



Ref.: SCBD/ABS/VN/Sg/78678

17 January 2012

NOTIFICATION

Closing date for signature of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing

Dear Madam/Sir,

The *Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization* was opened for signature at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 2 February 2011. To date, 75 Parties to the Convention have signed the Nagoya Protocol and two Parties have deposited their instrument of ratification.

In accordance with its Article 32, the Nagoya Protocol will be closed for signature after **1 February 2012**.

I would therefore like to kindly remind and encourage all Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so, to contact the Treaty Section of the United Nations, as soon as possible, and make the necessary arrangements to sign the Nagoya Protocol. The Treaty Section may be contacted at the Office of Legal Affairs, 380 Madison Avenue, New York, telephone: (212) 963-5047, facsimile: (212) 963-3693, or E-mail: damas@un.org.

I would also like to use this opportunity to encourage you to take the necessary steps towards the ratification, acceptance or approval of this important treaty. For more information about the Nagoya Protocol, you may visit the following webpage: <http://www.cbd.int/abs/>.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary

To: CBD Focal Points and ICNP Focal Points