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23 January 2012

NOTIFICATION

Sixteenth Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-16) Montréal, Canada from 30 April to 5 May 2012

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the sixteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-16) will be held from 30 April to 5 May 2012 at the Headquarters of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), in Montréal, Canada. Please note that, following the decision made by the SBSTTA Bureau, the meeting is scheduled to close on Saturday, 5 May 2012 at 1 p.m. to accommodate the heavy agenda. It will be followed by the fourth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention (WGRI-4), from 7 to 11 May 2012.

I am pleased to attach herewith the provisional agenda approved by the SBSTTA Bureau, which is also available on the meeting page <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=SBSTTA-16>, along with the annotated agenda. The pre-session and other relevant documentation for the meeting, as well as the Information Note for Participants, will be made available as soon as possible. Advance copies of documents and documents for peer review are being made available at <http://www.cbd.int/sbstta16/peerreview>. Parties are encouraged to review these documents and to send comments to secretariat@cbd.int. The deadline for submission of comments is specified on the review page.

In accordance with rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the designation of representatives to attend the SBSTTA-16 meeting should be submitted through an official letter to be addressed to the CBD Executive Secretary, and sent to the Secretariat by fax at +1 514-288-6588 or as a scanned email attachment to secretariat@cbd.int as soon as possible, but **no later than 30 March 2012**. Please note that an **on-line system of pre-registration**

To: CBD National Focal Points, SBSTTA Focal Points



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will be available as of 1 February 2012 by means of an exclusive and unique internet link that will be provided, in a separate e-mail, to the SBSTTA Focal Points and the CBD National Focal Points.

Please note that subject to the availability of contributions to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BZ), the Secretariat will be in a position to finance the participation of **only one representative** from each of the developing countries Parties to the Convention, including the least developed countries, small island developing States, other developing countries, and countries with economies in transition, **for both meetings, i.e. SBSTTA-16 and WGRI-4**. Eligible Parties to the Convention wishing to solicit such assistance are kindly requested to advise the Secretariat at their earliest convenience, but **no later than 9 March 2012**, of the name and coordinates of the Government's officially designated representative to benefit from such financial support. It will not be possible for the Secretariat to respond positively to request for funding received after the deadline.

In view of the increased security procedures for travellers and budget constraints, and in order to allow the maximum number of countries to participate in the meeting, the Secretariat will be using special airfare tickets for sponsored delegates that impose restrictions with regard to changing the passenger's name, travel date and itinerary. In this respect, it will not be possible for the Secretariat to accommodate name changes if they are received after **9 March 2012**.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary



CBD



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SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Sixteenth meeting

Montreal, 30 April - 5 May 2012

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters:
 - 2.1. Election of officers;
 - 2.2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Ways and means to improve the effectiveness of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in light of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and issues, modalities and options for collaboration with the intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services (IPBES).
4. Global Biodiversity Outlook: preparation of the fourth edition.
5. Island biodiversity: in-depth review of the implementation of the programme of work.
6. Marine and coastal biodiversity:
 - 6.1. Ecologically or biologically significant marine areas;
 - 6.2. Addressing adverse impacts of human activities on marine and coastal biodiversity, including coral bleaching, ocean acidification, fisheries, and underwater noise;
 - 6.3. Marine spatial planning, marine protected areas and voluntary guidelines for the consideration of biodiversity in environmental assessments in marine and coastal areas.
7. Biodiversity and climate change:
 - 7.1. Advice on the application of relevant REDD+ safeguards for biodiversity, and on possible indicators and potential mechanisms to monitor or assess impacts on biodiversity of REDD+ measures;

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- 7.2. Integration of biodiversity considerations into climate change-related activities, including addressing gaps in knowledge and information;
- 7.3. Geo-engineering: impacts on biodiversity and gaps in regulatory mechanisms.
8. Global Strategy for Plant Conservation: progress in implementing decision X/17.
9. Global Taxonomy Initiative: revised draft comprehensive capacity-building strategy.
10. New and emerging issues.
11. Biofuels and biodiversity: progress in implementing decision X/37.
12. Incentive measures: progress in implementing decision X/44.
13. Reports on collaborative work in the areas of agriculture, forests and health.
14. Other matters.
15. Adoption of the report.
16. Closure of the meeting.
