Mr Chairman,

Seasonal influenza virus sharing is being negatively impacted due to the national implementation of the Protocol in some countries. Delayed sharing can challenge the timely supply of vaccines and the ability of GISRS to ensure that well-matched vaccines are developed and to rapidly detect the emergence of pandemic influenza strains.

Attaching benefits to the existence of eradicable/eliminable pathogens is contrary to public health objectives and may generate perverse incentives that could hinder progress against infectious diseases.

We encourage continued consultation with the CBD, OIE, and FAO, as well as industry, to ensure that implementation of the Nagoya Protocol does not impact the timely and predictable sharing which is essential to ensure prompt vaccine supply and global public health.