

NOTIFICATION

Invitation to participate in the Survey on establishing linkages between the Biosafety Clearing-House and national websites

Dear Sir or Madam,

As you are aware, in decision [CP-10/5](#), the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol requested the Executive Secretary to explore how the Bioland tool, which is currently available to Governments that wish to build a national clearing-house website, could be used to facilitate the linkage between national websites and the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH), and other mechanisms that allow national clearing-houses to retrieve information from the BCH.

At its twelfth meeting, held in Montreal, Canada on 15-16 May 2023, the Informal Advisory Committee on the BCH (BCH-IAC) made several recommendations to the Secretariat, including a process to phase-out the use of the Hermes website tool as a national BCH application (Annex, paragraph b of the report). The report of the twelfth meeting of the BCH-IAC is available [here](#).

Pursuant to the above recommendation, the Secretariat has prepared a survey to assess the experience of users with the existing BCH national website tools and explore the expectations for the future, with the aim to understand better countries' needs for their national websites.

I therefore invite all focal points to the Cartagena Protocol to respond to the survey at their earliest convenience, but no later than **23 February 2024**.

The survey can be accessed as follows:

1. For desktop or laptop, please click on the following link:
<https://forms.office.com/e/QFDe21x3vZ>
2. For smart phone or tablet, please scan the QR code below:



Please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat at secretariat@cbd.int in case you have any questions about the survey.

I would like to thank you in advance for your response and for your continued cooperation and commitment to the work of the Cartagena Protocol.

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

(Signed) David Cooper
Acting Executive Secretary

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