

Ref.: SCBD/ITS/DC/LC/GT/71513

19 April 2010

NOTIFICATION
Regional Workshop for African Countries on the Fourth National Report

Dear Madam/Sir,

The Conference of the Parties (COP), in decision VIII/14, stated that Parties shall submit the fourth national report by 30 March 2009. In the same decision, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to facilitate the support to Parties for the preparation of national reports, including through organizing regional workshops in this regard.

However, our records show that your country is yet to submit the fourth national report and it is very important to have the reports from all the Parties for reviewing progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target, which will be undertaken at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to be held in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010.

In response to the request above, I am pleased to announce that, with the generous support of the Government of Japan, a workshop will be held from **31 May to 2 June 2010 in Nairobi, Kenya**, for some African countries and a few Asian countries, as listed below. I believe that this workshop will facilitate the early submission of the fourth national report of these countries.

Accordingly, I would like to invite you to nominate an officer or expert responsible for preparing your country's fourth national report, no later than **30 April 2010**. In doing so, I would like to emphasize that the nominee should be the officer or expert deeply involved in the preparation of the fourth national report and in a position to revise and/or finalize the report within four weeks after the workshop. To make this workshop as productive and useful as possible, all participating countries are required to provide to the Secretariat a draft of their fourth national report by **20 May 2010** and to also bring this draft to the workshop for review.

To: CBD National Focal Points of the following countries:
Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Gabon, Gambia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Lao DPR, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe

The working language of the workshop will be English. The French-speaking resource persons will be available to help those Francophone countries. The documents of the workshop will be made available in due course.

One participant from each country will be financially supported to attend this workshop. This covers round-trip economy-class air tickets, hotel accommodation and part of daily subsistence allowances to cover meals and incidentals.

I look forward to receiving your nomination and, more importantly, your country's fourth national report soon. We thank you very much for your support and cooperation.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary