



COMMUNIQUÉ

Benin becomes sixty-sixth signatory of the Nagoya Protocol and the thirty-sixth signatory of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress

Montreal, 31 October 2011 – Benin, on 28 October 2011, became the sixty-sixth signatory of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the thirty-sixth signatory of the Nagoya -- Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, said: “Benin’s signature of both treaties is yet another testament to the growing commitment and support for global efforts to secure a more sustainable future for generations to come. I call on all countries who have not yet signed the two protocols to do so.”

By supporting the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing will create incentives to conserve biodiversity, sustainably use of its components, and further enhance the contribution of biodiversity to sustainable development and human well-being.

The Nagoya -- Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol aims to contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity by providing international rules and procedures for liability and redress in the event of damage resulting from living modified organisms.

The Nagoya Protocol will enter into force 90 days after the ratification by 50 Parties to the Convention, and the Nagoya -- Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol will do so when 40 Parties to the Biosafety Protocol ratify it.

The list of signatories to the Nagoya Protocol is available on the Convention’s 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>.
