



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION  
ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY SERVING AS THE  
MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA  
PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

Eighth meeting  
Cancun, Mexico, 4-17 December 2016  
Agenda item 6.2

**DECISION ADOPTED BY THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY**  
**VIII/4. Roster of biosafety experts**

*The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,*

*Recalling* decision BS-VI/4,

*Recognizing* the importance of the roster of experts as a useful tool for capacity-building,

1. *Invites* Parties and other Governments that have not yet done so to nominate experts to the roster and those that have done so to invite the experts nominated to the roster to update their records;
2. *Reiterates* its invitation to developed country Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to make voluntary contributions in order to fully operationalize the roster, so as to facilitate implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol for the period 2011-2020;<sup>1</sup>
3. *Decides* to expand the roster to include experts nominated by Parties and other Governments to participate in ad hoc technical expert groups and networks under the Cartagena Protocol;
4. *Encourages* Parties and other Governments to consider nominating experts in areas where there is a lack of expertise on the current roster, for example, in the areas of management of data related to biosafety and biodiversity, socio-economic analysis and trade, synthetic biology, and public awareness, education and participation;
5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to revise and streamline the nomination form for the roster of biosafety experts to facilitate the submission and retrieval of information;
6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to incorporate a functionality through the Biosafety Clearing-House that would allow users to search the roster of experts and sort the results by the category in which the experts were nominated, including expert groups or networks under the Protocol, as well as the experts actively participating in such groups or networks;
7. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to explore the possibility of linking the roster of experts on biosafety to tools being developed under other initiatives, such as the Bio-Bridge Initiative and the Codex Alimentarius, in order to facilitate the matching of biosafety needs identified by Parties with available funding and technical assistance.

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<sup>1</sup> Decision BS-VI/4, paragraph 8.