



PRESS RELEASE

UN Biodiversity Convention adopts 2021 interim budget

27 November 2020 – An interim budget for the Convention on Biological Diversity for the year 2021 has been adopted.

The extraordinary meetings (second extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the first extraordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocol, adopted the interim budget using a silence procedure.

“Further to my communication opening the resumed sessions, I am pleased to announce that the extraordinary meetings that were held, through the silence procedure, from 16 to 19 November 2020, and from 25 to 27 November 2020 (resumed sessions), have finally achieved their objective of adopting an interim budget for the year 2021 for the operations of the Convention and its Secretariat,” said Yasmine Fouad, President of the 14th Conference of the Parties.

“I would like to express my deepest thanks to all representatives for their understanding, contribution and cooperation.”

The draft decision on the interim budget for 2021 had been placed under the silence procedure until 7 a.m. Montreal time (UTC-5) on Thursday, 19 November 2020, for consideration and adoption. At that time, the President announced that the silence had been broken, and the proposed decision could not be adopted as a result. The meeting was thus suspended to allow for consultations to resolve the issue.

At the resumed session, held from 7 a.m. Montreal time, Wednesday, 25 November, for a silence period of 48 hours, until 8 a.m. Montreal time, Friday, 27 November 2020, the President resubmitted the proposed 2021 interim budget with no changes, which was then adopted (CBD/ExCOP/2/L.2).

The purpose of the meetings was to ensure the continued operation of the CBD Secretariat and strengthen momentum in the implementation of its programme of work pending the holding of postponed governing bodies’ conferences. The current budget of the CBD Secretariat runs out 31 December 2020.

For more information on the process, please visit: www.cbd.int/conferences/excop-2020/cbd-excop-02/documents

NOTES TO EDITORS

Second extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the first extraordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties (COP) serving as the meeting



of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols: www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2020/ntf-2020-090-excop-en.pdf

Closing communication from the COP president:

www.cbd.int/doc/c/461a/f682/4ae6e0c69bd368290ea53aac/excop-02-l-06-en.pdf

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Opened for signature at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, and entering into force in December 1993, the Convention on Biological Diversity is an international treaty for the conservation of biodiversity, the sustainable use of the components of biodiversity and the equitable sharing of the benefits derived from the use of genetic resources. With 196 Parties so far, the Convention has near universal participation among countries. The Convention seeks to address all threats to biodiversity and ecosystem services, including threats from climate change, through scientific assessments, the development of tools, incentives and processes, the transfer of technologies and good practices and the full and active involvement of relevant stakeholders including indigenous and local communities, youth, NGOs, women and the business community. The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing are supplementary agreements to the Convention. The Cartagena Protocol, which entered into force on 11 September 2003, seeks to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology. To date, 173 Parties have ratified the Cartagena Protocol. The Nagoya Protocol aims at sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies. It entered into force on 12 October 2014 and to date has been ratified by 129 Parties.

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