

17 January 2001

Ref.: SCBD/I&O/MS

Madam/Sir,

Further to my letter of 29 July 2000, I am writing to request your participation at a meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee (IAC), to be held on 11 March 2001 in Montreal at the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

The purpose of the meeting will be to review the structure and operation of the CHM, the objectives of the IAC identified by the Conference of the Parties in Decision V/14 and to seek guidance on the implementation of activities listed in Annex II of that Decision. I would appreciate if you could review Decision V/14, Annex II and send me your views on implementing the requested activities for circulation to IAC members before the meeting.

As you know, the Conference of the Parties, in the same decision, requested the Executive Secretary to develop operational procedures for the Informal Advisory Committee in consultation with its members. Once completed, the operational procedures will be made available through the Clearing-house Mechanism and will be reviewed by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting in the year 2004. The planned IAC meeting will also exchange views on how best to develop such procedures taking into consideration relevant decisions of the COP. Following the IAC meeting, I intend to organize a meeting between the IAC and the SBSTTA and the CHM Focal Points.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to introduce Mr. Marcos Silva who has assumed the post of Clearing-house Mechanism Programme Officer after the departure of Mr. Marc Auer. Mr. Silva is eager to work with you in the development of the Clearing-house Mechanism and in the implementation of new activities.

I look forward to meeting with you in March 2001.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

To: Informal Advisory Committee members