

Ref: EDM/BS/KGM/BP

1 August 2000

Dear Madam/Sir,

Re: Signing of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

In accordance with Article 36 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Protocol will remain open for signature at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 June 2000 to 4 June 2001.

Following my letter of 30 May 2000, noting the 68 Parties to the CBD that had signed the Protocol during the Fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-5) in Nairobi, I am pleased to advise that another two signatures have been affixed to the Protocol, namely Luxembourg on 11 July 2000, and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on 26 July 2000.

Also, as you are aware, the Conference of the Parties at COP-5 reiterated the call to all Parties to sign the Protocol 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 like to again urge Governments to take advantage of the opportunity provided by the forthcoming Millennium Summit (to be held at the United Nations Headquarters from 6 to 8 September 2000) to heed this call.

Yours sincerely

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

To: All national focal points of the CBD



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