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

The amendments to Annexes VIII and IX became effective for all Parties to the Convention on 20 November 2003, in accordance with paragraphs 2 (c) and 3 of Article 18 which read as follows:

“2. (c) On the expiry of six months from the date of the circulation of the communication by the Depositary, the annex shall become effective for all parties to this Convention or to any protocol concerned, which have not submitted a notification in accordance with the provision of subparagraph (b) above.

3. The proposal, adoption and entry into force of amendments to annexes to this Convention or to any protocol shall be subject to the same procedure as for the proposal, adoption and entry into force of annexes to the Convention or annexes to a protocol. Annexes and amendments thereto shall take due account, inter alia, of relevant scientific and technical considerations.”

20 November 2003