



Ref: SCBD/SEL/DO

7 July 2000

Sir/Madam,

Re: Millenium Summit Multilateral Treaty Framework.

I wish to draw your attention to the notification of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (copy attached for ease of reference) dated 15 May 2000 calling upon Heads of State and Government to use the unique opportunity presented by the forthcoming Millenium Summit, to be held from 6 to 8 September 2000, to rededicate themselves to the international legal framework and actively contribute to the strengthening of the international rule of law. As part of this initiative, the Secretary-General has identified 25 core treaties to be the focus of a sustained effort to encourage signature, ratification, accession, acceptance and approval during the Summit. The Convention on Biological Diversity is one of these instruments.

As you are aware, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, by its decision V/1 adopted at its fifth meeting in May, 2000, reiterated the call to all Parties to the Convention to sign the recently adopted Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity at the earliest opportunity, and to deposit instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval, or instruments of accession, as appropriate, as soon as possible. I would urge your Government to avail itself of the opportunity presented by the Millenium Summit to sign the Protocol and, if it has not yet done so, to ratify or accede to the Convention itself, as appropriate.

I look forward to your continued support in the implementation of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

To: All National Focal Points to the CBD

