In Support of Post 11194

I very much support the contribution from Piet Van Der Meer about reinforcing the message that Biosafety is a tool for informed decision making to maximise the benefits and minimizing potential risks of biotechnology. It is very important to link biosafety to the three objectives of the convention but also to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal, so stakeholders can consider potential risks and benefits of LMOs, in comparison to the non-LMO alternatives, and in the perspective of these common objectives that nations and people have set for themselves.

It would be very helpful to have practical guidelines on how different nonstate actors can get involved in different CBD activities and share their knowledge and experience in those. It can be very complex for actors, such as the young enthusiastic academics or researchers who are new to the policy for them to navigate how the CBD works and where and how they can make the most meaningful contribution. It could be helpful to establish some focal points within the nonstate actor groups of the CBD (major groups incl. research/education) who could be contacted by newcomers to the process to get advice on how to engage with this policy forum.