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9 December 2009

NOTIFICATION

REMINDER

Designation of a National Focal Point for the Programme of Work on Protected Areas

Dear Madam/Sir,

Vide notification 2008-124 dated 23 September 2008, and reminder notifications (2009-053 of 13 May 2009 and 2009-079 of 9 July 2009), Parties were requested to designate a National Focal Point for the Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA-NFP) as per paragraph A 21 of decision IX/18. As of today, 112 PoWPA-NFPs have been nominated and I extend my sincere appreciation to those Parties. The list is available on the Secretariat website at <https://www.cbd.int/doc/lists/nfp-cbd-powpa.pdf>.

From October to November 2009, the PoWPA-NFPs attended regional capacity building and review workshops on the implementation of the PoWPA. For the first time, the focal points met face-to-face and forged PoWPA-FP regional and sub-regional networks. The response to these workshops has been overwhelmingly positive. Ms. Elizabeth Erasito, PoWPA-NFP for Fiji, declared, "I have come away enriched and a little better equipped to manage the PoWPA process here in Fiji. In addition I have made some valuable contacts of colleagues who are engaged in similar work and I look forward to strengthening this relationship over time." Mr. Nathaniel Blama, PoWPA-NFP for Liberia, commented, "I write to express my thanks and appreciation for the level of interaction and friendliness we shared during the ... regional workshop ... You were certainly an inspiration to me; you(r) experiences, wisdom, your frank interaction and understanding of the issues ... really stimulated me and gave me a lot of impetus to go back home and act promptly in ensuring sound Environmental Governance and Management in the context of protected areas management."

Parties that have not yet nominated a PoWPA-NFP are kindly reminded to do so by providing the name, contact details and curriculum vitae of the nominee to the Secretariat (secretariat@cbd.int) in the briefest of delays and before **31 December 2009**. The aim is to have a complete list of PoWPA focal points as soon as possible to facilitate communication and improve capacity for PoWPA implementation in all regions.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter, and for your continued support of the work of the Convention.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary

To: CBD National Focal Points