

Ref.: SCBD/SEL/OJ/PD/45841

2 December 2004

**NOTIFICATION**

Dear Madam/Sir,

**Decision VII/14 on Biodiversity and Tourism: progress report .**

The purpose of this notification is to inform Parties on progress in the implementation of decision VII/14 on biodiversity and tourism.

In this decision, the Conference of the Parties adopted the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development. The Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary to draft a user's manual, in order to increase clarity and facilitate the detailed understanding of the guidelines and their implementation.

I am pleased to inform you that the Secretariat has started work on the preparation of the manual. With the financial assistance of the Government of Germany, the Secretariat has requested the assistance of a number of tourism experts to gather elements for the manual. The Secretariat has convened a working session with the experts to be held in the Bahamas, from 24 to 28 January 2005, to put together elements of the manual.

Once this initial stage is completed, the draft will be circulated among National Focal Points, indigenous and local communities organizations and relevant organizations, for comments and further advice, as well as case studies that could be useful for the further refinement of the manual.

I thank you for your support of the work of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan  
Executive Secretary

To: CBD focal points  
Relevant organizations