



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2021/024

Geneva, 16 March 2021

CONCERNING:

Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

1. At its 18th meeting (Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties accepted the offer of the Government of Costa Rica to host the 19th meeting (CoP19).
2. On 12 March 2021, the Secretariat was advised by Costa Rica that due to the financial and other impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic it was, with great regret, formally withdrawing its offer to host CoP19.
3. The COVID-19 pandemic has had very significant economic, social and health implications for the entire world and the Secretariat empathizes with the situation faced by Costa Rica. The Secretariat fully understands the disappointment that they must feel in having to withdraw their offer as host country. The Secretariat extends its heartfelt thanks to Costa Rica for all the preparatory work that had been undertaken before this decision had to be taken.
4. Further information on the selection of a time and venue for CoP19 will be provided to the Parties in due course.