



Ref: SCBD/STTM/CL/17466

25 April 2001

NOTIFICATION

Dear Madam/Sir:

Pursuant to Decision V/9 of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI), and further to my Notification dated 6 July 2000, in which I invited Governments to designate national Global Taxonomy Initiative focal points, I wish to reiterate the need for this action.

In order to assist Parties, I have prepared a set of proposed functions of the GTI focal point, while recognizing that Parties may themselves wish to modify this in various ways. These functions are as follows:

- To be the link between the country and the CBD Secretariat on GTI matters.
- To liaise with other National Focal Points within the country (e.g. the CBD and CHM Focal Points).
- To participate in regional networks to facilitate information-sharing for GTI.
- To take responsibility for provision of information to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, initially on:
 - National taxonomic need assessment, including reviews or studies on specific taxonomic needs
 - National directory of taxonomic expertise
 - National register of biological collections
 - National taxonomic initiatives and networks
- To be involved with communities within the country relevant to the CBD, and having particular knowledge of taxonomic issues and institutes.
- To be prepared to participate in international discussions aimed at furthering the aims of the GTI nationally, regionally and globally.

I look forward to receiving your nomination.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Hamdallah Zedan

Executive Secretary

To: National Focal Points of the CBD

