

PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BIOSAFETY

Turning dreams into reality

Under the leadership of Austria, the secretariats to the Aarhus Convention and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity are working together to promote effective access to information, education, awareness-raising and public participation on LMO/GMO related matters. The joint work facilitates exchange of knowledge, sharing of experience and good practices from every region of the world.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS



THE AARHUS 7-STEP MODEL ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING

- 1 Early, adequate and effective
- 2 Early public participation, when all options are open, and reasonable timeframes
- 3 Access to all relevant information
- 4 Opportunity to comment and/or be heard
- 5 Due account to be taken of public participation
- 6 Prompt notice of decision
- 7 If operating decisions are reconsidered or updated, the above steps should be repeated, as appropriate

WHAT DO WE DO?

- Global Round Tables
- Workshops
- Online discussions and trainings
- Side Events
- Guidance materials



EXAMPLES OF NATIONAL ACTION



BENEFITS OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION, AWARENESS- RAISING, EDUCATION & PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



For more details, see
http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/pp/Publications/Aarhus_brochure_Protecting_your_environment_eng.pdf



Links and info:

Aarhus Convention's website on GMO matters: <http://www.unece.org/env/pp/gmos.html>

The CBD's Public Awareness and Participation Portal: http://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/portal_art23/pa_main.shtml