



REFERENCE: SCBD/EDM/HZ/43328

21 May 2004

NOTIFICATION

International Biodiversity Day Celebrations
21 May 2004

Madam/Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Canada has announced today that it would provide the CBD Secretariat with CAN\$ eleven (11) million over the next ten years in support of the operations of the Convention on Biological Diversity. This generous announcement was made today in Montreal by the Honorable Minister Lucienne Robillard, Minister of Industry and Minister responsible for Canada Economic Development on the occasion of the Secretariat's celebrations of the International Biodiversity Day and the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on Biological Diversity. A letter to the same effect was received today from the Honorable Minister William Graham, Minister of Foreign Affairs on behalf of the Government of Canada.

I wish to take this opportunity to register the sincere gratitude and appreciation of the Secretariat's staff and myself, for the continuous and unflagging support which the Government of Canada, the province of Quebec and the City of Montreal continue to provide to the Secretariat. This long-term commitment is a concrete demonstration of the dedication of the Government of Canada to the objectives of the Convention and the work mandate of the Secretariat.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

**To: All CBD and ICCP National Focal Points
COP Bureau members
SBSTTA Bureau members**

