

Ref: SCBD/SEL/DO

17 January 2001

Dear Madam/Sir,

I wish to draw your attention to decision V/18 adopted by the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-5) which took place in Nairobi, Kenya, in May 2000.

Pursuant to paragraph 8 of the decision, the Conference of the Parties welcomed the offer of the Government of France to organize a workshop on liability and redress in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Government of France and the Secretariat have tentatively scheduled the workshop to take place in Paris, France, from 11 to 13 June 2001. Participants at the workshop will consist of a regionally-balanced group of approximately 50 Government nominated experts. In this regard, I would appreciate it if your Government could submit the names and curriculum vitae of suitably qualified experts to the Secretariat no later than **28 February 2001** in order to facilitate the selection of participants to the workshop.

I would also like to take this opportunity to refer you to my letter dated 28 August 2000 requesting your Government, in line with paragraph 6 of decision V/18, to provide relevant information on national, international and regional measures and agreements on liability and redress applicable to damage caused to biological diversity. This information is considered essential background material for the workshop and I therefore further urge your Government to submit this information as soon as possible but in any case no later than the deadline of **31 March 2001** as specified in my letter dated 28 August 2000.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter and your continued support towards the work of the Convention.

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

Sincerely yours,

Hamdallah Zedan  
Executive Secretary

To: All CBD National Focal Points.