



## Press Brief Protocol on Biosafety

# Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

## Background

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, at its first meeting, mandated the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP) to adopt a process for the elaboration of international rules and procedures in the field of liability and redress for damage resulting from transboundary movements of LMOs. After some six years of negotiations, Parties finalized the negotiation of a new treaty known as the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress. It was subsequently adopted on 15 October 2010 by the COP-MOP at its fifth meeting, in Nagoya, Japan.

The Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress is a treaty intended to supplement the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety by providing international rules and procedures on liability and redress for damage to biodiversity resulting from living modified organisms (LMOs). The Supplementary Protocol provides for administrative procedures and requirements regarding response measures that need to be taken in the event of damage by LMOs that adversely affect the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, taking into account risks to human health.

## What has been done since its adoption?

Opened for signature at UN Headquarters in New York from 7 March 2011 to 6 March 2012, by the closing date the Supplementary Protocol had been signed by 51 Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. As of 22 September 2014, 26 countries have deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession of the Supplementary Protocol. The Supplementary Protocol will enter into force on the 90th day after the date of deposit of the 40th instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

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Over the past four years, the Secretariat has carried out various activities, including training workshops, to promote the signature, ratification and subsequent implementation of the Supplementary Protocol. It has also made available several publications on the subject of liability and redress for environmental damage in general, and damage to biodiversity resulting from living modified organisms in particular.

## What news to expect in Pyeongchang?

The seventh meeting of the COP-MOP is expected to:

- Call upon Parties to the Protocol to expedite their internal processes and to deposit their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Supplementary Protocol as soon as possible so that it will enter into force
- Invite Parties and relevant organizations to make financial contributions to facilitate to support activities intended to promote the ratification or accession and implementation of the Supplementary Protocol, and the preparation of an explanatory guide to expedite the entry into force and implementation of the Supplementary Protocol.

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