

28 February 2002

Ref.: SCBD/I&O/CHM/MS/

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am writing to request your participation at a lunch-time meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee (IAC) of the Clearing-house Mechanism, to be held during the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-6) on **Tuesday, 9 April 2002** in The Hague, The Netherlands.

The purpose of the meeting will be to report on accomplishments by the Clearing-house Mechanism (CHM) in support of objectives identified by the Conference of the Parties in Decision V/14 and recommended by the CHM Strategic Plan. The meeting will also review recommendations made by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) at its sixth meeting from 12-16 March 2001 and by the IAC during its meetings of 11 March and 11 November 2001 respectively.

Finally, the meeting will also report on CHM activities in the technical development and implementation of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH). I would appreciate if you could review the attached annotated agenda and send me your views on work completed to date for circulation to IAC members before the meeting.

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 COP-6 meeting. In the event that you will not attend COP-6, your officially designated country representative to COP-6 may wish to represent you at this meeting.

I look forward to meeting with you in April 2002.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]  
Hamdallah Zedan  
Executive Secretary

To: Informal Advisory Committee Members

