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17 January 2020

NOTIFICATION

**Twenty-fourth Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice
(SBSTTA 24), 18 to 23 May 2020**
and
Third Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI 3), 25 to 30 May 2020
Montreal, Canada

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA 24) will be held from 18 to 23 May 2020 and the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI 3) will be held from 25 to 30 May 2020, at the ICAO Conference Centre in Montreal, Canada.

In addition, a workshop on the fifth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* (GBO-5) will be held on Saturday, 16 May 2020 and a briefing by the Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework will be held on Sunday, 24 May 2020, open to all participants of the SBSTTA 24 and SBI 3 meetings. Please also be informed that the GBO-5 will be officially launched on 18 May 2020 on the first day of the SBSTTA 24 meeting.

The provisional agenda for the two meetings are available at the respective meeting web pages at: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=SBSTTA-24> and <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=SBI-03>. Other pre-session and relevant documentation for these meetings, as well as the “Information Note for Participants”, will be made available in due course at the same web pages.

In accordance with usual practices, the designation of representatives to attend the SBSTTA 24 and SBI 3 meetings should be addressed to the CBD Executive Secretary by **30 April 2020** through an official letter of nomination sent as a scanned attachment by e-mail to: secretariat@cbd.int. The designated delegates from countries that require a visa to enter Canada should contact the nearest Canadian diplomatic or consular mission without delay in order to secure the required entry visa in a timely manner. Please note that airline companies will not allow boarding in the absence of a valid visa. Information regarding online registration for the meetings will be provided in due course. Early registration is encouraged.

Please note that subject to the availability of contributions to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BZ), the Secretariat will be in a position to finance the participation of one representative in both meetings (i.e. SBSTTA 24 and SBI 3) from each of the eligible countries, i.e. developing countries Parties to the Convention, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as Parties with economies in transition. Parties eligible to receive financial support that wish to solicit such assistance are kindly requested to advise the Secretariat, at their earliest convenience, but no later than **15 March 2020**, of the name and coordinates of their Government's officially designated representative. It will not be possible for the Secretariat to respond positively to request for funding received after this deadline.

To: CBD National Focal Points, SBSTTA Focal Points, relevant organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities
cc: Cartagena Protocol Focal Points and ABS Focal Points

Furthermore, in accordance with the criteria for the operations of the Voluntary Funding Mechanism to facilitate the participation of indigenous and local communities in the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities are invited to submit a request for financial assistance, at their earliest convenience, but no later than **15 March 2020**. Subject to the availability of funds, a list of beneficiaries from the indigenous peoples and local communities will be established and selected participants will be contacted directly by the Secretariat for the travel arrangements.

Due to the increased security procedures for travellers and budget constraints, and with a view to enable the participation of a maximum number of countries in the meetings, the Secretariat will be using special airfare tickets for sponsored delegates that impose restrictions with respect to the changing of passenger's name, travel dates and itinerary. Please note, therefore, that it will not be possible for the Secretariat to accommodate name changes after a ticket has been issued.

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

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

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema
Acting Executive Secretary