

Ref.: SCBD/OES/AD/OJ/69710

22 December 2009

NOTIFICATION

Ninth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing (WG ABS 9), Cali, Colombia, March 2010

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to confirm that, at the kind invitation of the Government of Colombia, the ninth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing (WG ABS 9) will be held in Cali, Colombia, on 22-28 March 2010.

The provisional agenda of the meeting is attached for your information and is available on the CBD website 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 website of the Convention 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 20-21 March 2010.

As decided by the Working Group at its eighth meeting, the Co-Chairs of the Working Group will convene a three-day inter-regional informal consultation on 16-18 March. Further information on the inter-regional informal consultation, to be provided by the Co-chairs, will be circulated as soon as possible.

Subject to the availability of funds in the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BZ), the Secretariat will finance the participation of one representative to the ninth meeting of the Working Group from each of the developing country Parties to the Convention, in particular, the least developed and small-island developing States amongst them, and Parties with economies in transition. In view of the budget constraints, and in order to allow the participation of a larger number of delegates, the Secretariat will be using special airfare tickets which impose restrictions with respect to the changing of passenger's name, travel dates and itinerary. Parties are invited to

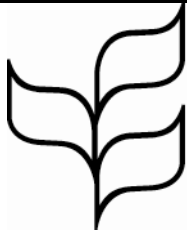
To: CBD and ABS National Focal Points

communicate to the Secretariat the name(s) and coordinates of their Government's officially designated representative(s) to the meeting **no later than 1st February 2010**.

Designation of representatives to attend the meeting should be submitted through official letter addressed to the Executive Secretary by fax to **+1 514 288 6588**, or by email as a scanned attachment to: secretariat@cbd.int.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary



**Convention on
Biological Diversity**

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/WG-ABS/9/1
22 December 2009

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

**AD HOC OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON
ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING**

Ninth meeting

Cali, Colombia, 22-28 March 2010

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters.
3. International Regime on Access and Benefit-sharing: consolidation of operational texts developed at the seventh and eighth meetings of the Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing.
4. Other matters.
5. Adoption of the report.
6. Closure of the meeting.
