

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

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18 March 2015

NOTIFICATION

Nomination for the Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan on Biodiversity 2011-2020

Madam/Sir,

In paragraph 20(b) of decision XII/1, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) requested the Executive Secretary, pending the availability of resources, to convene a meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. Further in paragraph 20(d) of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to report on the outcomes of this meeting to a meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention. I am pleased to announce that, with the generous financial support of the European Union and the Government of Switzerland, preparations for this AHTEG meeting are underway.

The AHTEG meeting is tentatively scheduled for 29 June to 2 July 2015 in Switzerland. The meeting will be conducted in English. Further information, including relevant documents, will be made available as arrangements are finalized.

I hereby invite Parties, other Governments, and relevant organizations to submit the name of an expert who may be called upon to participate in the AHTEG. When submitting a nomination, please provide the name and full contact details of your nominee, as well as a curriculum vitae that clearly indicates her/his areas of expertise, bearing in mind the mandate of the AHTEG as specified in the terms of reference contained in annex II of decision XII/1 herewith attached to this note. Nominations should be submitted through an official letter to secretariat@cbd.int and should be received **no later than** 24 April 2015. Please note that a change of the software for managing finance and procurement in the United Nations system will affect the ability to issue tickets during parts of May and June 2015. It is therefore essential that nominations are received by this date.

The selection of experts will be based on expertise and experience, taking into account regional and gender balance, as well as the instructions contained in annex II of decision XII/1. Financial support will be provided to enable the participation of selected experts from eligible Parties to the Convention. Once the AHTEG members are selected, it is expected that their work will start by electronic means, coordinated through the Secretariat, before meeting face-to-face.

Thank you for your cooperation and your continued support for the work of the Convention.

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

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias Executive Secretary

Attachment

To: CBD National Focal Points, SBSTTA Focal Points, other Governments, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and relevant organizations









TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR FURTHER WORK BY THE AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON INDICATORS FOR THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020

The terms of reference for the meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 are:

- 1. Drawing on the information in the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* and its underlying technical studies, the fifth national reports and other reports provided by Parties, considering the use of indicators to date in monitoring progress in the implementation the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, building on previous work and experiences related to indicators for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and recognizing that a range of conceptual and methodological frameworks and approaches exist:
- (a) Identify a small set of measurable potential indicators that could be used to monitor progress at the global level towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets with a focus on those that are currently not well addressed and those that may be relevant to the United Nations post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals;
- (b) Prepare guidance on the different types of indicators and approaches used to monitor progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 at the regional, national and subnational levels, reflecting, as appropriate, different perspectives among Parties for achieving conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, drawing on a review of national reports and other relevant submissions to the Convention as well as reports prepared in compliance with other relevant processes;
- 2. The work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group will also draw upon relevant work of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and its member organizations, the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the Technical Support Team for the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals, the United Nations Statistics Division, the Indicators Working Group of the International Indigenous Forum for Biodiversity, and other partners;
- 3. The procedures for Ad Hoc Technical Expert Groups outlined in the consolidated *modus operandi* of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (decision VIII/10, annex III), will be followed. The work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group will be informed by background information prepared by the Executive Secretary in collaboration with the members of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and other partners;
- 4. The report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group will be peer-reviewed prior to its finalization. The final report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group will be made available for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting prior to the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.