



MEDIA ADVISORY

Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to meet in Aichi-Nagoya from 11 to 15 October 2010

Montreal, 28 September 2010 – Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety are preparing to hold their fifth ordinary meeting from 11 to 15 October 2010 in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan, at the Nagoya Congress Center (NCC). More than 3,000 delegates representing governments, civil society and industry are expected to attend.

At their five-day meeting, Parties are expected to adopt a Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol, which will establish international rules and procedures for liability and redress in case of damage to biological diversity resulting from living modified organisms. It is also expected to adopt a 10-year strategic plan for the Protocol and a programme of work for the future meetings of the Parties to the Protocol.

A number of other important issues under the Protocol will also be discussed. These include: risk assessment and risk management of living modified organisms, public awareness and participation, capacity-building, the Biosafety Clearing-House, as well as handling, transport, packaging and identification of living modified organisms.

Press briefs on all the issues to be discussed at meeting will be available at www.cbd.int/mop5/meeting/media/.

Media representatives are invited to attend and report on the meeting. The main working sessions and side-events at the meeting venue (Nagoya Congress Center) will be open to the media and will be webcast live.

The CBD Secretariat will hold daily press briefings on issues to be covered during the week between 9 and 9.30 a.m. in the International Conference Room located on the third floor of Building 3. The Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity will also give a press conference on the first day of the meeting (from 11 to 11.45 a.m.) and on the last day, 15 October 2010 (from 6.15 p.m. to 6.45 p.m.).

Media representatives are required to obtain prior accreditation for this meeting in order to gain access to the Nagoya Congress Center (NCC) and to attend press briefings, press conferences and side events. Information regarding media accreditation can be accessed from the meeting website at: www.cbd.int/mop5/meeting/media/.



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Notes for Journalists

1. The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety is a supplementary agreement to the Convention on Biological Diversity. Its objective is to contribute to ensuring the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms that may have adverse effects on conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health.
2. The Protocol was adopted in Montreal on 29 January 2000 and entered into force on 11 September 2003. To date, 159 States and the European Union have ratified it.
3. The Protocol is named after the Colombian city of Cartagena where the final round of its negotiations was launched.
4. The governing body of the Protocol, known as the “Conference of the Parties to Convention on Biological Diversity serving as meeting of the Parties to the Protocol” (or “COP-MOP” in short), has held four meetings—in Kuala Lumpur in February 2004; in Montreal in June 2005; in Curitiba, Brazil, in March 2006; and in Bonn in May 2008.
5. Additional information about the Protocol is available at the following websites:

COP-MOP 5 website: www.cbd.int/mop5/

Protocol website: <http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/>

Information for Media on MOP 5: www.cbd.int/mop5/meeting/media/

MOP Press kits can downloaded at: www.cbd.int/mop5/meeting/media/

International Media Centre: <http://media.cop10.go.jp/>

Frequently asked questions are available at: www.cbd.int/biosafety/faqs.asp

Contact Email: media@cbd.int or secretariat@cbd.int
