

ISAAA-IFPRI/PBS-PRRI Asian Regional Workshop on
Sustainable Agriculture, Biotechnology and Biosafety

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Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

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Agenda 21, Chapter 16

Two key considerations:

- Biotechnology can make a significant contribution to strengthening the sustainable production of food, feed and fibre, to addressing water shortage, to improving health care and to environmental protection
- Given the relatively limited experience: there is a need for further development and implementation of internationally agreed principles on risk assessment and management.

>> In short: maximise benefits – minimize risks

The Convention on Biological Diversity

- Adopted in 1992 – Over 190 Parties
- Objectives: the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources
- www.biodiv.org

The Convention on Biological Diversity

- Article 8: *“In situ conservation of biodiversity”*

Art. 8.g: Obligation to develop National Biosafety Systems
- Art. 19: *“Handling biotechnology and distribution of its benefits”*
 - Art.19.2: promote and advance priority access to the results and benefits arising from biotechnologies
 - 19.3: Consider a protocol on biosafety

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB)

History:

1995: COP Decision to develop a biosafety protocol

1996 – 2000: Negotiations

2000: Adoption of the Biosafety Protocol

2003: September: Biosafety Protocol comes into force

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB)

Key characteristics:

1. Sets up procedures for transboundary movement of living modified organisms in absence of national regulations, e.g. AIA.
2. Agreed principles and methodology for risk assessment
3. Mechanism for information sharing - Biosafety Clearing House

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

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB)

Meetings of the Parties (MOPs):

2004: MOP1 (Malaysia),

2005: MOP2 (Canada)

2006: MOP3 (Brazil),

2008: MOP4 (Germany)

2010: MOP5 (Japan),

2012: MOP6 (India)