

PRESS RELEASE

Brazil 130th country to ratify Nagoya Protocol to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity

- *Brazil 130th Party to ratify the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization.*
- *Nagoya Protocol establishes predictable conditions for access to genetic resources and helps ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of these resources.*

Montreal, 24 March 2021 – Brazil, the most biodiverse country in the world, on 4 March 2021 ratified the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, becoming the 130th Party to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to do so.

“Brazil is a global leader in access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing and has already put in place national legislation that can serve as an inspiration for other countries,” said Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, CBD Executive Secretary. “By ratifying the Nagoya Protocol, Brazil can help ensure its commitment to biodiversity conservation and respect for the traditional knowledge of its indigenous peoples and local communities.”

Brazil has been a pioneer in establishing a national access and benefit-sharing (ABS) framework. Its first national legislation on ABS was adopted in 2001. For 20 years, Brazil has developed mechanisms to increase benefit-sharing and recognize the value of traditional knowledge. In 2015, Brazil adopted a new legal framework for ABS, after extensive consultations with civil society, the private sector and the scientific community. Given Brazil’s position as both a provider and user of biodiversity genetic resources, Brazil’s ABS system provides a modern approach to foster innovation and develop biotechnology.

The Nagoya Protocol is a supplementary agreement to the CBD. The Protocol builds on the access and benefit-sharing provisions of the Convention by establishing predictable conditions for access to genetic resources and by helping to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of these resources. Adopted in 2010 in Nagoya, Japan, it entered into force on 12 October 2014.

NOTES TO EDITORS

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Opened for signature at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, and entering 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 196 Parties so far, 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 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, 173 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 130 Parties.

For more information visit: www.cbd.int. For additional information, please contact: David Ainsworth on +1 514 561 2720 or at david.ainsworth@cbd.int; or Johan Hedlund at johan.hedlund@cbd.int.