

Ref: SCBD/SEL/OJ/32245

15 October 2002

Dear Madam/Sir,

**NOTIFICATION**

**Second meeting of the *Ad hoc* Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing: rescheduling**

With reference to notification 2002-076 of 4 October 2002 (Ref.: SCBD/SEL/VN/OJ/32173) and following further consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat wishes to inform Parties that the second meeting of the *Ad hoc* Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing has been rescheduled and is now to be held **from 1 to 5 December 2003**, at a venue to be determined.

***Requested action by Parties***

Accordingly, the date for submission by Parties and Governments of the views called for in paragraph 9 of decision VI/24 A of the Conference of the Parties, and any additional information of relevance to the Working Group, reverts back to **15 January 2003**, as initially indicated in notification 2002-052 of 27 June 2002 (Ref.: SCBD/SEL/VN).

**Open-ended Expert Workshop on Capacity-building for Access and Benefit-sharing**

The Open-ended Expert Workshop on Capacity-building for Access and Benefit-sharing remains scheduled for **2-4 December 2002**, at the ICAO Headquarters in Montreal, subject to the availability of financial resources.

In this respect, Parties and Governments are kindly reminded that the Workshop is to be funded entirely from voluntary contributions. Some US\$ 633,437 is required to cover the costs of conference-servicing and the travel and subsistence of participants from developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition. To date, approximately US\$ 80,000 has been pledged. Unless sufficient pledges are received by **31 October 2002**, the meeting will have to be postponed, in line with paragraph 18 of decision V/22 of the Conference of the Parties.

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

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan  
Executive Secretary

TO: All CBD National Focal Points