Concluding Remarks

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The Nagoya Protocol has been adopted by 95 States and the EU as of 30 June 2017. Japan deposited an instrument of acceptance on 22 May, and Korea deposited ratification on 19 May. Both states became active stakeholders in August 2017. Although the USA, which is also powerful enough to influence the course of the negotiations involving ABS, does not participate in this Protocol as well as CBD, there is no doubt that the Nagoya Protocol is an important environmental agreement that can achieve sustainable development.

However, there are several differences in the domestic legislation passed in Japan and Korea. This seems to be common phenomenon. For example, some Parties enact detailed domestic laws, whereas other Parties do not - member states either exhibit reluctance to chart detailed legislation, or they lack the capacity to do so.

In addition, the Nagoya Protocol is having some difficulties in implementation and there are several issues that need to be addressed. Henceforth, the COP-MOP will be held every two years, and it is expected that full-scale international negotiations for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol are underway in earnest. We shared lots of useful information and had productive discussions with each other in this workshop. We will continue to monitor future developments of the Nagoya Protocol carefully.