



Ref.: SCBD/SEL/ML/GD/79216

27 March 2012

NOTIFICATION

Regional workshop on valuation and incentive measures for Eastern Europe and Central Asia Tbilisi, Georgia, 29 to 31 May 2012

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that a regional workshop on valuation and incentive measures for Eastern Europe and Central Asia will be held in Tbilisi, Georgia, from 29 to 31 May 2012.

This workshop is organized by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), through its Coordinating Office on the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB), and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), with financial support provided by the European Union as well as the governments of Japan, Norway and Sweden. The workshop will be hosted by the Government of Georgia.

The workshop is one of a series of regional and sub-regional capacity building workshops, organized, pursuant to requests of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and other relevant organizations, with a view to support countries in making use of the findings of the report on The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB), in integrating the values of biodiversity into relevant national and local policies, programmes and planning processes, and in promoting the exchange among practitioners on practical experiences on incentive measures (decisions X/2, paragraphs 17 (e) and (f), X/44, paragraph 7).

The workshop seeks to contribute to achieving the following objectives:

- To provide decision-makers in the region with economic arguments for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, as well as with information on state-of-the-art tools that enhance the quality of decision-making processes regarding conservation and sustainable use, including on financial tools;
- To provide a platform for these decision-makers to exchange views and assess the applicability of these arguments and tools in their countries, with a view to promote common understanding;

To: CBD Focal Points of: Afghanistan, Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech, Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and relevant organizations

- To promote synergies and enhanced cooperation among relevant policy areas and sectors by mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services;
- To support the revision and review or update of National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) in light of the new Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (decision X/2, paragraph 3 (c), in particular with regard to Aichi Targets 2 and 3, as well as other relevant Targets.

In light of the above, I am pleased to invite you to nominate two officials of your Government who will participate in this workshop, one from the Ministry of the Environment (or equivalent) and one preferably from the finance, economic, development planning or similar ministry. The latter nominee should be in a position to share significant experiences in mainstreaming biodiversity into national development plans. Both nominees proposed should be in a position to translate the capacity gained into concrete actions in support of national implementation.

The nominations should be submitted in the form of an official signed letter addressed to the Executive Secretary and should clearly identify the names and full contact information, including the email address of representatives. The letter can either be scanned and emailed as a PDF attachment to the Secretariat at secretariat@cbd.int or faxed to + 1 514 288 6588, and should reach the Secretariat **no later than 23 April 2012**.

Please be informed that the participation of two representatives from each eligible country will be supported with direct, economy-class round-trip ticket and a Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) for the duration of the workshop, to be provided in accordance with relevant UN rules. Documents for this workshop will be made available in due course. English and Russian interpretation will be provided at the workshop.

We look forward to receiving your nominations as soon as possible, and I thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

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

Bráulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary