

Ref.: SCBD/SEL/PD/43569

30 August 2004

NOTIFICATION

Dear Madam/Sir,

Decision VII/12 on Sustainable Use: information gathering, workshops and electronic forum.

The purpose of this Notification is to request the contribution and assistance of Parties, Governments and relevant organizations to the work of the Secretariat in response to decision VII/12 on sustainable use. Specific action required is outlined below.

1. Information gathering and experiences

In paragraph 4 of decision VII/12, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to collect information on successful efforts made to implement Article 10 of the Convention, as well as success stories, best practices and lessons learned in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines. These should include information and experiences on how sustainable use of biodiversity can contribute to the achievement of the target of significantly reducing the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010.

Information received on the above will be compiled by the Secretariat and submitted to the consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its eleventh meeting (SBSTTA-11).

Required action: Parties, Governments, other relevant organizations, indigenous and local communities and stakeholders are kindly invited to provide the Secretariat with information on the above no later than **31 March 2005**.

2. Technical expert workshops

In paragraph 5 of decision VII/12, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to convene a series of technical expert workshops on ecosystem services assessment, financial costs and benefits associated with conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of biological resources.

To : CBD National Focal Points
Relevant organizations

In response to this request, and subject to availability of funds, the Secretariat has tentatively scheduled the meetings to be held as follows:

1. 12-14 April 2005, Central and Eastern European Regional Expert Workshop on Sustainable Use;
2. 13-15 September 2005, Latin American Regional Expert Workshop on Sustainable Use;
3. 8-20 October 2005, African Regional Expert Workshop on Sustainable Use;
4. 22-24 November 2005, Asia and the Pacific Regional Expert Workshop on Sustainable Use.

A preliminary draft agenda for the workshops is annexed. The format of the workshops, which is primarily designed to identify and address constraints in the implementation of sustainable use practices at the regional level, will also:

- Provide training to government officials and practitioners on the above issues and ways and means to facilitate the implementation of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity;
- Facilitate and promote exchanges of experiences among government officials and practitioners through the review of regional case studies;
- Make recommendations on future work to be undertaken under the Convention on Biological Diversity on the sustainable use of biological diversity.

Thus far, the Secretariat has received no expressions of interest by Parties to host and/or fund the workshops.

Required action: In light of the above, Parties interested in hosting and/or funding the workshops are kindly invited to contact the Secretariat to make the necessary arrangements as soon as possible.

3. Electronic forum

In paragraph 5 of decision VII/12, the Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary to undertake further work on issues pertaining to use of terms for sustainable use, adaptive management, monitoring and indicators building on the outcome of the Addis Ababa workshop. The work on use of terms and associated instruments will further assist Parties in the implementation of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity, adopted by COP-7.

In response to this request, the Secretariat is organizing an electronic forum in order to gather further comments and proposals on issues pertaining to use of terms for sustainable use, adaptive management, monitoring and indicators.

Required action: Interested experts are invited to comment and formulate proposals, as appropriate, through the electronic forum in order to further consolidate the work on the use of terms and on associated instruments based on sections I D and II D together with appendix I of annex I to the report of the Addis Ababa Workshop (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/INF/8). In case of limited access to the internet and difficulties to access the electronic forum, comments may also be transmitted by mail or fax.

Comments received will be compiled by the Secretariat and integrated in a revised document for consideration at SBSTTA-11.

The restricted website as well as instructions on how to participate in the forum are available at: <http://www.biodiv.org/doc/subd-forum.asp>.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

ANNEX

Regional Workshops on the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity

Preliminary draft agenda

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters:
 - 2.1. Election of officers;
 - 2.2. Adoption of the agenda;
 - 2.3. Organization of work
3. Ecosystem services assessment, including:
 - The impacts of sustainable use and non-sustainable use on livelihoods, and ecosystems good and services;
 - Socio-economic factors that influence pattern and intensity of use of biological resources, economic and social values of goods and services provided by ecosystems.
4. Financial costs and benefits associated with the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources;
5. Review of case studies from the region on:
 - incentive measures for the sustainable use of biological resources;
 - best practices and lessons learned from the use of biological diversity;
 - mechanisms to involve the private sector and indigenous and local communities in initiatives for the sustainable use of biological diversity;
 - implementation of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity.
6. Recommendations for the programme of work on sustainable use of biological diversity.
7. Other matters.
8. Adoption of the report.
9. Closure of the meeting.