



Ref: SCBD/SEL/HM/JC/37381

21 July 2003

NOTIFICATION

Participation of representatives of indigenous and local community organizations in official delegations to meetings held under the Convention on Biological Diversity

Dear Sir/Madam,

In decision V/16, paragraph 18, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties and Governments to increase the participation of representatives of indigenous and local community organizations in official delegations to meetings held under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Moreover, in decision VI/10, the Conference of the Parties emphasized the need for dialogue with representatives of indigenous and local communities, particularly women for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity within the framework of the Convention.

In line with the above and in order to assist the Secretariat in preparation of the reports to the third meeting of the Ad hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, I invite Parties and Governments to provide information on the participation of representatives of indigenous and local community in national delegations attending meetings held under the Convention, such as the Ad hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, the Ad hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit Sharing, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Conference of the Parties.

To: CBD National Focal Points



Therefore, I would be grateful if your Government could provide the Secretariat with relevant information on the following:

- Has your Government included indigenous and local community representatives on your delegation to any of the above meetings?
- If yes, please specify which meetings and the number of representatives of indigenous and local communities in delegations.
- If not, has your Government provided financial support to assist indigenous and local community representatives to attend the Ad hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, and other meetings held under the Convention?

Please note that your response would be appreciated no later than **15 August 2003**.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary