

Ref.: SCBD/SEL/ML/GD/43980

9 June 2004

Dear Madam/Sir,

Decision VII/18 of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Incentive measures)

The purpose of this notification is to invite international organizations to take specific action to assist the Secretariat in the preparation of documentation for meetings and in the dissemination of information with regard to the implementation of decision VII/18 of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, on incentive measures.

In paragraph 2 of decision VII/18, the Conference of the Parties encourages Parties and governments, as appropriate, to use the proposals on the application of ways and means to remove or mitigate perverse incentives, annexed to the decision, as voluntary interim guidance to remove or mitigate policies or practices that generate perverse incentives, and to extend their efforts to an examination of new policies with a view to identifying, and avoiding, potential perverse incentives, bearing in mind that perverse incentives include those that negatively affect biodiversity in other countries.

In paragraph 6 of the decision, the Conference of the Parties “*invites Parties, Governments and relevant organizations to submit any information on the removal or mitigation of perverse incentives, including case-studies and best-practices on the application of ways and means as well as any experiences with the application of the proposals, to the Executive Secretary; and requests the Executive Secretary to provide a report thereon to the tenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, to assist in the further consideration of the proposals.*”

In paragraph 8 of the decision, the Conference of the Parties “*invites Parties, Governments and international organizations to submit case-studies, best practices and other information on the use of non-monetary positive incentive measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as an initial step in the ongoing examination of incentive measures, including traditional laws and practices which generate positive incentives, and on the application of methodologies for the assessment of values of biodiversity and its functions, as well as other tools for prioritization in decision-making, to the Executive Secretary.*”

In paragraph 9 of the decision, the Executive Secretary is further requested “*to make this information available through the clearing-house mechanism and other means, if appropriate, and to prepare a synthesis report for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting prior to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*”

To: Relevant international organizations

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Requested Action:

In light of the above, international organizations are invited to submit the following to the Secretariat:

- any information on the removal or mitigation of perverse incentives, including case-studies and best-practices on the application of ways and means as well as any experiences with the application of the proposals annexed to decision VII/8;
- case-studies, best practices and other information on the use of non-monetary positive incentive measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as an initial step in the ongoing examination of incentive measures, including traditional laws and practices which generate positive incentives;
- case-studies, best practices and other information on the application of methodologies for the assessment of values of biodiversity and its functions, as well as other tools for prioritization in decision-making.

International organizations are kindly requested to submit this information at their earliest convenience but **no later than 15 October 2004** to allow sufficient time to prepare for the consideration of this matter at the tenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA)

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary