



NOTIFICATION

Letter from COP 15 President to all National Focal Points to the Convention on Biological Diversity

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to enclose a letter from His Excellency, Mr. Huang Runqiu, Minister of Ecology and Environment of China as COP 15 President, for the kind attention of all national focal points to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema
Executive Secretary

Enclosure

To: CBD National Focal Points, ABS National Focal Points, Cartagena Protocol Focal Points





中华人民共和国生态环境部
MINISTRY OF ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

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3 February 2023

Dear National Focal Points to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

The adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and other decisions at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the concurrent meetings of the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols (COP-15) this past December 2022 in Montreal, Canada, represents a historic moment for global biodiversity governance. I trust that you have all rested and recovered from the hard work of the proceedings and are energetic to start the challenging implementation road ahead of us.

As recently announced, the Secretary-General of the United Nations has appointed Ms. Elizabeth Maruma Mrema as the new Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme. She will take up this role on 15 February 2023. On behalf of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), I would like to congratulate Ms. Maruma Mrema on this well-deserved appointment and express our deep appreciation for her leadership and support during the past three exceptionally challenging years, which led to the historic adoption of the GBF. As Executive Secretary of the CBD, she steered us through new virtual multilateral dynamics amid a global pandemic, kept momentum of the post-2020 process, and efficiently led the Secretariat in servicing two parts of COP-15. I am confident she will continue to offer invaluable contributions to the international environmental arena in her new position at UNEP.

While the recruitment of a new Executive Secretary to the CBD is pending, I am very pleased to welcome the designation by the United Nations Secretary-General of Mr. David Cooper as Acting Executive Secretary to the Convention to ensure the continuity of the work of the Secretariat. Mr. Cooper was instrumental in guiding and supporting the Presidency, the Bureau and the overall CBD community through-out the challenging process that led to the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and other key outcomes of COP-15. As we begin our urgent implementation journey, I know that we can continue to count on Mr. Cooper's dedication and determination, as well as his extensive experience and knowledge in biodiversity governance, to assist us in taking rapid action to secure the goals and targets of the GBF in a timely manner.

I hope you join me in my appreciation and welcoming of these announcements and changes in the Secretariat, and I look forward to our continued close collaboration

and to your personal support to our common task ahead of halting and reversing the loss of biodiversity by 2030.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized Chinese characters, positioned above the printed name.

HUANG Runqiu
COP 15 President
Minister of Ecology and Environment,
People's Republic of China