Ref.: SCBD/IMS/NP/JEC/MC/91545 15 February 2024

**NOTIFICATION**

**Regional Dialogues on National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans for African Countries**

**30 May to 2 June 2024, Nairobi, Kenya**

Dear Sir or Madam,

 I am pleased to advise that two regional dialogues on national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) for African countries will be held from **30 May to 2 June 2024** in Nairobi, Kenya. Organized in parallel with one another and in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme and the Institute for Sustainable Development of the Francophonie, one will be conducted in English and the other in French. They are aimed to support African countries that did not participate in the dialogue for the Middle East and North Africa held in January 2024.

 The NBSAP Dialogues are part of a series of regional and sub-regional dialogues being convened by the Secretariat in 2023 and 2024 to facilitate the sharing of experiences and mutual learning related to the revision and updating of NBSAPs, including national targets, in alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, as requested of Parties in [decision 15/6](https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-06-en.pdf). The Dialogues are being convened with the generous financial support of the Government of Japan, through its Japan Biodiversity Fund, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Government of Denmark, and the European Union.

 The NBSAP Dialogues will include sessions on experiences and lessons learned in revising or updating NBSAPs, including national target revision or setting, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches, the integration of the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements into the NBSAP, and development of a national monitoring plan for the NBSAP. The Dialogues will also include dedicated discussions in breakout groups on (i) capacity-building and development and (ii) national biodiversity financing. The outcomes of the Dialogues will serve as an input in the further piloting of an open-ended forum for voluntary country review of implementation under the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI), pursuant to decision 15/6. The Dialogues will also provide an opportunity for countries in the region to share examples in the implementation of the GEF Early Action Support project.

 I therefore invite each Party concerned to nominate two representatives to attend. It is advised that one nominee is the national focal point for the Convention or a government official who is responsible for leading the work on revising and updating the NBSAP, and a second nominee could be an officer or expert who is involved in the revision or updating of NBSAPs, in particular working on issues related to capacity building and development or financing. In submitting nominations, Parties should give consideration to the full range of national stakeholders, including the focal points of the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols.

 Nomination letters should be signed by the national focal point of the Convention or the Head of the competent authority. Information on nominees should be submitted through the nomination form annexed to this notification, describing relevant expertise and experience of the nominees. The number of participants is limited. The selection of experts invited to attend will be done to ensure a balanced participation in the breakout groups, taking into account the date of receipt of the nomination form. The form, including full contact details, should be sent to secretariat@cbd.int as soon as possible and **no later than 15 March 2024.**

 Participants eligible for funding will be provided with air travel, accommodation, meals and daily subsistence allowance for incidental costs according to UN rules. Arrangements for participants who will also attend the fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation will be made in conjunction with the arrangements made for that meeting, as appropriate. Information and documents relevant to the Dialogues will be made available in due course.

 To contribute to the NBSAP Dialogues, the Secretariat may also invite a limited number of representatives of United Nations agencies, organizations that represent indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, or other stakeholders, that are relevant to the GBF implementation in the region.

 I look forward to receiving nominations from Parties at the earliest opportunity.

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

*(Signed*) David **Cooper**

 Acting Executive Secretary

Enclosure

**Annex**

**Nomination Form for Nominees**

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| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Title |  |
| Institution/Organization |  |
| Contact details (email address, etc.) |  |
| Brief description of technical background/working experience related to the NBSAP revision/updating, including capacity building and development and financing. |  |
| Please indicate whether the nominee will continue to attend SBSTTA 26 and/or SBI 4 after the NBSAP Dialogue. |  |