



7 July 2006

## NOTIFICATION

### **Subject: Review of implementation of the programme of work on protected areas**

Dear Madam/Sir,

The purpose of this notification is to invite Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and other stakeholders to provide information on the progress made in the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas for consideration by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas at its second meeting, to be held at the headquarters of UNESCO in Paris from 2 to 6 July 2007.

In paragraph 2 of decision VIII/24 on protected areas, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity recognized that limited availability of relevant information, including the insufficient number of reports submitted, was a major shortcoming in the review of the programme of work on protected areas for the period 2004-2006. In paragraph 3 of this decision, the COP, recognizing the need for the systematic collection of relevant information for evaluating progress in the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas, encouraged Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to provide timely and quality information on the implementation of the programme of work.

In paragraph 5 of this decision, the COP agreed that reporting should concentrate mostly on outputs as well as processes, using tools such as the matrix in annex II of recommendation 1/4 of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas (document UNEP/CBD/WG-PA/1/6 accessible at [UNEP/CBD/WG-PA/1/6](http://www.unep.org/cbd/wgpa/1/6)) and other relevant information, to provide for a strategic assessment of progress made, challenges/obstacles, and capacity building needs. In paragraph 6 of this decision, the COP agreed on the importance of undertaking consultation processes, including indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders, on reporting on the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas.

In paragraph 15 of this decision, the COP decided to convene the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas prior to its ninth meeting, to evaluate progress and elaborate recommendations to the COP for improved implementation of the programme of work on protected areas. In paragraph 16 of the same decision, the COP invited Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and other stakeholders to report on progress made towards the targets, challenges/obstacles and capacity building needs, in time for consideration by the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas. In the same para, the COP urged Parties to seek contributions from indigenous and local communities on progress in the implementation of the programme of work.

To: All CBD National Focal Points, other Governments and relevant organizations

Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and other stakeholders are invited to submit to the Executive Secretary as soon as possible, but **no later than 30 November 2006**, information on the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas, including progress made towards the targets, challenges/obstacles and capacity building needs, using tools such as the matrix in annex II of recommendation 1/4 of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas and other relevant information.

An adequate and useful review of the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas is only possible if the Secretariat receives information in a timely manner.

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

Yours sincerely,

Ahmed Djoghlaif  
Executive Secretary