



Press Brief - Protocol on Biosafety

Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Background

The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety mandated the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP) to adopt, at its first meeting, a process for the elaboration of international rules and procedures in the field of liability and redress for damage resulting from transboundary movements of LMOs. After more than six years of negotiations, Parties finalized the negotiation of a new treaty known as "Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress. The Supplementary Protocol was adopted on 15 October 2010 by COP-MOP at its fifth meeting held in Nagoya, Japan.

The Nagoya—Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress is a treaty intended to supplement the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety by providing international rules and procedures on liability and redress for damage to biodiversity resulting from living modified organisms (LMOs). The Supplementary Protocol provides for administrative procedures and requirements regarding response measures that need to be taken in the event of damage by LMOs that adversely affect the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account risks to human health.

What has been done?

The Supplementary Protocol was open for signature at the UN Headquarters in New York from 7 March 2011 to 6 March 2012. By the closing date the Supplementary Protocol was signed by 51 Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. To date two countries have deposited their instrument of ratification of the Supplementary Protocol. The Supplementary Protocol will enter into force on the 90th day after the date of deposit of the 40th instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

In the past two years, the Secretariat has carried out various activities in order to promote signature and ratification and subsequent implementation of the Supplementary Protocol. It has also made available various publications on the subject of liability and redress for environmental damage in general and damage to biological diversity resulting from living modified organisms in particular.

What is expected at COP-MOP 6?

The sixth meeting of the COP-MOP is expected to:

- Take note of the status of the Supplementary Protocol in terms of the number of signature and ratification it has received so far.
- Encourages Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to expedite their domestic ratification or accession processes so that the Supplementary Protocol will enter into force as soon as possible
- Calls upon Parties and organizations to make financial resources available to support activities intended to promote the ratification or accession and implementation of the Supplementary Protocol.



Convention on
Biological Diversity

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

413, Saint Jacques Street, suite 800 Tel.: +1 514 288 2220
Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 1N9 Fax: +1 514 288 6588

secretariat@cbd.int

<http://bch.cbd.int/protocol>