



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



Kenya Statement

Dinner Reception to Mark 20 years of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
United Nations Office in Nairobi
19th October 2023

Excellencies;
Distinguished Guests;
Ladies and Gentlemen;

As a Government and People of the Republic of Kenya, we are greatly honoured to make this statement at the reception marking 20 years of coming into force of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Upon opening for signature here in Nairobi in June 2000, Kenya was the first country to sign the Protocol and proceeded to ratify it in 2003 upon coming into force.

The signing and ratification of the Protocol at the inception is a confirmation of Kenya's commitment to the global governance of modern biotechnology, biosafety and biodiversity conservation. Further, it is an expression of the country's aspiration of becoming a key participant in the global biotechnology enterprise as expressed in the National Biotechnology Development Policy.

Our journey through National Implementation of the Protocol has accomplished significant milestones while navigating challenges along the way toward upholding the precautionary principle of the Protocol. In this regard, Kenya has established a robust biosafety regulatory framework comprising of the National Biotechnology Development Policy, the Biosafety Act of 2009, the National Biosafety Authority and a set of Biosafety Regulations. We have benefited immensely from other State Parties in this journey and are grateful.

Finally, we recognize with appreciation the work of the CBD Secretariat in the furtherance of the work of the Convention and commit to the enhanced compliance with the Protocol including the signing of its supplementary Protocol, the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety on Liability and Redress.

I thank you Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Signed..........Date.....*17th October 2023*.....

Dr. Roy B. Mugiira,
Kenya National Focal Point, Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety