



STATEMENT BY DR. CRISTIANA PAȘCA PALMER

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ON THE OCCASION OF THE 15th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

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Fifteen years ago, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity entered into force aiming to ensure the safe handling, transfer and use of living modified organisms (or LMOs) resulting from modern biotechnology.

Today, the Cartagena Protocol is recognized as a milestone agreement making a significant contribution to the protection of biodiversity. It represents a key achievement under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity.

To celebrate the successes made, biosafety experts from all over the world showcased a range of experiences through video clips facilitated by the Convention. These include the operational Biosafety Clearing-House and national biosafety clearinghouses, as well as the entry into force of the Nagoya Kuala-Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress. The latter Protocol addresses damage resulting from movements of living modified organisms. Other successes relating to living modified organisms include the experience in detection and identification of such LMOs, awareness-raising, participation in decision-taking on, socio-economic considerations and risk assessment regarding LMOs.

I welcome you to use the resources available on the Cartagena Protocol website for your continued celebration.

So, I invite you to join us in celebrating the 15th anniversary of the entry into force of the Cartagena Protocol, to further enhance its visibility and implementation.

Thank you.
