



Ref.: SCBD/SEL/OJ/JS/DM/75216

4 March 2011

NOTIFICATION

Decision VIII/5D on Article 8(j) and related provisions: Request for Nominations for the Advisory Selection Committee of the Voluntary Trust Fund

Dear Madam/Sir,

In decision VIII/5 D, on Mechanisms to promote the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in matters related to the objectives of Article 8(j) and related provisions, the Conference of the Parties adopted the criteria for the operation of the Voluntary Funding Mechanism for the participation of indigenous and local community representatives in the work of the Convention.

As per the Annex to the above-mentioned decision, in the selection of beneficiaries for the Fund, the Executive Secretary must consult, through electronic means, with an Advisory Selection Committee consisting of seven representatives of indigenous and local communities nominated by indigenous and local communities from the seven geo-cultural regions recognized by the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, as well as with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties.

In light of the above, and in order to promote fairness and transparency and greater involvement of indigenous and local community organizations, and taking into account the advice received from the Advisory Group on Article 8(j) and related provisions in report UNEP/CBD/WG8J/5/INF/11, which suggested checks and balances be put in place for the selection committee, including the biennial rotation of members and attention to sub-regional considerations, the selection committee membership should be renewed on a biennial basis.

Therefore, I hereby invite indigenous and local communities to nominate representatives for the Advisory Selection Committee, as soon as possible but **no later than 30 April 2011**.

To: CBD Focal Points, International organizations, indigenous and local community organizations and relevant stakeholders

In order to facilitate the selection process, nominations should consist in an official letter to the Executive Secretary from the nominating organization accompanied by a recent *Curriculum Vitae* as well as relevant information about the organization itself. Members will be selected from among the nominations received on the basis of expertise, balance among the seven geo-cultural regions referred to above and taking into account the nature of the mandate of the group.

Finally, I take this opportunity to warmly thank the outgoing indigenous and local community selection committee members for their work, which they have carried out diligently since their appointment in 2007.

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

Ahmed Djoghla
Executive Secretary