



PRESS RELEASE

Ireland 10th state to ratify the Nagoya - Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Montreal, 22 January 2013 – Ireland has become the 10th country to ratify the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. Ireland deposited its instrument of ratification on 14 January 2013, making it the first country to ratify the treaty this year.

The Supplementary Protocol will enter into force on the 90th day after the date of deposit of the 40th instrument of ratification or accession.

“Ireland’s ratification brings us closer to achieving the objective of ensuring the entry into force of the Supplementary Protocol before the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, which will take place in October 2014 in the Republic of Korea,” said Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, Executive Secretary to the Convention on Biological Diversity. “I urge all the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol that have not yet done so, to take the necessary steps to ratify or accede to this important treaty as soon as possible”.

Since 2011, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity has, with the financial support from the Government of Japan, organised a number of regional workshops to raise awareness and understanding of the provisions of the Supplementary Protocol with a view to facilitating its ratification and early entry into force. The workshop reports and resource materials are available on the Cartagena Protocol website at: http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/supplementary/NKL_workshops.shtml.

Countries wishing to have further information on how to become a Party to the Supplementary Protocol can also consult the following website: http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/NKL_ratification.shtml.

Notes to Editors

As an additional treaty to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety seeks to protect biological diversity from potential adverse effects of living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology. The Protocol was adopted in Montreal on 29 January 2000 and entered into force on 11 September 2003. To date, 163 countries and the European Union are Parties to the Protocol.

The Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety was adopted on 15 October 2010 in Nagoya, Japan, at the fifth meeting of the Parties to the Protocol in its decision BS-V/11. The decision calls upon Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to sign and subsequently ratify the Supplementary Protocol, and encourages them to implement it pending its entry into force. To date, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Norway, Spain,



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Sweden, and Syrian Arab Republic have deposited their instruments of ratification or accession to the Supplementary Protocol.

The text of the Supplementary Protocol is available at: https://bch.cbd.int/protocol/NKL_text.shtml

The list of signatures and ratification or accession to the Supplementary Protocol is available at: <http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/parties/#tab=1>

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