

NOTIFICATION
Invitation for nominations to the Biosafety Clearing-House and Risk Assessment
Training Workshop
17-18 October 2026 - Yerevan, Armenia

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am pleased to announce that the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, under the auspices of the Kunming Biodiversity Fund Project entitled “*Enhancing Biosafety Capacity for Sustainable Use*”, will convene a one-and-a-half-day Biosafety Clearing-House and Risk Assessment Training Workshop on 17-18 October 2026 in Yerevan, Armenia, in the margins of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CP-MOP-12).

The event will serve as an occasion for the “*Enhancing Biosafety Capacity for Sustainable Use*” Project to showcase its vision for fostering collaboration and strengthening support for advancing biosafety capacity in risk assessment and the sustainable use of biodiversity supported by the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH).

The training part of the workshop is being offered to the National Focal Points for the BCH, National Authorized Users, the Cartagena National Focal Points from all country Parties to the Cartagena Protocol, other Governments and stakeholders.

The main objectives of the training are:

- to provide general information on the relevance of the BCH to the Cartagena Protocol and its role in the exchange of information about decisions on living modified organisms;
- to highlight the Project and its anticipated contribution to strengthening the implementation and use of the BCH in support of the Cartagena Protocol;
- to present various features and demonstrate how to perform various functions in the BCH (searching and submitting information) to ensure that Parties know how to perform their relevant obligations on the BCH;
- to provide theoretical training on risk analysis and risk assessment and demonstrate how the BCH can be used to support the risk assessment process and further implementation of Target 17 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

The outcomes of this workshop will be compiled and shared as part of the deliverables included in the inception report for the Biosafety Community of Practice supported under the “*Enhancing Biosafety Capacity for Sustainable Use*” Project.

To: Cartagena Protocol national focal points, BCH focal points, CBD national focal points (where Cartagena Protocol Focal Points have not yet been designated), relevant organizations

Nominations

Nominations should be sent in the form of an official letter addressed to the Executive Secretary of the CBD, providing the name and contact details of the nominee, and must be accompanied by a duly completed registration form, accessible at this link: <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/CP-BCH-RA-WS-2026-01>. The registration form needs to be endorsed by the National Focal Point for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the National Focal Point for the CBD or the head of organization in case of observer organizations. Please note that the nominees must be also accredited as national representatives to attend CP-MOP-12 and stakeholder representatives must be from organizations accredited to attend CP-MOP 12.

The nomination letter and the completed registration form should be sent by e-mail to: secretariat@cbd.int, as soon as possible, but no later than **1 September 2026**, to allow enough time for necessary logistical preparations. Due to the limited capacity of the training venue, placement for the workshop will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Financial support

The Secretariat will finance, on a first-come, first-served basis, the participation of one representative for the workshop from each eligible country Party, i.e. developing country Parties to the Cartagena Protocol, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as Parties with economies in transition. Eligible Parties to the Protocol wishing to solicit such assistance are kindly requested to send the nomination letter together with the completed registration form of the nominee to the Secretariat as soon as possible but no later than **15 July 2026**.

The financial support will include a round-trip air ticket on the most economical route and a Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) for the duration of the workshop.

The workshop will be conducted in the English language. The level of ability to speak and understand English should be, therefore, taken into account when nominating representatives.

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

(Signed) Astrid Schomaker
Executive Secretary