



Opening communication from the President of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the President of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol for the silence procedures

Excellencies, distinguished Party representatives,

The sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization were suspended on 2 November 2024, owing to a lack of decision-taking quorum.

As announced in notification No. 2024-110 of 27 November 2024, consideration of the pending agenda items of the meetings will be completed under silence procedure for budget-related matters, from 3 to 6 December 2024, and in-person resumed sessions for the other items, from 25 to 27 February 2025. The annex to the notification contains the list of draft decisions that will be considered for adoption under silence procedure and those that will be considered for adoption at the in-person resumed sessions.

The purpose of the present communication is to commence two silence procedures for the adoption of the budget-related decisions under agenda item 7 of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and agenda item 6 of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol. A description of the silence procedure and proposed modalities are contained in the scenario note for the adoption of the budgets for the trust funds of the Convention and its Protocols (CBD/COP/16/1/Add.3-CBD/CP/MOP/11/1/Add.3-CBD/NP/MOP/5/1/Add.3).

As described in the scenario note, the two sets of draft decisions related to the budget are three draft decisions for the proposed budgets of the Convention and the Protocols and three draft decisions for the Convention and its Protocols to authorize the use of reserve funds to cover the costs of convening the in-person resumed sessions.

Accordingly, the following sets of draft decisions (enclosed) are hereby placed under one silence procedure each from today, 3 December, 7 a.m. Eastern Standard Time, to 6 December 2024, 7 a.m. Eastern Standard Time:

Budget for the biennium 2025–2026

- CBD/COP/16/L.35/Part.A: administration of the Convention and budget for the trust funds
- CBD/CP/MOP/11/L.12/Rev.1: administration of the Protocol and budget for the trust funds
- CBD/NP/MOP/5/L.14/Rev.1: administration of the Protocol and budget for the trust funds

Costs of the in-person resumed sessions

- CBD/COP/16/L.36: costs of convening an in-person resumed session of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention
- CBD/CP/MOP/11/L.13: costs of convening an in-person resumed session of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol
- CBD/NP/MOP/5/L.15: costs of convening an in-person resumed session of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol

The present communication and the aforementioned documents are also published on the website of the Convention.

The adoption of each decision is separate and any objections should clearly state which decision is being objected to.

Parties may also make observations on the draft decisions without formally objecting to their adoption.

Any objections or observations to the draft decisions should be sent by email to the Executive Secretary at executivesecretary@cbd.int through the heads of delegation, national focal points or members of a Party delegation registered for the meetings in Cali with valid credentials.

In the absence of formal objections to a decision during the period of silence procedure, the decision will be considered as adopted. A communication will be sent to Parties to inform them of the results of the silence procedures.

Lastly, the importance of adopting the respective budgets before the end of the 2024 fiscal year cannot be overemphasized. The timely adoption of the budgets is necessary for the Secretariat to continue to function and to allow efficient planning for the coming biennium.

Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration.

(Signed) María Susana **Muhamad González**

President of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol

(Signed) Nneka **Nicholas**

President of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol