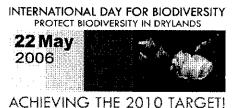


Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



Ref.: SCBD/EDM/AD/53400

NOTE VERBALE

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity has the honor to present its compliments to Permanent representatives accredited to the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi and would like to confirm that the Third meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP/3), and the Eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-8), will be held in Curitiba, Brazil, from 13 to 17 March 2006 and 20 to 31 March 2006, respectively.

The Secretariat wishes to draw attention to rule 18 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, which provides that the credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary if possible not later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the meeting. Rule 18 further provides that credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization. A sample format of the credentials letter is attached for information.

Pending receipt of credentials, the registration of representatives from Parties will be based upon the receipt of an official notification, preferably through a diplomatic channel, to be received no later than 12 March 2006 for COP-MOP/3 and 20 March 2006 for COP-8, indicating the names and titles of delegates to be accredited to these meetings. The official notification should be addressed to:

Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaf
Executive Secretary
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
413 St. Jacques St., Suite 800
Montreal, Quebec
H2Y 1N9
Canada

Fax: 514 288 6588

Email: secretariat@biodiv.org

Registration of representatives of international and intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations will be subject to the receipt by the Executive Secretary of an official letter before the opening of these meetings, providing the names and titles of their representatives.

Permanent Representatives accredited to the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi



The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity avails itself of this opportunity to present to the Permanent Representatives accredited to the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi the expression of its highest consideration.

Montreal, 31 January 2006

SAMPLE FORMAT FOR CREDENTIALS FOR THE THIRD MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY (COP-MOP/3)

CREDENTIALS

I, the undersigned [Head of State or Government or Minister of Foreign Affairs] hereby make known that the following delegation has been duly appointed, authorized and empowered to represent [country] at the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to be held in Curitiba, Brazil, from the thirteenth to the seventeenth of March in the year two thousand and six.

Head of Delegation [Name of Head of Delegation]
Alternate Head of Delegation [Name of Alternate Head of Delegation]
Representative(s) [Name(s) of representative(s)]

DONE in [city] on this [day] of [month] in the [year]

Seal and Signature

SAMPLE FORMAT FOR CREDENTIALS FOR THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (COP/8)

CREDENTIALS

I, the undersigned [Head of State or Government or Minister of Foreign Affairs] hereby make known that the following delegation has been duly appointed, authorized and empowered to represent [country] at the eight meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to be held in Curitiba, Brazil, from the twentieth to the thirty-first of March in the year two thousand and six.

Head of Delegation [Name of Head of Delegation]
Alternate Head of Delegation [Name of Alternate Head of Delegation]
Representative(s) [Name(s) of representative(s)]

DONE in [city] on this [day] of [month] in the [year]

Seal and Signature