

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

Our ref: 2514/B

Antelias, 6/3/2002

To

Mr. Hamdallah Zedan

Executive Secretary

Convention on Biological Diversity

Fax No:

+514 288 65 88

Subject:

Incentive measures

Dear Mr. Zedan.

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ACTION ML

FILE INFO GD OJ, HZ

Reference is made to your letter dated 15 July 2002 (Ref. SCBD/SEL/ML/GD/30402) requesting parties to submit to the Secretariat information regarding incentive measures, especially on positive and perverse incentives.

Please note that the "Code of Environment" which was promulgated in August 2002 included several articles related to incentive measures. These measures include tax exemption or reduction for all actors or actions that reduce impact on biodiversity and natural resources, or aiming at their protection. Application decrees will be prepared by the Ministry of Environment to allow the implementation of these articles.

The Code of Environment also denotes the polluter payer principle, where all proceeds will go into a fund that would finance activities and projects aiming at environmental protection, combating desertification, deforestation and soil erosion, as well as conservation of biodiversity.

On the other hand, the Ministry of Environment has prepared a project proposal aiming at the conservation of biodiversity in Lebanon through promotion of ecotourism. Among its activities, the project will include the elaboration of incentive measures for the conservation of biodiversity as well as on mitigation of perverse incentives. However, the Ministry is still waiting for the approval of the necessary funds to execute the project.

Please accept, dear Mr. Zedan, the assurances of my sincere consideration.

Eng. Sanaa Sairawan Acting Director General

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