

NOTIFICATION**Nomination of experts to participate in the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment**

Dear Sir or Madam,

In decision [CP-11/7](#), the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP) invited Parties to submit detailed information on their needs and priorities for further guidance materials on specific topics of risk assessment of living modified organisms, including a rationale following the criteria set out in annex I to decision [CP-9/13](#). To evaluate the needs and priorities identified by Parties through the submission of the information requested in notification [2025-017](#) and the information shared on the Open-Ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management, the COP-MOP established an ad hoc technical expert group (AHTEG).

Accordingly, I am pleased to invite Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, and relevant organizations to nominate experts to the AHTEG with a specific scientific and technical expertise related to the needs and priorities identified by Parties, which have been made available on the Biosafety Clearing-House (<https://bch.cbd.int/en/submissions-to-notifications?schema=submission¤tPage=1¬ification=2025-017>). The identified subject areas relate to algal biology, algal ecology, agrobiodiversity, animal science, biotechnology, detection and monitoring of living modified organisms, evolutionary genetics, food safety, genetic diversity, genome editing, fish biology, fish ecology, microbiology and risk assessment of living modified organisms, among other related fields.

Cartagena Protocol national focal points or Heads of organizations, as appropriate, are kindly requested to submit nominations of experts, in the form of an official letter addressed to the Executive Secretary, clearly indicating the name and full contact details of each nominee, as well as a curriculum vitae, to be sent by e-mail to secretariat@cbd.int as soon as possible, but no later than **9 May 2025**. In line with decision [14/33](#) and as amended by decision [16/26](#), nominees are also required to complete the interest disclosure form available at <https://www.cbd.int/doc/forms/conflict-interest-form-en.pdf>.

The selection of experts will be made in consultation with the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, taking into account the specific relevant expertise and experience as per the terms of reference of the AHTEG, as well as gender balance and equitable geographical representation. A notification announcing the composition of the AHTEG and the confirmed dates of the meeting will be issued once the selection process is complete.

The AHTEG's face-to-face meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place during the week of **7 July 2025** in Montreal, Canada.

I would like to thank you for your kind cooperation and continued support for the work of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

Please accept, Sir, Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Astrid Schomaker
Executive Secretary

To: Cartagena Protocol national focal points, relevant organizations and indigenous peoples and local communities

cc: CBD national focal points, BCH national focal points, SBSTTA national focal points