



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Ref. No.

27th February 2001

Date:

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**RE: SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF THE CARTAGENA
PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY**

By its decision V/1, adopted at its fifth meeting, held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 15 to 26 May 2000, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity reiterated the call in its decision EM-1/3, adopted by its first extraordinary meeting, to all Parties to the Convention to sign the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at the earliest opportunity, and to deposit instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval, or instruments of accession, as appropriate, as soon as possible and to States that are not Parties to the Convention to ratify, accept, approve or accede to it, as appropriate, without delay, thereby enabling them also to become Parties to the Protocol.

So far the Protocol has 85 signatures (see attached list). In addition, two countries have become Parties to the Protocol, namely Trinidad and Tobago on 5 October 2000 and Bulgaria on 13 October 2000.

As you are aware, Article 29, paragraph 6, of the Protocol provides that the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the first meeting of the parties to the Protocol shall be convened by the Secretariat in conjunction with the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties that is scheduled after the entry into force of the Protocol. In accordance with Article 37, paragraph 1, the Protocol shall enter into force on the ninetieth

day after the date of deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

The work plan of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol adopted at the fifth meeting of Conference of the Parties was based on the planning assumption that the Protocol would enter into force in time for the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol to be held in conjunction with the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention scheduled to take place in The Hague, in April 2002. In order for this to be done, the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Protocol must be deposited by 8 January 2002, i.e. Ninety days prior to the scheduled opening of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on 8 April 2002. In this regard, the Host Government Agreement drawn up by the Secretariat with the Government of the Netherlands concerning the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention includes, in addition, provision for the hosting of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol if the Protocol enters into force in good time.

In view of the foregoing, I would urge Parties to the Convention who have not yet done so to sign the Protocol at the earliest opportunity and to deposit instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, as appropriate, as soon as practicable, so as to enable the Protocol to enter into force in time for the first meeting of the Parties to the Protocol to be held in conjunction with the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention. In this regard, I am pleased to inform you that the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity stands prepared to provide any assistance required by Parties to facilitate the ratification of the Protocol by the Parties.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter and for your continued support towards the work of the Convention. Accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

HON. FRANCIS NYENZE, EGH, M.P
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA AND PRESIDENT OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

C.C. All CBD National Focal Points

All ICCP National Focal Points

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Signatures and Ratifications

| | Country | Signature Date | Ratification Date |
|----|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Algeria | 25 May 2000 | |
| 2 | Antigua and Barbuda | 24 May 2000 | |
| 3 | Argentina | 24 May 2000 | |
| 4 | Austria | 24 May 2000 | |
| 5 | Bahamas | 24 May 2000 | |
| 6 | Bangladesh | 24 May 2000 | |
| 7 | Belgium | 24 May 2000 | |
| 8 | Benin | 24 May 2000 | |
| 9 | Bolivia | 24 May 2000 | |
| 10 | Bulgaria | 24 May 2000 | 13 October 2000 |
| 11 | Burkina Faso | 24 May 2000 | |
| 12 | Cameroon | 9 February 2001 | |
| 13 | Central African Republic | 24 May 2000 | |
| 14 | Chad | 24 May 2000 | |
| 15 | Chile | 24 May 2000 | |
| 16 | China | 8 August 2000 | |
| 17 | Colombia | 24 May 2000 | |
| 18 | Congo | 21 November 2000 | |
| 19 | Costa Rica | 24 May 2000 | |
| 20 | Croatia | 8 September 2000 | |
| 21 | Cuba | 24 May 2000 | |
| 22 | Czech Republic | 24 May 2000 | |
| 23 | Denmark | 24 May 2000 | |
| 24 | Ecuador | 24 May 2000 | |
| 25 | Egypt | 20 December 2000 | |
| 26 | El Salvador | 24 May 2000 | |
| 27 | Estonia | 6 September 2000 | |
| 28 | Ethiopia | 24 May 2000 | |
| 29 | European Community | 24 May 2000 | |
| 30 | Finland | 24 May 2000 | |
| 31 | France | 24 May 2000 | |

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|----|--------------------------|-------------------|--|
| 32 | Gambia | 24 May 2000 | |
| 33 | Germany | 24 May 2000 | |
| 34 | Greece | 24 May 2000 | |
| 35 | Grenada | 24 May 2000 | |
| 36 | Guinea | 24 May 2000 | |
| 37 | Haiti | 24 May 2000 | |
| 38 | Honduras | 24 May 2000 | |
| 39 | Hungary | 24 May 2000 | |
| 40 | India | 23 January 2001 | |
| 41 | Indonesia | 24 May 2000 | |
| 42 | Ireland | 24 May 2000 | |
| 43 | Italy | 24 May 2000 | |
| 44 | Jordan | 11 October 2000 | |
| 45 | Kenya | 15 May 2000 | |
| 46 | Kiribati | 7 September 2000 | |
| 47 | Lithuania | 24 May 2000 | |
| 48 | Luxembourg | 11 July 2000 | |
| 49 | Madagascar | 14 September 2000 | |
| 50 | Malawi | 24 May 2000 | |
| 51 | Malaysia | 24 May 2000 | |
| 52 | Mexico | 24 May 2000 | |
| 53 | Monaco | 24 May 2000 | |
| 54 | Morocco | 25 May 2000 | |
| 55 | Mozambique | 24 May 2000 | |
| 56 | Namibia | 24 May 2000 | |
| 57 | New Zealand | 24 May 2000 | |
| 58 | Nicaragua | 26 May 2000 | |
| 59 | Niger | 24 May 2000 | |
| 60 | Nigeria | 24 May 2000 | |
| 61 | Norway | 24 May 2000 | |
| 62 | Peru | 24 May 2000 | |
| 63 | Philippines | 24 May 2000 | |
| 64 | Poland | 24 May 2000 | |
| 65 | Portugal | 24 May 2000 | |
| 66 | Republic of Korea | 6 September 2000 | |

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| 67 | Republic of Moldova | 14 February 2001 | |
| 68 | Romania | 11 October 2000 | |
| 69 | Rwanda | 24 May 2000 | |
| 70 | Samoa | 24 May 2000 | |
| 71 | Senegal | 31 October 2000 | |
| 72 | Seychelles | 23 January 2001 | |
| 73 | Slovak Republic | 24 May 2000 | |
| 74 | Slovenia | 24 May 2000 | |
| 75 | Spain | 24 May 2000 | |
| 76 | Sri Lanka | 24 May 2000 | |
| 77 | Sweden | 24 May 2000 | |
| 78 | Switzerland | 24 May 2000 | |
| 79 | The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | 26 July 2000 | |
| 80 | The Netherlands | 24 May 2000 | |
| 81 | Togo | 24 May 2000 | |
| 82 | Trinidad and Tobago | | 5 October 2000 (accession) |
| 83 | Turkey | 24 May 2000 | |
| 84 | Uganda | 24 May 2000 | |
| 85 | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | 24 May 2000 | |
| 86 | Venezuela | 24 May 2000 | |