

Ref: SCBD/SEL/ML/GD/36234

2 July 2003

Dear Madam/Sir,

NOTIFICATION

Re: Preparations for the Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties: nomination of experts for an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Technology Cooperation

In decision VI/30, the Conference of the Parties welcomed the proposals put forward by the Executive Secretary in his note UNEP/CBD/COP/6/2 with regard to preparations for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the issue of technology transfer and technology cooperation, and requested that preparatory work continue as outlined in that document.

The preparatory work outlined in the document provides, *inter alia*, that SBSTTA at its ninth meeting “will [also] consider establishing an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group with the following mandate:

- (i) *Inventory categories of existing technologies, including from local and indigenous communities, for the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components, in all the thematic areas and cross-cutting issues addressed by the Convention; and assess their potential impacts on biodiversity and their requirements for successful application;*
- (ii) *Compile success stories on technology transfer and cooperation; and*
- (iii) *Develop proposals on how to improve the role of the clearing-house mechanism in promoting international technical and scientific cooperation.”*

The proposals further provided that the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group would meet as soon as possible after the ninth meeting of SBSTTA, and would finalize its work in time for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

To: CBD National Focal Points



In light of the short period of time between the ninth meeting of SBSTTA (10-14 November 2003) and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (9-20 February 2004), it is necessary to initiate preparations for the Technical Expert Group without delay in order to allow it to meet during the period contemplated in the decision. Such preparatory work is, however, without prejudice to the decision to be made in this regard by SBSTTA at its ninth meeting, and is subject to the availability of funds.

Therefore, I have the honour to invite Parties and governments to nominate experts on transfer of technology and technology cooperation for participation in the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Technology Cooperation. I would appreciate it if your Government could submit names and Curriculum Vitae of suitably qualified experts to the Secretariat **no later than 1 October 2003** in order to facilitate the selection of participants for the workshop. The Secretariat will select participants in the Technical Expert Group on the basis of recognized expertise and equitable geographic distribution, taking into account gender balance.

I also wish to invite Parties and governments to provide to the Secretariat relevant information on inventory categories of existing technologies and on success stories for technology transfer and cooperation, with a view to assisting the work of the Group, **by 1 October 2003**.

Finally, the establishment of the Group being subject to the availability of funds, Parties and governments are invited to provide financial resources in support of this meeting.

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

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary