



PRESS RELEASE

Denmark's ratification edges the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress closer to entry into force

Montreal, 9 March 2015 – With Denmark's ratification on 25 February, the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety has received 75% of the necessary ratifications, with only 11 more ratifications needed for it to enter into force.

At its seventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP MOP 7) called upon Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to expedite their internal processes and to deposit their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Supplementary Protocol as soon as possible with a view to ensuring the entry into force of the Supplementary Protocol in time for the eighth meeting of the Parties.

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, said "Denmark's ratification is further evidence of the firm commitment of many governments signatory to the Cartagena Protocol to bring the Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress into force as soon as possible. I strongly urge all countries that have not yet done so to ratify the Supplementary Protocol so that it could enter into force in time for the next Conference of the Parties, to be held in December 2016 in Los Cabos, Mexico."

The ratification by Denmark brings to 30 the total number of ratifications to the Supplementary Protocol, including the approval by the European Union, which is not counted for the purpose of entry into force. The Supplementary Protocol will enter into force on the 90th day after the date of deposit of the 40th instrument of ratification, accession, acceptance or approval by the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. It is highly likely that the Supplementary Protocol will receive the remaining 11 instruments of ratification or accession in the weeks and months to come and that it will enter into force in time for the



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eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

The Supplementary Protocol aims to contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity by providing international rules and procedures for response measures in the event of damage resulting from living modified organisms.

Denmark joins Albania, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, the European Union, Finland, Germany, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, India, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates and Viet Nam, which have deposited their instruments of ratification or accession to the Supplementary Protocol.

Further information on becoming a Party to the Supplementary Protocol is available at: http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/NKL_ratification.shtml

Notes to Editors

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety was adopted on 29 January 2000 in Montreal and entered into force on 11 September 2003. To date, 169 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.

More information is available at: <http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/supplementary/>

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) opened for signature at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992 and entered into force in December 1993. The Convention on Biological Diversity is an international treaty for the conservation of biodiversity, the sustainable use of the components of biodiversity and the equitable sharing of the benefits derived from the use of genetic resources. With 194 Parties up to now, the Convention has near universal participation among countries. The Convention seeks to address all threats to biodiversity and ecosystem services, including threats from climate change, through scientific assessments, the development of tools, incentives and processes, the transfer of technologies and good practices and the full and active involvement of relevant stakeholders including indigenous peoples and local communities, youth, NGOs, women and the business community. The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing are supplementary agreements to the Convention. The Cartagena Protocol, which entered into force on 11 September 2003, seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology. To date, 169 Parties have ratified the Cartagena Protocol. The Nagoya Protocol aims at sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies. It entered into force on 12 October 2014 and to date has been ratified by 59 Parties. For more information visit: www.cbd.int. For additional information, please contact: David Ainsworth on +1 514 287 7025 or at david.ainsworth@cbd.int; or Johan Hedlund on +1 514 287 6670 or at johan.hedlund@cbd.int.
