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## Presentation summary

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# Background

The need to feed a growing global population

The conservation of biological diversity as common concern of humankind



# What is the Cartagena Protocol?

- Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)
- Signature of the Protocol: 2000
- Entry into force: 2003
- 166 Parties



# Objectives of the Protocol

"In accordance with the **precautionary approach** contained in Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the objective of this Protocol is to contribute to ensuring an adequate level of protection in the field of the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology that may have adverse effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health, and specifically focusing on transboundary movements."



# The precautionary approach

Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

"In order to protect the environment, the precautionary approach shall be widely applied by States according to their capabilities.

Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation."



#### How does the Protocol work?

- Assess if the LMOs developed domestically or introduced into their territory pose any risk to the environment or health.
- Make sure that LMOs shipped from one country to another are safely handled, transported and packaged.
- International shipments of LMOs must come with documents that clearly identify its contents.
- Provide and share with other countries information on and experience with LMOs.

Informed decisions

Information sharing



#### How does the Protocol work?





### The Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol

- Convention on Biological Diversity
  - Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
    - Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary
      Protocol on Liability and Redress



## The Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol

Concluded in 2010

12 ratifications instruments

Not yet in force



### The NKL Supplementary Protocol – Main ideas

Liability and redress concerns the question of what would happen if the transboundary movement of LMOs, intentional or unintentional, has caused an adverse effect to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health.

The Supplementary Protocol also presents a set of **response measures** that Parties shall consider when dealing with a situation of damage.



### Five challenges to the Cartagena Protocol

- Risk assessments
- Socio-economic considerations
- The need to respect the rules of international trade
- Capacity-building for developing countries
- Provision of financial resources



## The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

#### THANK YOU!

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