



Ref.: SCBD/I&O/CHM/ODM/53730 Date: 13 February 2006

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am writing to request your participation at a meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee (IAC) of the Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM), to be held on the margins of the Eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-8) on **Sunday, 19 March 2006** in Curitiba, Brazil.

The purpose of the meeting will be (a) to present the final version of two major COP-8 pre-session documents related to the Clearing-House Mechanism, namely the *Clearing-House Mechanism activities during the inter-sessional period* (UNEP/CBD/COP/8/17) and the *Updated strategic plan of the Clearing-House Mechanism for the period 2005-2010* (UNEP/CBD/COP/8/18); (b) to discuss some proposals put forward to facilitate the full use and access to the services provided by the Clearing-House Mechanism; and (c) to have a brainstorming discussion on activities of the Clearing-House Mechanism to contribute to the implementation the Convention and achievement of the 2010 target with a special focus on capacity-building and technical cooperation.

Please note that the attached provisional and annotated agendas for the meeting are also available on-line on the Convention's website.

I look forward to meeting with you in Curitiba.

Yours sincerely,

Ahmed Djoghlaf Executive Secretary

To: Members of the CHM Informal Advisory Committee

