



25 November 2004

NOTIFICATION

Re: Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal Area Management (IMCAM)

Dear Madam/Sir,

I wish to draw your attention to Annex 1 of decision VII/5, which presents the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity. Programme element 1 of this programme of work relates to the implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management. Activity (c) under operational objective 1.1 calls for the identification of obstacles to the implementation of IMCAM nationally and regionally, and the development and implementation of strategies, such as partnerships, tools and other means, to overcome those obstacles, including provision of guidance on the application of such tools. In accordance with this decision, an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Implementation of Integrated Marine and Coastal area Management (IMCAM) will provide guidance on implementation of activity (c). The terms of reference for this expert group can be found in the Annex to SBSTTA recommendation VIII/3 A, and are also appended to this notification.

I have the pleasure to inform you that, subject to the availability of financial resources, I plan to convene a meeting of the AHTEG on Implementation of IMCAM in Montreal, Canada, from 11 to 15 July 2005. The main purpose of this meeting is to identify obstacles to implementation of IMCAM, and ways and means to overcome them, including policy, institutional, technological and financial tools and mechanisms. The AHTEG is also expected to provide guidance on the application of such tools, and to propose priority areas for the work of the Convention, aimed at the implementation of IMCAM globally.

I invite you to nominate, at your earliest convenience, but no later than **1 March 2005**, an expert who can participate in the meeting of the AHTEG on Implementation of IMCAM. The selection of experts will be based on expertise, taking into account gender balance and geographical distribution, and will be carried out using the following criteria:

- Excellent knowledge of issues related to implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management. The nominee should have first-hand, field-level expertise in facilitating the implementation of IMCAM in their countries and/or regions. This expertise can come from any relevant discipline, including scientific, economic, management, policy, legal, or institutional.

To: CBD & SBSTTA National Focal Points



- Expertise in at least one of the following topics: stakeholder participation, including involvement of indigenous and local communities; financing marine conservation; application of institutional and policy frameworks to management of marine and coastal ecosystems; development of coastal and/or ocean policies; integrating biophysical and socioeconomic considerations in design of IMCAM regimes; zoning of marine areas for management purposes, including integrating marine protected areas into IMCAM regimes; managing marine and coastal areas at multiple scales, including integration of coastal and watershed management.
- Familiarity with the work of CBD and other intergovernmental processes, particularly in relation to marine and coastal issues.

The nominations should be accompanied by a curriculum vitae that clearly indicates the areas of expertise of the nominee.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter and your continued support to the work of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

Annex

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AN AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT
GROUP ON IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED MARINE AND
COASTAL AREA MANAGEMENT (IMCAM)**

A. Mandate

The ad hoc technical expert group will undertake the following tasks:

(a) Review the work undertaken under programme element 1 (IMCAM) of the programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity, including the existing guidance on the Convention on Biological Diversity and IMCAM developed by the Government of the Netherlands; the Ramsar Convention guidelines; relevant regional initiatives; the results of the ad hoc technical expert groups on marine and coastal protected areas and mariculture; the relevant sections of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development; and the obstacles to implementation identified by Parties;

(b) Based on task (a), propose a set of targeted enabling activities that could best overcome the identified obstacles to the implementation of IMCAM nationally and regionally; and propose ways and means, such as partnerships or other means, through which they could be undertaken within the context of the Convention;

(c) Identify existing tools, including policy, institutional, technological and financial tools and mechanisms that can be used to overcome obstacles to national and regional-level implementation of IMCAM. Provide guidance to Parties on the application of such tools;

(d) Based on tasks (a), (b), and (c), propose priority areas for the work of the Convention, aimed at the implementation of IMCAM globally.

(e) When undertaking all of the tasks described above consider the special needs of and difficulties faced by stakeholders in developing countries and indigenous and local communities, and identify ways and means to foster international cooperation to assist those countries.

B. Duration of work

The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the implementation of IMCAM will start its work after the ninth meeting of the SBSTTA, and will complete it no later than the eleventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body, keeping in mind the urgency of this matter taking into account the multi-year programme of work of the Convention.
