



Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



Ref.: SCBD/OES/AD/ab/55863

30 May 2007

NOTIFICATION

Subject: The Fifth Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity -- Extended Deadline for Registration

Dear Madam/Sir,

Since 1993, the Trondheim Conferences on Biodiversity have provided an opportunity for policy makers, managers and scientists to have an open and constructive dialogue on key issues being discussed under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The conferences are hosted by the Norwegian Government in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

In collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the fifth Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity will be held in Trondheim, Norway, from 29 October to 2 November 2007, and the title of this conference will be *“Ecosystems and people – biodiversity for development – the road to 2010 and beyond”*. The focus will be on why biodiversity is important for fighting poverty and for sustainable development, and on the difficult trade-offs in this regard.

This broad approach has been chosen since progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for the CBD, and follow-up on progress towards the 2010 target of significantly reducing the rate of biodiversity loss, and relevant Millennium Development Goals (MDG) will be discussed as key strategic issues at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-9) in May 2008. These are comprehensive and critical issues under the Convention, and the Conference will contribute to the preparations for COP-9 by providing input to the thirteenth meeting of the CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-13), to be held in Rome, in February 2008.

Various sessions will bring the issues together, and a tentative Conference programme has been developed that includes scientific studies, policy presentations, practical case-studies and panel discussions that will provide participants with insights and inspiration. This programme may be found on the Conference home page at: www.trondheimconference.org.

To: CBD and SBSTTA National Focal Points



In a letter of 13 December 2006, the Norwegian Minister of the Environment, Ms Helen Bjørnøy, invited all member states of the UN to attend this fifth Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity. A copy of this invitation was sent to all CBD national focal points. The Conference will bring together up to 300 participants, and two representatives from each country may attend the Conference. The Norwegian Government is prepared to provide travel support for one participant from each country, eligible for such support. The Conference language will be English, and the formal programme will take place in the plenary. The deadline for registration was originally set for 1 June 2007, but in order to enable more countries to consider participation, this deadline is extended to **10 July**. Kindly also note that all registration forms should be accompanied by a confirmation letter from the CBD national focal point, and sent directly to the Conference Secretariat at trondheim.conference@dirnat.no.

Invitations are also being sent to relevant UN entities and to selected (mainly international) organizations and institutions that are instrumental in the implementation of the CBD. Further information on the Conference is available on its home page, and you may contact the Conference Secretariat in the Norwegian Directorate for Nature Management at trondheim.conference@dirnat.no.

The fifth Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity is expected to make an important contribution to the preparation of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-9), to be held in Bonn, Germany, from 19 to 30 May 2008, and we hope that many countries will be able to participate in this important meeting.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary