Convention on Biological Diversity

Secretariat

2 July 2003

Ref.: UNEP/CBD/STTM/MGta/dh/36108

NOTIFICATION

Meeting on further elaboration and preparation of guidelines for implementation of the ecosystem approach Montreal, Canada, 7 –11 July 2003

In its decision V/6, paragraph 4, the Conference of the Parties (COP) requested the Executive Secretary to collect, analyse, and compare identified case studies and lessons learned on the ecosystem approach (whose principles are stated in decision V/6, annex B), and to prepare a synthesis for presentation to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) prior to the seventh meeting of COP. In addition, in its decision VI/22, paragraph 19(a), the COP requested the Executive Secretary to carry out a comparative study to clarify the conceptual basis of the ecosystem approach in relation to the concept of sustainable forest management, with a view to improve, by taking an integrated approach, the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources.

To this end, the Secretariat is convening an expert meeting in Montreal, Canada, from 7 to 11 July 2003, with financial support from the Government of the Netherlands. The main objectives of the meeting are:

- (a) To critically review the analysis of case studies and lessons learned on the ecosystem approach prepared by the Executive Secretary;
- (b) To review and further elaborate--on the basis of case studies, lessons learned, and other relevant initiatives--the principles of the ecosystem approach in order to prepare operational guidelines for its implementation, in the context of CBD programmes of work, and work on cross-cutting issues.
- (c) To review the comparative study carried out by the Executive Secretary to clarify the conceptual basis of the ecosystem approach in relation to the concept of sustainable forest management.

Further to our notification dated 4 April 2003 inviting Parties to the Convention to nominate experts in the field of natural resource management at the ecosystem level, as well as messages sent on 30 April to relevant organizations, the selection of experts was based on

To: National Focal Points of the CBD SBSTTA Focal Points



United Nations Environment Programme Tel: (514) 288.22.20 Fax: (514) 288.65.88 Email: secretariat@biodiv.org Web: www.biodiv.org World Trade Centre 393 Saint-Jacques Street, Suite 300 Montréal, Québec, Canada H2Y 1N9 nominations by the Parties and organizations, as well as the roster of experts, taking into account their expertise and experience in the field of natural resource management at the ecosystem level, geographical distribution and gender balance.

The list of invited experts and organizations for the Meeting on further elaboration and guidelines for implementation of the ecosystem approach is provided in the attached Annex. The provisional agenda and annotated provisional agenda will be made available as soon as possible on the Secretariat's website at www.biodiv.org

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Hamdallah Zedan Executive Secretary

Annex

Selected experts for the Meeting on further elaboration and preparation of guidelines for implementation of the ecosystem approach (Montreal, Canada, 7 – 11 July 2003)

Africa

Mr. Laurent Ntahuga (Burundi)

Mr. Medhait Rabie (Egypt)

Mr. Almeida Alberto Sitoe (Mozambique)

Asia

Ms. Mahboobeh Tohidi (Iran)

Mr. Yimnang Golbuu (Palau)

Mr. Viktor Novikov (Tajikistan)

Latin America and Caribbean

Mr. Jorge Soberon Mainero (Mexico)

Mr. Radoslav Barzev (Nicaragua)

Mr. Ronald Toussaint (Haiti) in his capacity as SBSTTA Bureau member

Central and Eastern Europe

Mr. Jan Plesnik (Czech Republic)

Mr. Csaba Matyas (Hungary)

Mr. Vladimir Gavrilovich Papchenkov (Russian Federation)

WEOG

Mr. Stuart Davey (Australia)

Mr. Ole Hendrickson (Canada)

Mr. Aril Lindgard (Norway)

Mr. Piet Wit (The Netherlands)

Resource Persons

Mr. Horst Korn (Germany)

Mr. Ed Maltby (United Kingdom)

Mr. Steve Edwards (IUCN)

Peter Frost (CIFOR)

Other observers:

Ms. Paula Warren (New Zealand)

Mr. Peter Bos (the Netherlands) in his capacity as representative of his Government sponsoring the meeting

Dr. Douglas Beard (United States)

Dr. Michael A. Ruggiero (United States)

Observers from the following organizations were invited:

Members of the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Conservation International, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), IUCN - The World Conservation Union , Ramsar Convention, The Nature Conservation, Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), World Bank and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) of the World Bank Group

Were also invited the member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF):

Secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Secretariat of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), World Bank, World Conservation Union (IUCN)