



Ref.: SCBD/BS/CS/WDY/jh/46727

24 January 2005

**NOTIFICATION**

Madam/Sir,

**Re: OPEN-ENDED TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON IDENTIFICATION  
REQUIREMENTS OF LMOs-FFP, 16-18 March 2005; Montreal, Canada.**

Reference is made to Decision BS-I/6 of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP). In paragraph 6 of the Decision, the COP-MOP established an open-ended technical expert group on identification requirements of living modified organisms that are intended for direct use as food or feed, or for processing.

I have the pleasure to advise you that the meeting of the Open-ended Technical Expert Group on Identification Requirements of Living Modified Organisms that are intended for direct use as Food or Feed, or for Processing will be held from 16 to 18 March 2005 in Montreal. The main purpose of this meeting will be to assist the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol in taking the decision referred to in paragraph 2(a) of Article 18 of the Protocol.

Please find attached herewith the provisional agenda, its annotations and other pre-session documentation for the meeting. These documents are also posted on the Secretariat's website, at [www.biodiv.org](http://www.biodiv.org).

Subject to the availability of contributions to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BI) established by decision BS-I/10 for facilitating participation of Parties in the Protocol process, the Secretariat will be in a position to finance the participation of **one representative** from each of the developing countries Parties to the Protocol, including the least developed countries, small island developing States, other developing countries and countries with economies in transition. The participation of additional representative(s) will have to be funded directly by your Government.

Please advise the Secretariat of the name(s) and coordinates of your government's officially designated representative(s) to this meeting at your earliest convenience but no later than **15 February 2005** to enable travel arrangements to be made **for eligible participants** in good time. In view of the budget constraints and in order to allow the maximum number of countries to participate in the meetings, the Secretariat would be using special air fare tickets for sponsored delegates, which impose restrictions with respect to the changing of passenger's name, travel dates and itinerary.

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

Hamdallah Zedan  
Executive Secretary

To: Cartagena Protocol National Focal Points  
CBD National Focal Points (where CPB National Focal Points have not yet been designated).

