

Ref.: SCBD/SEL/OJ/VN/SG/70701

12 February 2010

Subject: Information regarding funding for the Ninth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing (WG ABS-9) and the Co-Chairs Informal Inter-regional Consultation (CIIC), Cali, Colombia, March 2010

Dear Madam/Sir,

The purpose of this notification is to inform Parties of the impact of the process for the nomination of representatives in the Co-Chairs Informal Inter-regional Consultations (CIIC) on the issuance of funding letters for sponsored participants in the ninth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing (WGABS-9).

By Notification 2009-180, dated 22 December 2010, Parties were invited to communicate to the Secretariat their official designated representatives by 1 February 2010 to attend the WG ABS 9 to be held from 22-28 March 2010 in Cali, Colombia. As indicated in the notification, subject of the availability of funds in the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BZ), as per usual practice, 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.

By Notification 2010-13 of 22 January 2010 on the Co-Chairs Informal Inter-regional Consultation (CIIC) to be held on 16-18 March 2010 also in Cali, Colombia, Bureau members from each region were requested to provide the names of the eighth representatives of their respective regions to participate in the CIIC by 20 February 2010.

As non refundable tickets at special rates are being bought to ensure the participation of as many representatives of developing countries as possible, it would be very costly to change the dates of tickets should travel dates of participants change due to their participation in the CIIC. Therefore, the Secretariat is waiting to receive the names of the eight representatives per region before the funding letters can be sent out to sponsored participants in the Working Group meeting.

To: CBD and ABS National Focal Points

In view of the urgency, a letter by the Executive Secretary was sent out to the Bureau Members on Monday, 8 February 2010, asking for nominations to the CIIC as soon as possible. As soon as the Secretariat has received the nominations from the Bureau members, the funding letters for sponsored participants will be issued.

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

Ahmed Djoghla
Executive Secretary