



COMMUNIQUÉ

Antigua and Barbuda becomes twenty-sixth signatory to the Nagoya - Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol

Montreal, 10 August 2011 – Yesterday, Antigua and Barbuda became the twenty-sixth Party to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and the first small island developing State, to sign the Nagoya - Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

Welcoming the new signature by Antigua and Barbuda, Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, said: “Antigua and Barbuda has further demonstrated its commitment to contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity by supporting the international rules and procedures in the field of liability and redress relating to living modified organisms.”

H.E. John W. Ashe, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations, said: “As a signatory Antigua and Barbuda intends to cooperate with other signatory States to develop further international law regarding liability and compensation for adverse effects of environmental damage caused by activities within its jurisdiction or control. We therefore call on all Parties to the Cartagena Protocol to join us in signing and subsequently ratifying this Supplementary Protocol so that we can collectively contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, by providing international rules and procedures in the field of liability and redress relating to living modified organisms.”

The Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol was opened for signature on 7 March 2011 and will remain open until 6 March 2012. It will enter into force 90 days after 40 Parties to the Cartagena Protocol have ratified it.

The United Nations Office of Legal Affairs will organize a signing ceremony at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 20 September 2011, in conjunction with the sixty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The list of signatories to the Nagoya Protocol is available on the CBD website at: www.cbd.int/abs/nagoya-protocol/signatories/; and the list of signatories to the Nagoya - Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol is available at: <http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/parties/#tab=1>
