



CBD

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

22 May 2007
International Day for Biological Diversity



Biodiversity and Climate Change

Ref: SCBD/STTM/SBG/JG/57314

5 February 2007

NOTIFICATION

Re: Expert workshop on ecological criteria and biogeographic classification systems for marine areas in need of protection, 2-4 October 2007, Azores, Portugal

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you that, with financial support from the Government of Portugal, the Secretariat is convening an expert workshop on ecological criteria and biogeographic classification systems for marine areas in need of protection, from 2 to 4 October 2007, in Azores, Portugal. This workshop was called for by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its eighth meeting (decision 24, paragraph 46). The terms of reference of the workshop are to:

(i) Refine and develop a consolidated set of scientific criteria for identifying ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in need of protection, in open ocean waters and deep sea habitats, building upon existing sets of criteria used nationally, regionally and globally;

(ii) Compile biogeographical and ecological classification systems for delineating ocean regions and ecosystems, building on existing broad classification systems, and including more detailed sub-regional classification systems, where they exist, in a nested approach, and initiate future development by making recommendations for further work to fill gaps;

(iii) Compile a consolidated set of scientific criteria for representative networks of marine protected areas, including in open ocean waters and deep-sea habitats.

I invite you to nominate, at your earliest convenience but no later than **1 May 2007**, an expert who can participate in the workshop. 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:

- Good knowledge of issues related to scientific criteria for identifying ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in need of protection;
- Good knowledge of issues related to biogeographical and ecological classification systems for delineating ocean regions and ecosystems; and
- Good knowledge of issues pertaining to marine and coastal protected areas and the CBD programme of work on protected areas.

To: CBD National Focal Points and relevant organizations



United Nations
Environment Programme

413 Saint-Jacques Street, Suite 800
Montreal, Quebec, Canada H2Y 1N9

Tel.: +1.514.288.2220
Fax : +1.514.288.6588

www.biodiv.org
secretariat@biodiv.org

The provisional agenda for the workshop is annexed to this notification. Other meeting documents will be forwarded to the selected experts and posted on the CBD website in due course. The workshop will be conducted in English.

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 of the work of the Convention.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary



**CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL
DIVERSITY**

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/EWS.MPA/
1/1
2 February 2007

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

EXPERT WORKSHOP ON
ECOLOGICAL CRITERIA AND
BIOGEOGRAPHIC
CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS FOR
MARINE AREAS IN NEED OF
PROTECTION

Azores Portugal, 2-4 October, 2007

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Election of officers, adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Refining and developing a consolidated set of scientific criteria for identifying ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in need of protection, in open ocean waters and deep sea habitats, building upon existing sets of criteria used nationally, regionally and globally.
4. Compiling biogeographical and ecological classification systems for delineating ocean regions and ecosystems, building on existing broad classification systems, and including more detailed sub regional classification systems where they exist in a nested approach, and initiate future development by making recommendations for further work to fill gaps.
5. Compiling a consolidated set of scientific criteria for representative networks of marine protected areas, including in open ocean waters and deep-sea habitats.
6. Other matters.
7. Adoption of the report.
8. Closure of the meeting.
