Ref.: SCBD/SPS/DC/VN/jh/86420 27 March 2017

**NOTIFICATION**

**Call for nominations for the Informal Advisory Committee to the**

**Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House**

Madam/Sir,

The purpose of this notification is to invite nominations from Parties for the Informal Advisory Committee to the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House.

 The Informal Advisory Committee (IAC) was established at the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol (Decision NP-1/2, paragraph 2,) to assist the Executive Secretary with the implementation of the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House (ABS Clearing-House) and to provide technical guidance with respect to the resolution of technical and practical issues arising from the ongoing development of the ABS Clearing-House. The decision provides that the IAC shall be composed of 15 experts, primarily from Parties, selected on the basis of nominations provided by Parties.

At its second meeting, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties decided that the IAC will hold at least one meeting and informal online discussions, as needed, during this intersessional period (2017-2018) and report on the outcomes of its work to the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties in 2018 (in decision NP 2/2, paragraph 7). It is expected that the meeting will take place in the fourth quarter of 2017; further details will be communicated in due course.

Taking into account that a number of countries have become Parties to the Nagoya Protocol since the IAC was first established, the composition of the IAC will be renewed for this new intersessional period based on nominations from Parties to the Protocol.

Accordingly, all Parties are invited to nominate one expert. Nominated experts should have knowledge of the Nagoya Protocol, access and benefit-sharing, and the ABS Clearing-House or related information-sharing and knowledge management systems.

The nomination, in the form of an official letter signed by the ABS National Focal Point, or the CBD National Focal Point (where an ABS National Focal Point has not been designated), together with the completed nomination form attached and the curriculum vitae of the nominee, should be scanned and e-mailed to secretariat@cbd.int or faxed to +1 514 288 6588, as soon as possible but no later than **30 April 2017**.

Based on the nominations received, members of the informal advisory committee will be selected on the basis of their expertise and taking into account the need to ensure fair and equitable geographical distribution, as well as gender balance.

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

Cristiana Paşca Palmer

Executive Secretary

**NOMINATION FORM**

**Informal Advisory Committee to the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House**

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| **Personal information** |
| 1. Name of the Expert
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| 1. Current Job/Functional Title
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| 1. Contact Details

Department/Division/Unit; Ministry/Organization; Address; Phone /Cell phone; Fax number and Email address |  |
| **Background and experience**  |
| 1. Main responsibilities in the current position
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| 1. Describe your involvement in activities relevant to the Nagoya Protocol and access and benefit-sharing both nationally and regionally.
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| 1. Describe your previous engagement and experience relevant to the ABS Clearing-House.
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| 1. Describe what contribution you hope to bring to the work of the IAC
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| 1. Provide any additional relevant information
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