

Ref.: SCBD/STTM/LR/45602

17 November 2004

NOTIFICATION

Subject: Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Gaps and Inconsistencies in the International Regulatory Frameworks on Invasive Alien Species

**Auckland, New Zealand
16-20 May 2005**

In paragraph 9 of decision VII/13, the Conference of the Parties (COP) requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) to establish an ad hoc technical expert group (AHTEG) to address gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory framework at global and regional levels, in particular the specific gaps identified in paragraph 7 of the same decision, and make recommendations to SBSTTA prior to the ninth meeting of the COP for the full and effective implementation of Article 8(h) of the Convention. The expert group was requested to:

(a) Further clarify the gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory framework that are significantly hindering countries' efforts to manage threats arising from the introduction, establishment and spread from invasive alien species, focusing this analysis on the known major pathways for the spread of invasive alien species, and taking into account past efforts of relevant organizations and initiatives that have considered the issue;

(b) Develop practical options on how to address these gaps and inconsistencies, where possible within the context of existing international frameworks including identifying, if appropriate, those gaps which should be addressed at the national level, in order to achieve the full and effective implementation of Article 8(h), taking into account the costs/benefits of options for addressing the gaps and inconsistencies and the need for appropriate capacity-building at the national and regional level, to support this work; and

(c) Also, in the event that it identifies the potential need for standards or other measures, identify the appropriate standard-making authority, if any, or other appropriate options, so that the COP can consider referring the issue to the appropriate standard-making authority and/or any other course of action that it considers appropriate.

To: CBD National Focal Points



Following the generous offer made by the Government of New Zealand to fund and host the AHTEG, the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) will convene a meeting of the AHTEG from 16 to 20 May 2005 in Auckland, New Zealand. You are hereby invited to submit the names of one or two experts from your country who may be called upon to serve in the expert meeting on gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory frameworks on invasive alien species, together with a description of their relevant expertise, a curriculum vitae that clearly indicates the area of expertise of the nominee and their contact details. Nominees should be contacted by their National Focal Points and their availability verified prior to the submission of their names. A draft provisional agenda is attached to this notification.

The selection of experts will be based on expertise, taking into account gender balance and geographic distribution, and will be carried out using the following criteria:

- A high degree of professional competence and expertise relating to alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species, particularly in regards to the thematic areas addressed by the CBD, such as agricultural, dry and sub-humid land, forest, inland water, marine and mountain ecosystems.
- Skills should encompass management, policy, customs/quarantine and/ or legal focus.
- Familiarity with different existing regulatory frameworks; and
- Familiarity with the CBD process or other relevant intergovernmental processes such as the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

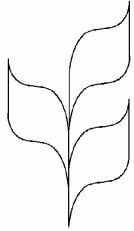
Nominations of experts should be sent to the Secretariat, by fax or electronic mail **no later than 31 December 2004**.

I wish to thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter and for your continued support of the work of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,

[original signed]

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary



**CONVENTION ON
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AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON
GAPS AND INCONSISTENCIES IN THE
INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY
FRAMEWORK WITH REGARD
TO INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES
Auckland, New Zealand, 16-20 May 2005

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Organizational matters:
 - 2.1 Adoption of the agenda;
 - 2.2 Election of officers;
 - 2.3 Organization of work.
3. Gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory framework and options to address them.
4. Need for standards or other measures.
5. Adoption of the report.
6. Other matters.
7. Closure of the meeting.
