



Ref.: SCBD/SEL/OJ/VN/SG/67911

Date: 6 July 2009

NOTIFICATION

Eighth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing (WG-ABS 8), Montreal, Canada, 9-15 November 2009

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to confirm that the eighth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing (WG-ABS 8) will be held at the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Headquarters in Montreal, from 9-15 November 2009.

The provisional agenda of the meeting is attached for your information and is available on the Secretariat's web site at: <http://www.cbd.int/meetings/>. Other documents for the meeting will be made available no later than sixty days prior to the meeting. The information note for participants will be made available as soon as practicable on the CBD web site at the same address.

In accordance with paragraphs 5 and 7 of decision IX/12 of the Conference of the Parties, the meeting will be held over the duration of seven consecutive days and will be preceded by two days of regional and interregional consultations, on 7-8 November 2009.

In addition, as for previous meetings, the Co-chairs of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing, Mr. Fernando Casas of Colombia and Mr. Timothy Hodges of Canada, will be holding open-ended informal consultations, as well as bilateral consultations, with interested delegates on 7-8 November 2009. Further information regarding the time and exact venue of these consultations will be communicated in due course.

In view of your interest in the issues addressed by the Working Group, I have the honour of inviting your organization to nominate a representative to attend. Designation of representatives, containing their name and contact details, should be 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, by 15 September 2009.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary

Attachment

To: UN Agencies, international organizations, IGOs, NGOs and stakeholders



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COP 9 MOP 4 Bonn Germany 2008

Annex

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters.
3. International regime on access and benefit-sharing: negotiation of operational text on:
 - 3.1 Nature;
 - 3.2 Traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources;
 - 3.3 Capacity-building;
 - 3.4 Compliance;
 - 3.5 Fair and equitable benefit-sharing;
 - 3.6 Access.
4. Other matters.
5. Adoption of the report.
6. Closure of the meeting.
