



# Convention on Biological Diversity

Secretariat

Ref.: SCBD/STTM/MV/va/34110

27 February 2003

## NOTIFICATION

Dear Madam/Sir,

### **Subject: Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Protected Areas**

At its fourth meeting, in decision IV/16, annex II, the Conference of the Parties selected protected areas as one of the three themes for in-depth consideration at its seventh meeting (COP-7), which will take place in March 2004. In order to facilitate the preparatory process for COP-7, the Executive Secretary developed a proposal containing specific activities and means for undertaking the work, including the establishment of an ad hoc technical expert group (AHTEG) to provide key input into the process. The proposal, which is contained in document UNEP/CBD/COP/6/2, was welcomed by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting (decision VI/30), and included the terms of reference for the ad hoc technical expert group (this document is attached for your ease of reference).

You are hereby invited to submit the name of an expert from your country who may be called upon to serve in the ad hoc technical expert group, together with a description of his/her expertise to carry out the tasks mandated to this group in the terms of reference. The nomination of experts should be sent to the Secretariat, by facsimile or electronic mail no later than **31 March 2003**.

Once the nominations are received, the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the SBSTTA Bureau, will select up to fifteen experts, with due consideration given to geographical balance as well as to ensuring that the full range of expertise on protected areas is covered. With the financial support of, and at the kind invitation of, the Government of Sweden, it is envisaged that the group will meet from **10 to 14 June 2003 in Tjärnö, Sweden**.

I wish to thank you for your cooperation in this matter and your continued support towards the implementation of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Hamdallah Zedan

Executive Secretary

To: CBD National Focal Points



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## **TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON PROTECTED AREAS**

### **A. Mandate**

The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Protected Areas will undertake the following tasks:

- (a) Review methods and approaches for the planning and management of protected areas including options for appropriate policies, strategies, and practices consistent with the objectives of the Convention;
- (b) Identify ecosystem and bioregional approaches to protected area management and sustainable use of biological diversity;
- (c) Identify mechanisms to enhance stakeholder involvement;
- (d) Propose methods for developing systems plans and integrating biological diversity considerations into sectoral strategies and plans;
- (e) Identify options for management of transboundary protected areas; and
- (f) Based on its consideration of the above, propose options and priority actions required for effective establishment and management of protected areas.

### **B. Duration of work**

The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Protected Areas will start its work after the eighth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, and will complete it no later than the ninth meeting of the Subsidiary Body, at which protected areas will be an item for in-depth consideration.