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19 November 2020

NOTIFICATION

Resumed session of the

Second extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

First extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and

First extraordinary 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

25-27 November 2020, Montreal

Dear Madam/Sir,

I would like to update you on the extraordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols. The meetings were opened, under written silence procedure, on Monday, 16 November 2020, at 7 a.m. Montreal time (UTC 12 noon) by means of a communication from the President of the Conference of the Parties, Her Excellency Ms. Yasmine Fouad, and were planned to be closed on Thursday, 19 November 2020 at 8 a.m. Montreal time (UTC 1 p.m.) after adopting decisions on the interim budget for the year 2021.

Following the submission of a specific written comment by a Party, the silence was broken, and adoption of the decisions was deferred. Consequently, the Bureau has decided to suspend the meetings in order to have time for further consultations that would allow Parties to resolve the issue. These consultations will be conducted by and through the Bureau.

Further to the Communication issued by the President to delegates on 19 November, the extraordinary meetings will resume next week and be held, under written silence procedure, from 25 November 2020, 7 a.m. Montreal time (UTC 12 noon) to 27 November 2020, 8 a.m. (UTC 1 p.m.). The Bureau agreed to carry out the consultations prior to the resumed session of the meetings. Documents for the extraordinary meetings are available at: <https://www.cbd.int/conferences/excop-2020/cbd-excop-02/documents>.

The Bureau also agreed that existing nominations and credentials received by the Secretariat would be maintained and deemed to remain valid until the closure of the extraordinary meetings unless any Party wishes to decide otherwise. Further to the reminders issued before by the Secretariat as well as the President, representatives of Parties who have not yet done so are required to submit their credentials in accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure, as soon as possible and no later than 24 November 2020.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema
Executive Secretary

To: CBD National Focal Points, Cartagena Protocol Focal Points, Nagoya Protocol Focal Points, UN Organizations and Specialized Agencies, IGOs, NGOs, indigenous people and local communities, and other stakeholders

