



CBD

Madam/Sir

Montreal, August, 2000

It is with great pleasure that I forward to you the final report of the first meeting of the CBD-UNESCO Consultative Group of Experts on Biological Diversity Education and Public Awareness, held in Paris, on 11 - 13 July, 2000.

The Group of Experts reviewed relevant existing and planned initiatives, decided to initiate a number of priority activities and discussed further steps in the development of the initiative. Specific recommendations were formulated in this regard.

The Group concluded that both short-term and long-term strategies for the implementation of the initiative are needed:

- in the short term, a series of priority activities such as demonstration projects, should be launched and if possible completed prior to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 6) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);
- for the longer-term: the CBD-UNESCO Consultative Working Group of Experts should continue its work during the period leading to COP 6 to further advance and technically supervise the initiative.

We will keep you informed of the follow-up to the recommendations of the Group of Experts and further actions undertaken.

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