH.

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

- Header:** Home, The BCH, The Protocol, Finding Information, Registering Information, Resources, Help, Country Profiles... (dropdown menu).
- Left Sidebar (Help):** Help on Help, BCH Central Portal, Complete BCH Help Manuals, Training Materials, BCH Tutorials, Frequently Asked Questions.
- Page Title:** Home | Help | Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the BCH
- Main Content:**
  - A general overview of the BCH**
  - Searching information**
  - Registering information**
- List of Questions:**
  1. [What is the Biosafety Clearing-House \(BCH\)?](#)
  2. [What is the difference between the Biosafety Clearing-House \(BCH\) and the Clearing House Mechanism \(CHM\) of the CBD?](#)
  3. [What type of information is available in the BCH?](#)
  4. [What are country profiles?](#)
  5. [What are the "LMO", "Gene & DNA sequence" and "Organism" registries?](#)
  6. [What is the meaning of the different icons used in the BCH?](#)
  7. [What is the difference between the Scientific Bibliographic Database and the Biosafety Information Resource Centre?](#)
  8. [How can I search the information contained in the BCH?](#)
  9. [How can I search for information by Record ID number?](#)
  10. [Where can I find information and formats on National Reports?](#)

Figure 62