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## REGIONAL AGREEMENT ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND JUSTICE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

ESCAZÚ, 4 MARCH 2018

MEXICO: RATIFICATION

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

The above action was effected on 22 January 2021, with:

Interpretative declarations (Translation) (Original: Spanish)

In ratifying the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, the United Mexican States understands that the term "promptly", included in paragraph 2 (b) of article 5, shall be interpreted in accordance with the terms and deadlines provided for in the national laws in force regarding transparency and access to public information.

In addition, the United Mexican States considers that, for the purposes of the Agreement, the terms "harm" and "substantial harm" refer to:

- (a) The actual risk of dissemination of information that is demonstrated and identified as causing substantial harm to the public interest or national security;
- (b) The adverse and measurable loss, change, deterioration, disturbance or modification of, or damage to, habitats, ecosystems, natural elements and natural resources, their chemical, physical or biological conditions, the relationships among them and the environmental services they provide;
- (c) The harm to an environmental element that results from an adverse environmental impact; that which results from one or more environmental impacts on one or more environmental elements or ecosystem processes that trigger an ecological imbalance; or that which results in the loss of one or more environmental elements that affect the structure or function or modify the evolutionary or successional trends of the ecosystem.

22 January 2021