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Reference: C.N.782.2010.TREATIES-1 (Depositary Notification)

NAGOYA PROTOCOL ON ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND THE  
FAIR AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS ARISING FROM THEIR  
UTILIZATION TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

NAGOYA, 29 OCTOBER 2010

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 October 2010 at Nagoya, Japan, during the tenth meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. In accordance with its article 32, the Protocol will be opened for signature by Parties to the Convention at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 2 February 2011 until 1 February 2012.

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 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 a treaty on behalf of a State without having to produce full powers to that effect. Other representatives wishing to sign a treaty must be in possession of appropriate full powers, which expressly authorize signature of a specific treaty by a named representative issued and signed by one of these authorities. Full powers are distinct from credentials. Credentials alone are not adequate for the purpose of signing a treaty.

The Secretary-General would be obliged if States wishing to sign the Protocol could notify, and provide copies of the required full powers in advance to the Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs, 380 Madison Avenue, New York (Telephone: (212) 963 5047, Facsimile: (212) 963-3693, E-mail: [depositarycn@un.org](mailto:depositarycn@un.org)).

Attention: Treaty Services of Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of international organizations concerned. Depositary notifications are issued in electronic format only. Depositary notifications are made available to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations in the United Nations Treaty Collection on the Internet at <http://treaties.un.org>, under "Depositary Notifications (CNs)". In addition, the Permanent Missions, as well as other interested individuals, can subscribe to receive depositary notifications by e-mail through the Treaty Section's "Automated Subscription Services", which is also available at <http://treaties.un.org>.

For more information on full powers, please refer to the Treaty Handbook on the United Nations Treaty Collection website, which can be accessed at the following address:  
<http://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&msgid=XXVII-8-b&chapter=27&lang=en>

14 December 2010

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JGW', located below the date.

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