

Ref.: BS/CS/jh

29 March 2001

NOTIFICATION

Re: Reminder for nominations for the meeting of Technical Experts on Handling, Transport, Packaging and Identification (Article 18 of the Biosafety Protocol)

Madam/Sir,

At its first meeting, held in Montpellier, France, from 11 to 15 December 2000, the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (ICCP) requested the Executive Secretary, subject to the necessary financial resources being made available, "to convene a meeting of government-nominated technical experts in handling, transport, packaging and identification, taking into account the need for regional representation, transparency, equity and the need for cooperation with relevant intergovernmental organizations, to consider on the basis of information submitted under paragraph 1, the needs and modalities for developing measures for Parties to meet their future obligations pursuant to paragraphs 2 (b) and 2 (c) of Article 18, and to prepare a report on their deliberations and recommendations for consideration by the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its second meeting".

Further to the notification letter of 12 January 2001, in which you were kindly requested to provide the Secretariat with, *inter alia*, nominations for participants in the above-mentioned meeting of Technical Experts on Handling, Transport, Packaging and Identification, I have the honour to inform you that the meeting will be held from 13 to 15 June 2001 in Paris, following the generous offer of France and Canada to co-host it.

As of today, only a few Governments have provided the Secretariat with the requested information. Therefore, all Parties and States that have not yet submitted their nominations are hereby kindly requested to do so without further delay to allow the Secretariat, in consultation with the ICCP Bureau, to initiate and complete the selection of experts for the meeting in a timely manner. For the meeting to be held as scheduled, it is proposed that the selection process be completed by 15 May 2001. Accordingly, given these time constraints, nominations received by the Secretariat after **23 April 2001** cannot be considered when determining the composition of the expert meeting. It is also important to ensure that a CV is submitted for each nominated expert to allow the Secretariat to evaluate his/her expertise.

Accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

To: ICCP National Focal Points
CBD National Focal Points (where ICCP focal points have not yet been designated)
Relevant international organizations
ICCP Bureau members