CASE STUDY (CSSD09):

Submitting data to the Biosafety Clearing House (BCH): An inspection agent discovers an unapproved genetically modified crop.

Objective:

Learn how to use the BCH to fulfill reporting obligations for an unapproved release of LMOs.

Scenario

You work for the Competent National Authority. A Government inspection agent has reported that they have discovered a crop of genetically modified flax (linseed) growing on the outskirts of the Capital. However, no GM flax has been authorized for introduction into the environment in your country. Laboratory tests have determined that this crop is tolerant to the sulfonylurea herbicide. A nearby university has confirmed that it recently imported some flax seeds from the University of Saskatchewan with the transformation event FP967 for laboratory use without getting any approvals.

The Nature Conservation Sector of the Environmental Affairs Agency has contacted the owners of the field and requested that the field be burned. Samples will be taken from flax crops in the surrounding area. Your task is to fulfill any information-sharing obligations you may have with the BCH. More information on the incident is published on the Environmental Affairs Agency website (https://www.eae.gov). You are the contact person for the incident.
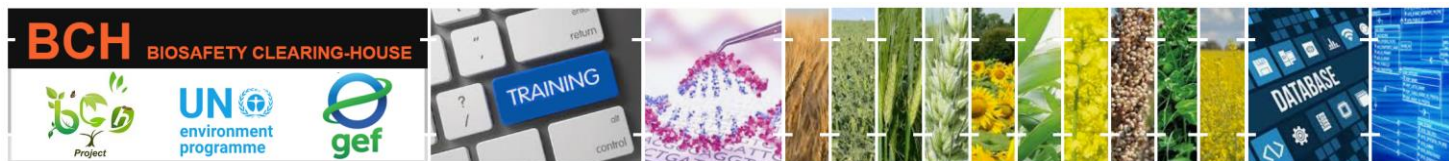
Important note:
Please ensure you are using the BCH Training Site for this exercise!

Mechanics:

Participants should be divided into four groups of four members each. Each group will be assigned a given country. Participants in each group will take turns assuming the BCH National Focal Point role while the rest are National Authorized Users.

Groups and log-in details are summarized below:

Group	Country	Role	User name	Password
1	Greece	NFP	greece.nfp@gmail.com	Abdef1234$
		NAU	greece.nau1@gmail.com	Abdef1234$
		NAU	greece.nau1@gmail.com	Abdef1234$
		NAU	greece.nau1@gmail.com	Abdef1234$
2	Angola	NFP	angola.nfp@gmail.com	Abdef1234$
		NAU	angola.nau1@gmail.com	Abdef1234$
		NAU	angola.nau2@gmail.com	Abdef1234$
		NAU	angola.nau3@gmail.com	Abdef1234$
3	Andorra	NFP	andorra.nfp@hotmail.com	Abdef1234$
		NAU	andorra.nau1@hotmail.com	Abdef1234$
		NAU	andorra.nau2@hotmail.com	Abdef1234$
		NAU	andorra.nau3@hotmail.com	Abdef1234$
4	Comoros	NFP	comoros.nfp@hotmail.com	Abdef1234$
		NAU	comoros.nau1@hotmail.com	Abdef1234$
		NAU	comoros.nau2@hotmail.com	Abdef1234$
		NAU	comoros.nau3@hotmail.com	Abdef1234$

Participants should visit the BCH' Training Site' (https://bch.cbd.int> Help> Training Site). Then log in using the assigned country user names and passwords.

Following the assigned role (NAU1, NAU2, etc.), each participant should submit a 'Country Decisions or any other Communications (DEC)' record using the above fictitious scenario information. After that, S/He will see its status as 'Pending BCH-NFP Approval.'

The BCH-NFP can also submit some records (note that, in this case, it will be automatically published with a need to be validated).

When the group's participants have entered at least one record, the BCH-NFP can practice the 'Approve,' 'Edit,' or 'Reject' functionalities. The NAUs could watch the process on BCH-NFP's computer. Practice 'reject' for at least one submission. Participants should exchange roles between them so that each participant in the group can play the role of a BCH-NFP.

During this exercise, participants can also explore the following functions:
• Submitting the record in multiple languages by selecting the languages in the 'Please select in which language(s) you wish to submit this record' drop-down menu and including translation in the newly added fields.
• Use the 'Review' tab to check entered data and if any mandatory data is missing quickly.
• Use the 'Save Draft' functionality to save your data and make changes later.