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22 June 2009

## NOTIFICATION

### **Nominations to the Africa Regional Training of Trainers' Workshop on the Identification and Documentation of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, University of Bamako, Bamako, Mali, 14 – 18 September 2009.**

Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity is organizing a regional training of trainers' workshop on the identification and documentation of living modified organisms. The workshop will be held at the Laboratoire de Biologie Moléculaire Appliquée (LBMA), University of Bamako, Bamako, Mali, from **14 to 18 September 2009**.

The main objective of the workshop is to introduce customs officers to the requirements of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety regarding the identification and documentation of living modified organisms and to techniques and methodologies that may be used to ensure the implementation of these requirements. The primary target group is frontline customs officers from customs administrations in Africa. This includes border control officials, inspectors and other enforcement authorities, including as appropriate, policy makers and regulators involved in the area.

Accordingly, I have the pleasure to invite you to nominate one representative from your country to take part in the workshop.

Participants should be:

- Those with front line experience at customs control points who have experience overseeing imports of plants and animals or plants and animal specimen as well as bulk shipments of grains and seeds. The officer should be involved in the custom processes that handle cargo shipments into the respective countries as part of his/her daily duties;

**OR**

- Those with experience with or responsibility for introducing or formulating regulations or standards for the identification and detection of certain regulated goods and substances in general and living modified organisms in particular.

**To :** African Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety National Focal Points



The participants of this workshop are expected, after the workshop, to remain in their current positions so as to make use of their acquired skills. Further, participants who attend the workshop will be expected to share the knowledge and experience they gain with their colleagues at home. Individuals who have attended previous workshops organized by the Green Customs Initiative would be well-placed to attend.

Subject to the availability of funds, the participation of your nominated representative in the workshop will be covered by the Secretariat. This will include an economy ticket to the workshop and daily subsistence allowance (DSA) for the duration of the workshop.

The working languages of the workshop will be both French and English.

Nominations of participants should include the curriculum vitae of the nominee submitted through official letters to be addressed to the Executive Secretary of the Secretariat by fax to +1 514 288 6588, or by email as a scanned attachment to: [secretariat@cbd.int](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int).

**All nominations should be received by the Secretariat as soon as possible but no later than 31 July 2009**, in order to enable the Secretariat to finalize arrangements for the workshop in a timely manner.

Further details on the workshop will be made available on the Secretariat's website ([www.cbd.int](http://www.cbd.int)) in due course.

I would like to thank you for your kind cooperation and continued support of the work of the Protocol.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif  
Executive Secretary