

Please note our new address below

REFERENCE: SCBD/OES/HZ/MS/405

18 January 2001

Madam/Sir,

Pursuant to decision V/20 paragraph 17 of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-5), I am pleased to inform you that the sixth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-6) will be held in Montreal, Canada, from 12 – 16 March 2001.

In this regard, I have the honour to invite the SBSTTA Focal Points as well as the Focal Points of the Clearing-house Mechanism to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CHM) who will participate in SBSTTA-6 to a lunchtime meeting with the members of the Informal Advisory Committee (IAC) of the Clearing-house Mechanism on Wednesday, 14 March 2001. Please note that in keeping with the policy of extending financial support to one delegate from each developing country Party to the Convention, the Secretariat will be in a position to support your participation only if you are your country's official delegate to the SBSTTA-6 meeting. In the event that you will not attend SBSTTA-6, your officially designated country representative to SBSTTA-6 may wish to represent you at this meeting. However, if your country will not be represented at the meeting, please note that a report indicating the outcome of the meeting will be distributed to all SBSTTA and CHM Focal Points and the IAC members. The report will also be accessible at the Secretariat's web site.

The purpose of this lunchtime event is to review the objectives of the IAC of the CHM as identified by the Conference of the Parties in decision V/14; discuss the structure and operation of the IAC and seek guidance on the implementation of the activities listed in Annex II of the decision. I would appreciate it if you could review decision V/14, Annex II and send me your views on implementing the requested activities for circulation to the IAC members before the meeting.

I look forward to meeting with you in March 2001.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan  
Executive Secretary

To: SBSTTA Focal Points  
CHM Focal Points  
IAC Members

