Convention on
Biological Diversity

Secretariat

Ref: SCBD/BS/BCH/KGM/50142 15 August 2005

NOTIFICATION

**National Focal Points for the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH)
for Parties that have not yet provided nominations to this position**

Dear Madam/Sir,

As you may be aware, at its second meeting, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol called upon each Party that has not yet done so to designate an appropriate national focal point for the Biosafety Clearing-House (decision BS-II/2.7).

The role of the Biosafety Clearing-House focal points is set out in the modalities of operation of the BCH (decision BS-I/3, Annex, Section D). Briefly, this focal point is responsible for validating information registered on the Biosafety Clearing-House, and for liaison with the Secretariat regarding technical aspects of national participation in the BCH. BCH National Focal Points are also created an account on the central portal of the BCH where they may modify published information pertaining to their government, and are automatically registered to receive a fortnightly email newsletter that provides a summary of all new information that has been registered with the BCH over that period.

In order to ensure that these functions are available to all governments, unless we are advised otherwise, national focal points for the Cartagena Protocol nominated in accordance with Article 19 of the Protocol will also be deemed to be BCH National Focal Points for those governments that have not yet nominated a national focal point for the BCH.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

To: CPB National Focal Points, where a BCH National Focal Point has not yet been nominated
CBD National Focal Points, where a CPB National Focal Point has not yet been nominated

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