

Ref.: SCBD/I&O/AN/AH/jh

30 October 2000

NOTIFICATION

Madam/Sir,

**CBD-UNESCO CONSULTATIVE GROUP OF EXPERTS ON BIOLOGICAL
DIVERSITY EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS****(Second Meeting, Bergen, Norway, 19-21 November 2000)****Background**

At its fifth meeting, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) decided to convene, jointly with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), a working session to identify and prioritise activities to be implemented in the framework of the CBD-UNESCO global initiative on biological diversity education and public awareness (decision V/17).

In response to that decision, CBD and UNESCO convened the first meeting of a Consultative Working Group of Experts on Biological Diversity Education and Public Awareness, which was held in Paris from 11 to 13 July 2000. At this meeting, the Group decided to hold additional working sessions.

The Executive Secretary is pleased to announce that a second meeting of the CBD-UNESCO Consultative Group of Experts will be held in Bergen, Norway from 19 to 21 November 2000, at the kind invitation of the Norwegian Ministry of Environment.

Meeting

The report of the first meeting is available at:
<http://www.biodiv.org/chm/notifications/pdf/Unesco-Meet.pdf>

The second meeting will consider the following matters:

1. Relevant existing and planned initiatives;
2. Description of strategic objectives;
 - 2.1 Setting up a network as a means of communication;
 - 2.2 Establishing an information highway;
 - 2.3 Conducting a demonstration project;
 - 2.4 Integrating biodiversity policies using the ecosystem approach;

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- 2.5 Implementing biodiversity education projects;
 - 2.6 Organization of information;
 - 2.7 Determine links between formal and non-formal education;
3. Further steps in the development of the initiative;
 4. Identification of the capability to implement activities at the country and regional levels and of appropriate actions at the international level, including the contributions of competent international organizations;
 5. Funding aspects.

Yours sincerely,

(SIGNED)

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary