

A future task in good hands



Advancing Risk Assessment under the Cartagena Protocol of Biosafety – Results of AHTEG III and IV

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Agenda

- **The Nagoya Decision**
- **Outcomes from AHTEG III**
- **Final results from AHTEG IV**
- **Recommendations to COP MOP 6**

Nagoya and Decision V/12



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coordinate with Parties and other Governments, through their technical and scientific experts, and relevant organizations, a **review process of the first version** of the Guidance;

.....

update the common format for submission of records to the Biosafety Information Resources Centre in order to link its records on risk assessment to specific sections of the Guidance; and

.....

develop **new guidance**....

<http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/decisions/decision.shtml?decisionID=12325>

Results of AHTEG III (Post-Nagoya)

AHTEG III took place 30 May to 3 June 2011, Mexico City

Expected outcomes

- A revised version of the “Guidance on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms”;
- A mechanism, including criteria, for future updates of the lists of background materials;
- Further guidance on new specific topics of risk assessment, selected on the basis of the priorities and needs by the Parties and taking into account the topics identified in the previous intersessional period.

Results of AHTEG III (Post Nagoya)

First Task

A revised version of the “Guidance on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms”;

was prepared by the chair based on Submissions by

18 Parties

2 Non-Parties

12 Organisations.

The Guidance encompasses

a road map,

a flow chart of the Road Map

and three additional guidance documents on

plants with stacked genes

abiotic stress resistant plants

transgenic mosquitos

Results of AHTEG III (Post Nagoya)

Second Task

Develop possible mechanisms, including criteria, for future updates of the lists of background materials

Outcome:

During the mandate of the AHTEG

Responsibility for further Updates with the
AHTEG Chair together with the Secretariat and the Bureau

Recommendation to Parties, Non-Parties and other

Organisations to submit further background materials

Revalidation of each accepted document after 5 years



Results of AHTEG III (Post Nagoya)

Third Task

Identify new specific topics for the development of further guidance

Outcome:

Two topics were chosen:

Monitoring and long-term effects of LMOs released into the environment;

Risk assessment of living modified trees

In between activities



- Several rounds of discussions under the Open-ended Online Forum



- Face-to-face meeting of the SWGs on Monitoring and LM trees in Bonn



- Regional realtime online conferences

Results AHTEG IV

AHTEG IV took place in Montreal 4 – 8 June 2012

Tasks achieved

Further Review and finalisation of the Road map including a discussion and decision on Use of Terms

Final reading and agreement on the draft documents on Monitoring and LM trees

Decision to include the additional guidance documents into the „Guidance package“, then consisting of three parts:

(i) Road Map for Risk Assessment of LMOs

(ii) Specific types of LMOs and traits

- stacked genes
- abiotic stress tolerance
- LM mosquitoes
- LM trees

(iii) Monitoring LMOs released into the environment



Results AHTEG IV

Aspects of no agreement/intense debates

How to define comparator

Inclusion of fruit trees into the LM tree document

Inclusion of General Monitoring (General Surveillance)
into the monitoring document

Related Issues

Results AHTEG IV



Further outcome

- proposal on a mechanism for future update of the lists of background material integrated into the recommendations (see results AHTEG III)
- development of recommendations to COP MOP 6

Recommendations to COP MOP 6

Regarding the „Guidance on RA of LMO“

- Endorse the „Guidance“
- Make available the „Guidance“ in all the six United Nations languages through the BCH..
- Encourage parties to translate, as appropriate, the guidance into national languages...
- Encourage parties, non-parties and other organisations through their risk assessors and others, actively involved into RA, to use and test....
- Request the secretariat, subject to availability of funds, to gather and analyse feedback...
- Establish a mechanism to ensure regular update of the background documents...

Recommendations to COP MOP 6

Regarding the development of additional guidance on specific topics

- Extend the mandate of the Open-ended Forum and AHTEG beyond the sixth meeting of the Parties, with revised terms of reference, to develop guidance on new topics, taking into account any results of the use and testing as well as the need of Parties...
- Ensure that online discussions are chaired and /or moderated to enhance their usefulness
- Encourage Parties to nominate additional experts...



Recommendations to COP MOP 6

Regarding the capacity building in RA and RM

- (i) ensure coherence between Training Manual on RA and part I of the Guidance..
- (ii) develop an advanced educational package that integrates the guidance....
- (iii) conduct training...
- (iv) follow up on the training exercise by gathering additional feedback from Parties...
- (v) conduct training on RA and RM with special emphasis in applying the Guidance in the process of actual decision making under the procedures of the Protocol

Regarding RA in general

encourage Parties to provide the BCH with prompt and detailed information.....

Overall Assessment



**Difficult discussions, but final
compromise outcome acceptable
given the different views and
approaches**

AHTEG Group





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Thank you very much for your attention

This presentation is available soon at:

www.BfN.de