



Convention on
Biological Diversity

INTERNATIONAL YEAR
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Ref.: SCBD/ABS/VN/SG/75486

29 March 2011

NOTIFICATION
Invitation to the Capacity-building Workshop on Access and Benefit-sharing
4-5 June 2011, Montreal, Canada

Dear Madam/Sir,

In decision X/1, paragraph 13, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to provide technical assistance to Parties, subject to the availability of financial resources, with a view to supporting the early ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

In paragraph 14 of the same decision, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) was invited to provide financial support to Parties to assist with early ratification of the Nagoya Protocol and its implementation.

Thanks to the financial support provided by the GEF, a series of awareness-raising and capacity-building activities will be carried out by the Secretariat over the next biennium in order to support the ratification and early entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol.

In addition, during COP 10 in Nagoya, the Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (IT-PGRFA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to further enhance collaboration in areas of mutual interest within their mandates. The Memorandum foresees, *inter alia*, jointly undertaking workshops, seminars and other events on access and benefit-sharing as well as in other areas.

Against this background, I am pleased to inform you that a capacity-building workshop on access and benefit-sharing will be jointly organized by the Secretariats of the CBD and the IT-PGRFA, from 4-5 June 2011, in Montreal, Canada, back-to-back with the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol (ICNP).

The aim of this first workshop is to build the capacity of governments to implement their obligations under the Protocol. The workshop will also draw on experiences in the implementation of the

To: CBD Focal Points, ABS Focal Points, ICNP Focal Points and indigenous and local community organizations

cc: Mr. Shakeel Bhatti, Secretary of the ITPGRFA



Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
United Nations Environment Programme
413 Saint-Jacques Street, Suite 800, Montreal, QC, H2Y 1N9, Canada
Tel : +1 514 288 2220, Fax : +1 514 288 6588
secretariat@cbd.int www.cbd.int



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COP 10 / MOP 5

IT-PGRFA and discuss ways to ensure that both legal instruments are implemented in a mutually supportive manner. Furthermore, the workshop will provide an opportunity for governments to discuss their experience with the implementation of access and benefit-sharing regionally and inter-regionally. Interpretation in English, French and Spanish will be provided. A draft agenda is attached for your information and available on the Secretariat website at the following address: www.cbd.int/icnp1/workshop.

Nomination of participants

In light of the above and further to notification 2011-056, dated 14 March 2011, Parties to the Convention as well as representatives from indigenous and local community organizations who have not yet informed the Secretariat of their interest to participate in the workshop are invited to send an official nomination to the Secretariat **by 8 April 2011**. Officially designated representatives of Parties and indigenous and local communities selected to receive financial support to participate in the first meeting of the ICNP will also be funded to participate in the capacity-building workshop and should therefore indicate their interest in participating in the workshop when registering for the meeting of the ICNP.

Please note that the Secretariat will only finance the participation of **one representative to both meetings** 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. Nominations should be submitted through an 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

Attachment



**Capacity-building Workshop on Access and Benefit-sharing
International Civil Aviation Organization, Montreal, 4-5 June 2011**

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Day 1: Morning session (10 am – 1 pm)

Opening Session (10 -10:30 am):

- Opening
 - The Workshop will be opened by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Secretary of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)
- Introduction to the Workshop
 - CBD and ITPGRFA Secretariats
- Methodology and Organization of the Work

Coffee break (10:00 –10:15)

General presentations by SCBD and ITPGRFA Secretariats (10:30-12:30)

- General presentation by SCBD on the obligations of Parties under the Nagoya Protocol
 - Measures related to access, benefit-sharing and compliance
 - Measures to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, including the establishment of National Focal Points, Competent National Authorities, the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House, awareness-raising and capacity-building

Question and answer period

- General presentation by the Secretariat of the ITPGRFA on the ITPGRFA
 - Access, benefit-sharing and compliance under the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing of the ITPGRFA
 - Experiences and lessons learned from implementing the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing

Question and answer period

General discussion and introduction to the regional meetings to be held in the afternoon (12:30-13:00)

Lunch (13:00 – 15:00)

Day 1: Afternoon session (3 pm – 6 pm)

Regional break-out groups (15:00 – 16:30):

- Africa
 - Asia
 - Latin America and the Caribbean
 - Central and Eastern Europe /Western Europe and Other Groups
- Topics for discussion by each group:
 - Exchange of experiences regarding measures to be adopted by Parties in order to implement their obligations under the Nagoya Protocol related to access, benefit-sharing and compliance as they relate to access to genetic resources and to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources
 - Exchange of experiences on measures taken to implement the ITPGRFA
 - How to ensure that the Nagoya Protocol and the ITPGRFA are implemented in a mutually supportive manner?

Plenary: (16:30 – 18:00)

- Each regional group to report back to plenary on findings, interregional discussions and sharing of experiences
- Conclusions/ways forward on the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and the ITPGRFA in a mutually supportive manner

Day 2 (10 am – 1 pm)

Regional break-out groups (10:00 – 11:30):

- Topic for discussion by each group: Tools to support implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and the ITPGRFA:
 - Designation of National Focal Points and Competent National Authorities
 - Establishment of the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House
 - What information is to be provided to the ABS Clearing-House
 - Processes needed at the national level
 - Awareness-raising
 - How to raise awareness to access and benefit-sharing, the Nagoya Protocol and the ITPGRFA at the national level?
 - Capacity-building
 - What is needed to assist Parties with implementation?
 - Lessons learned from implementation of the ITPGRFA
 - How to ensure that the Nagoya Protocol and the ITPGRFA are implemented in a mutually supportive manner?

Plenary: (11:30 – 13:00)

- Report back of regional groups to plenary:

- Presentation of findings from each group
- General discussion and interregional exchange of experiences

- Conclusions/way forward on each issue:
 - Designation of National Focal Points and Competent National Authorities
 - The Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House
 - Awareness-raising
 - Capacity-building

- Conclusions of the Workshop

- Closing of the Workshop