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1 December 2003

NOTIFICATION

Dear Madam/Sir,

Subject: New web-based tool to search COP decisions

Pursuant to Article 17 and Article 18.3 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and in support of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-7), the Secretariat of the CBD developed a web-based tool to search, locate and retrieve information on COP decisions.

Using this new electronic tool, information may be retrieved using a controlled subject search, keywords or words found in the title of a decision. It is also possible to search for decisions made during all or selected meetings.

Furthermore, in an effort to assist work analyzing the implementation of recommendations into decisions, users of this new tool can search and retrieve COP decisions and SBSTTA recommendations using the same interface. Results are aggregated chronologically and the terminology used to query the database highlighted in bold.

As well, information contained in each COP decision has been coded in a manner to facilitate integration and harmonization with information held by other international organizations and convention secretariats.

The tool to search COP decision is available on the Convention's website at: <http://www.biodiv.org/convention/search.aspx>

Thank you for your support of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

To: SBSTTA National Focal Points
CHM National Focal Points
CHM Informal Advisory Committee
International Thematic Focal Points