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1st April 2011

NOTIFICATION

Nomination of Experts for “Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development” to meet from November 22-25, 2011 at the Forest Research Institute, Dehradun, India

Dear Madam/Sir,

In accordance with decision X/6, paragraphs 14 and 15 of the tenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP/10) on the integration of Biodiversity into Poverty Eradication and Development, I am pleased to inform you that an Expert Group Meeting on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development will be tentatively held in November 2011.

Recognizing the urgent need to improve capacity for mainstreaming the three objectives of the Convention into poverty eradication strategies and plans (e.g., Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, national development plans) the Expert Group shall elucidate the linkages between the three objectives of the Convention and poverty eradication and development processes, drawing upon expertise in both communities (biodiversity/development). The Expert Group will also identify the most effective approach towards a framework on capacity-development for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services for sustainable development and poverty eradication, building on existing initiatives and in close cooperation with relevant organizations. The report of the Group will provide technical input to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention at its fourth meeting in accordance with the following **terms of reference**:

- (i) Review the analysis of the existing mechanisms, processes or initiatives for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into poverty eradication and development by the Secretariat;
- (ii) Identify the root causes of poverty that are possibly linked to biodiversity loss and suggest ways and means by which such causes may be removed or remediated by fulfilling the three objectives of the Convention;
- (iii) Identify means for up-scaling good practices and lessons learned and sharing the linkages, between poverty eradication programmes and the three objectives of the Convention for sustainable development at the local, national, regional, subregional and global level;

To: All CBD National Focal Points, Bilateral development cooperation agencies, multilateral development banks, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, the business sector, civil society, research institutes, indigenous and local communities, and relevant stakeholders

(iv) Provide guidance and priorities for all relevant actors involved in development processes (Governments, sector ministries, implementation agencies and other target groups such as policy-makers, practitioners, scientist, media, education); and

(v) Ensure that the full range of biodiversity and ecosystem services considerations is taken into account to ensure that the guidance is consistent with the three objectives of the Convention and its Strategic Plan as well as to all the Millennium Development Goals and the Millennium Declaration.

Nomination and Selection of Experts/Observers

The Group of experts will be regionally balanced and composed of 25 experts nominated by Parties and 15 observers (5 experts and 3 observers from each United Nations region), *inter alia*, from both biodiversity and development communities, regional bodies or organizations, bilateral development cooperation agencies, multilateral development banks, United Nation agencies, non-governmental organizations, the business sector, civil society, indigenous and local communities, and other representatives of stakeholders.

Parties and relevant partners are therefore invited to nominate and provide the Secretariat with the name, coordinates and curriculum *vitae* of their selected experts/observers via an official letter. The nominations should be addressed to the Secretariat by fax to: +1 (514) 288-6588 or by e-mail to: secretariat@cbd.int with a copy to dev-pov@cbd.int at your earliest convenience but no later than by **30 April 2011**.

Parties shall take into consideration the need for technical expertise in the Expert Group as per the above-mentioned terms of references when nominating their experts.

Based on the nominations received, the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Bureau, will select participants for the Expert Group meeting. As per usual practice, the experts will be selected on the basis of their expertise, the need to ensure fair and equitable geographical distribution, as well as gender balance.

Relevant documentation to the meeting along with the information note for participants will be made available in due course on the CBD website at the following address: <http://www.cbd.int/meetings/>.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary