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23 April 2004

NOTIFICATION**International Day for Biological Diversity 2004**

Dear Madam/Sir,

In response to paragraph 7 (b) of decision V/17, which was adopted at the 5th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and in conformity with the content of Notification 2003-128 dated 18 December 2003, I am pleased to inform you that the Secretariat has initiated plans for a programme of activities to mark the International Day for Biological Diversity (IBD) in Montreal, Canada and some suggestions which the Parties could consider to supplement their own preparations for celebrating the day. These suggestions, which will be updated with new developments, are available on the CBD Web site at: <http://www.biodiv.org/programmes/outreach/awareness/biodiv-day-2004.asp>

I am also pleased to inform you that a Poster reflecting the Theme for International Day for Biological Diversity 2004, *Biodiversity: Food, Water and Health for All* has been prepared by the Secretariat and will be distributed to all Parties next week. Additionally, the Secretariat will make available to all Parties the Secretariat's Press Release and messages marking the occasion from the United Nations Secretary-General and other dignitaries.

I invite Parties that have already initiated national plans for activities to celebrate the International Day for Biological Diversity to keep the Secretariat informed of such plans and other noteworthy activities organized by NGOs or other organizations so that they may be included in the special pages of the CBD Web site devoted to the celebration of International Day for Biological Diversity.

Accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

[Signed]

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

To: CBD National Focal Points