



EXPLANATORY GUIDE TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY
AVAILABLE ON-LINE 22 MAY 2003

The Explanatory Guide to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety is available on-line from 22 May 2003, International Day for Biological Diversity.

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety is one of the most important international treaties recently adopted. It marks the commitment of the international community to ensure the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms. As the Protocol nears entry into force in 2003, and as countries work on developing and adapting national biosafety frameworks, we hope that the Guide will make the Protocol more readily accessible and prove useful as a reference work for those who are involved in its implementation.

The Guide has been produced by FIELD and the IUCN-Environmental Law Centre, in collaboration with the World Resources Institute. The Guide will also be available as a book in the IUCN Environmental Law and Policy series from June 2003 at the World Conservation Bookstore (www.iucn.org/bookstore). We will be sending complimentary copies of the Guide to national biosafety focal points in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. French, Russian and Spanish translations are currently under preparation.

IUCN, FIELD and WRI are grateful for the support of the Danish Cooperation for Environment in Eastern Europe (DANCEE), European Commission, Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway and Rockefeller Foundation.

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