Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

In accordance with decision CBD/COP/DEC/XIII/16 which was adopted by the 13th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity on 16th December 2016, the Republic of Belarus held a discussion on the issue of digital sequence information on genetic resources, as a potential target for the Convention on Biological Diversity and its protocols, involving leading biologists (zoologists, botanists, geneticists, biotechnologists) and lawyers, as well as specialists of state bodies for the protection of natural resources and genetic resources used in agriculture.

As a result of discussions on this problem, the following decision was made:

To invite the Secretariat to encourage a working group of experts, which was established by the Secretariat to examine any possible implications of the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources for the three objectives of the Convention; to consider the following issues:

- the conditions for the possible commercial use of digital sequence information on genetic resources;

- the need for additional terms and the development of an additional protocol to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity (analogous to the Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol to the

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Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety)

CBD National Coordinator in Belarus; Professor

National Coordinator of the Nagoya Protocol in Belarus

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E.N. Makeeva