



Convention on
Biological Diversity

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19 May 2011

NOTIFICATION

GEF Support for the Preparation of the Second National Reports on the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to forward to you the communication from Mrs. Monique Barbut, Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) confirming the approval of GEF funding to enable eligible Parties prepare their second national reports on the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

In view of the fast approaching deadline of 30 September 2011 for the submission of the second national reports, I wish to urge all the eligible Parties to contact the United Nations Environment Programme as soon as possible to make the necessary arrangements for accessing the funding.

In the meantime, I would also like to urge the eligible Parties to initiate the necessary preparations for the process, including identification of the national consultant to assist with the process and initiate the arrangements for the national consultations, so that the process can be expedited when the funds are disbursed. I would further like to draw your attention to paragraph 5 of decision BS-V/14 which urges Parties to prepare their reports through a consultative process involving all relevant stakeholders.

I wish also to reiterate the importance of completing and submitting the second national reports before the deadline of **30 September 2011**. As indicated in the previous notifications, a number of processes under the Protocol, including the second assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol and the comprehensive review of the capacity-building Action Plan will depend on the information provided in the second national reports. The information will also be used to establish the baseline against which progress in the implementation of the new Strategic Plan of the Protocol will be measured.

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

Yours sincerely,

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary

To: Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB) National Focal Points
CBD National Focal Points (where CPB focal points have not yet been designated)

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COP 10 / MOP 5



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

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May 18, 2011

Dear colleagues:

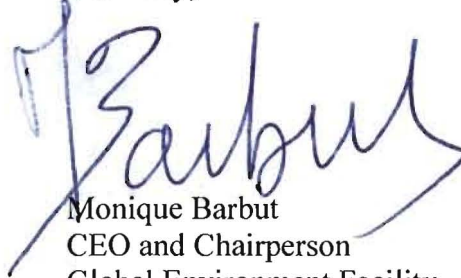
In my letter to you on April 1, I notified you of the GEF Secretariat's plans to assist GEF-eligible Parties meet their reporting obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) during GEF-5.

I am pleased to inform you that today I have approved three umbrella medium-size projects to expedite disbursement of the small grants (\$20,000 per country) required for countries to complete their Second National Biosafety Report. These resources are drawn from the biodiversity focal-area set aside and do not come from your STAR allocation.

The three projects will be implemented by UNEP and will cover all GEF-eligible countries.

Please contact UNEP directly on how to access these funds. The contact person at UNEP is: Alex Owusu-Biney, Portfolio Manager (Biosafety), Division of Environmental Policy Implementation, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Tel: +254 20 7624066, Fax: +254 20 7624041/42 and Email: Alex.Owusu-Biney@unep.org.

Sincerely,



Monique Barbut
CEO and Chairperson
Global Environment Facility