



Ref.: SCBD/ABS/VN/SG/77503

9 September 2011

NOTIFICATION
Invitation to a Capacity-building Workshop on Access and Benefit-sharing
29-30 October 2011, Montreal, Canada

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that a Capacity-building Workshop on Access and Benefit-sharing will be held on 29-30 October 2011, in Montreal, Canada, back to back with the Seventh meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions (WG-8(j)-7). The workshop is being organized by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in collaboration with the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (International Treaty).

It is part of a series of awareness-raising and capacity-building activities organised thanks to the support provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through a medium sized project implemented by the UNEP and executed by SCBD to support the early ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

This workshop will provide a forum for Parties and indigenous and local community representatives participating in the seventh meeting of the Working group on Article 8(j) and related provisions to discuss the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, in particular as it relates to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, as well as capacity-building needs and priorities. It will also provide an opportunity to learn from the experience of the International Treaty in particular with respect to support provided to indigenous and local communities in the implementation of the International Treaty.

The workshop follows the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretariats of the CBD and the International Treaty 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.

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

Copy to: Mr. Shakeel Bhatti, Secretary of the ITPGRFA



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Nomination of participants

In light of the above, Parties to the Convention as well as representatives from indigenous and local community organizations who wish to participate in the workshop are invited to send an official nomination to the Secretariat by **30 September 2011**. Officially designated representatives of Parties and indigenous and local communities selected to receive financial support to participate in the WG-8(j)-7 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 WG-8(j)-7 meeting.

Further details regarding the capacity-building workshop, including the agenda, will be made available in the coming weeks.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary