



Ref.: SCBD/SEL/ML/RR/48849

19 May 2005

NOTIFICATION

**Re: Latin American and Caribbean Regional Workshop on Sustainable Use
September 2005**

Dear Madam/Sir,

In paragraph 5 of decision VII/12 on sustainable use, the Conference of the Parties (COP) requested the Executive Secretary to convene a series of technical expert workshops on ecosystem services assessment, financial costs and benefits associated with conservation of biodiversity, and sustainable use of biological resources.

I have the pleasure to inform you that, with financial assistance from the Government of the Netherlands, the Secretariat is organizing the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Workshop on Sustainable Use. The workshop is tentatively scheduled to take place in Argentina, at the kind invitation of the Government of Argentina, from 13 to 15 September 2005.

Consistent with decision VII/12, the workshop will focus on:

- Ecosystem services assessment;
- Financial costs and benefits associated with conservation of biodiversity, and sustainable use of biological resources.

Moreover, it will provide a forum for government officials and practitioners to enhance their awareness and understanding of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity as well as other CBD guidelines and promote the use of these guidelines in an integrated manner, as a contribution to facilitating the achievement of the 2010 target, sustainable development and poverty alleviation.

The workshop will focus on, but not be limited to, one or two biomes of major interest. The workshop will also facilitate and promote exchange of experiences among government officials and practitioners through the review of regional case studies.

I invite you to nominate, at your earliest convenience but no later than **1 July 2005**, a technical expert to participate in this meeting, taking into account the need to ensure the maximum benefits for each country in the future.

To: CBD National Focal Points from the GRULAC

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The Secretariat will select candidates based on the role of the nominee in the sustainable management and use of biological diversity at the national and local levels, and on his/her expertise, taking into account gender balance and equitable geographical distribution.

Each participant in the workshop will be requested to present a case study on the sustainable use of biological resources in his/her country. Guidelines for the drafting of the case study will be provided to selected candidates.

Nominations should be accompanied by a *curriculum vitae* that clearly indicates the areas of expertise of the nominee and his/her complete coordinates.

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