

Ref.: SCBD/ITS/DC/LC/69611

15 November 2009

NOTIFICATION

Regional Workshop for Middle East and North Africa on the updating and revision of the Strategic Plan of the Convention for the post-2010 period

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that a Regional Workshop for the Middle East and North Africa on the updating and revision of the Strategic Plan of the Convention for the post-2010 period will be held on 10-11 January 2010 in Cairo, Egypt, with the support of the Regional Office for West Asia (ROWA) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE) of the League of Arab States (LAS).

As you are aware, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), at its tenth meeting in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2010, is due to adopt a revised and updated Strategic Plan for the CBD, including post-2010 biodiversity target(s), on the basis of a recommendation by the third meeting of the ad hoc open-ended Working Group on the Review of Implementation of the Convention (WGRI-3) and inputs from the fourteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-14) both to be held in Nairobi in May 2010. As set out in decision IX/9, Parties and observers are invited to submit their views on the process. This workshop is one of a number of regional meetings organized by the Secretariat and its partners to facilitate consultations among Parties.

Accordingly, I would like to invite you to nominate a senior officer to participate in this workshop. The nominee should be the CBD or SBSTTA focal point, or other senior officer responsible for coordinating the implementation of the Convention in your country, and should be familiar with the Convention's Strategic Plan. The nominee should be comfortable working in Arabic and/or English, which will be the languages of the workshop. Nominations should be sent as soon as possible and no later than **10 December 2009** to secretariat@cbd.int, with copy to diane.klaimi@unep.org.

Limited funds are available from UNEP to support the participation of representatives from eligible countries. Upon receipt of nominations, further information on travel and hotel arrangements, funding and documentation for the meeting will be duly communicated.

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

[original signed]

Ahmed Djoghlaf
Executive Secretary

To: CBD National Focal Points (Arab States)