



PRESS RELEASE

UN Biodiversity Conference's extraordinary meetings to resume next week

20 November 2020 – With reference to the process and conclusion of the second extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the first extraordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties (COP) serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols, the CBD Secretariat reports the following:

A comment submitted by the Government of Brazil seeking the insertion of footnotes in the draft decisions (CBD/ExCOP/2/L.2, CBD/CP/ExMOP/1/L.2 and CBD/NP/ExMOP/1/L.2), represents a break in the silence procedure. The comment constitutes an objection to the adoption of these decisions by the respective bodies.

Therefore, after consulting with members of the COP Bureau, the president has suspended the meetings in order to have more time for consultations among Parties.

The resumed session of the meetings will be held next week from 25 November 2020 at 7 a.m. Montreal time (UTC 12 noon) to 27 November 2020 at 8 a.m. Montreal time (UTC 1 p.m.), this time for a silence period of 48 hours.

The purpose of the meetings is to ensure the continued operation of the CBD Secretariat and strengthen momentum in the implementation of its programme of work pending the holding of postponed governing bodies conferences. The current budget of the CBD Secretariat runs out 31 December 2020.

For more information on the process, please visit: www.cbd.int/conferences/excop-2020/cbd-excop-02/documents “

NOTES TO EDITORS

Second extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the first extraordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties (COP) serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols: www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2020/ntf-2020-090-excop-en.pdf

Communication from the COP President:

www.cbd.int/doc/c/2297/c61f/54532444339bc4b67d5a0d38/excop-02-l-04-en.pdf

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 129 Parties.

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