

Report on the Roster of Experts on Biosafety for Year 2004

This is a summary report on the status and use of the roster of experts on biosafety, and the voluntary fund for the roster of experts on biosafety. This report is made annually as part of the fourth quarter report of the Secretariat, in accordance with Decision BS-I/4 of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.

Roster Statistics

At the end of 2004, there were 549 experts in the roster, nominated by 68 governments, broken down as follows:

Regional Breakdown:

Region	# Governments Making Nominations	# Experts Nominated
Africa	16	163
Asia and the Pacific	18	134
Central and Eastern Europe	10	85
Latin America and the Caribbean	13	66
Western Europe and Others	11	101

Gender Breakdown:

Gender	# Experts
Female	116
Male	343
Not yet specified	90

Sectoral Breakdown:

Area of Expertise*	# Experts
Legislation and Regulation	169
Risk Assessment and Risk Management	401
Social and Economic Sciences	108
Institutional Development	171
Teaching and Training	141
Public Awareness and Participation	123
Data Management and Information Sharing	60
Research and Development	104

* Note that many experts have indicated multiple areas of expertise

Use of the Roster

There have been no requests made to the Secretariat to facilitate contacts between governments and experts in the roster in 2004, and no expert assignments have been reported to the Secretariat during 2004. In future, the report will provide details on expert assignments and results of contacts between Parties and experts, as specified in the Interim Guidelines for the Roster of Experts on Biosafety.

The Voluntary Fund

The voluntary fund for the roster of experts on biosafety was established in April 2002 by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention. As of the end of 2003, there was one contribution to the fund of US\$62,240 made by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. However, there have not yet been any requests for use of the funds, and therefore this contribution was re-allocated. In future, the report will provide details on the use of the fund as specified in the Interim Guidelines for the Pilot Phase of the Voluntary Fund for the Roster of Experts on Biosafety.