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CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY TO THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

MONTREAL, 29 JANUARY 2000

OPENING FOR SIGNATURE

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicates the following:

The above Protocol was adopted on 29 January 2000 by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at the resumed session of its first extraordinary meeting held in Montreal from 24 to 29 January 2000.

In accordance with its article 36, the Protocol will be open for signature by States and regional economic integration organizations at the United Nations Office at Nairobi by States and regional economic integration organizations from 15 to 26 May 2000, and at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 June 2000 to 4 June 2001. A signature ceremony will be held to coincide with the high level segment of the Conference of the Parties, scheduled for 24 May 2000.

Certified true copies of the Protocol, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, are being prepared and will be transmitted to all States and regional economic integration organizations as soon as possible.

The Secretary-General takes this opportunity to recall that, under established international practice, only Heads of State, Heads of Government or Ministers for Foreign Affairs are empowered, by virtue of their functions, to sign treaties on behalf of States without having to produce full powers to that effect. Other representatives wishing to sign the Protocol must be in possession of appropriate full powers emanating from one of these authorities.

The Secretary-General would be obliged if States wishing to sign the Protocol on 15 May 2000 or thereafter could, as necessary, provide the required full powers in advance to the Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs, at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

..... A model of full powers is attached.

27 April 2000



Attention: Treaty Services of Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of international organizations concerned.

Model of Full Powers
(to be signed by the Head of State or Government,
or Minister for Foreign Affairs)

FULL POWERS

I, [name and title of minister for foreign affairs, head of Government or head of State],

HEREBY AUTHORIZE, [name and title], to [sign * / ratify / denounce / effect the following declaration in respect of, etc.] the [title and date of treaty, convention, agreement, etc.] on behalf of the Government of [name of State].

Done at [place] on [date]

[Signature]

* Subject to the provisions of the treaty, one of the following alternative is to be chosen: [subject to ratification] or [without reservation as to ratification].
Reservations made upon signature must be authorized by the full powers granted to the signatory.