



PRRI MOP4 statement on the Biosafety Clearing House - 12 May 2008

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

I speak on behalf of the Foundation for Public Research and Regulation.

PRRI would like to emphasize the importance of the BCH for public researchers, because it provides information about the rules and the relevant competent authorities of countries, and the risk assessments upon which those countries have based their decisions regarding LMO applications.

The BCH is the entry point for public researchers who need information on these topics. It is crucial for public research on biotechnology that this information be available, clear, and accurate.

PRRI gratefully acknowledges that recent changes to the BCH have helped to improve its clarity and usefulness.

However, it is unfortunate that many Parties still have not complied with their obligation to place relevant, up to date information on the BCH. This lack of information is a serious hindrance to public research.

PRRI urges Parties and non-Parties to comply with up to date, clear, and accurate information about rules, competent authorities, and risk assessment.

Thank you very much for your attention.