



Ref.: SCBD/ITS/ODM/79013

17 February 2012

NOTIFICATION

Conservation Commons' draft for comments: A review of barriers to the sharing of biodiversity data and information, with recommendations for eliminating them

Dear Madam/Sir,

At the tenth Conference of the Parties (COP 10), several decisions highlighted the importance of sharing biodiversity data and information for the implementation of the Convention:

(a) In paragraph 2 of decision X/7 on examination of outcome-oriented goals and targets and associated indicators, the Conference of the Parties recognized the need to continue strengthening the ability to monitor biodiversity at all levels, including through "identifying and addressing barriers that limit the availability of data, including through the work of the Conservation Commons".

(b) In paragraph 5(c) of decision X/15 on scientific and technical cooperation and the clearing-house mechanism, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to "explore, in collaboration with Parties, other Governments, relevant partners and members of the Conservation Commons, ways to promote free and open access to data and information for conservation purposes, and report back on progress at the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties".

(c) In decision X/2 on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, Aichi Biodiversity Target 19 states that "by 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied".

To: CBD, SBSTTA and CHM National Focal Points

Pursuant to these decisions, I am pleased to invite Parties to provide, **before 25 March 2012**, their views and comments on the document entitled "*A review of barriers to the sharing of biodiversity data and information, with recommendations for eliminating them*" (available online at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2012/ntf-2012-030-chm-cc-barriers-draft-en.doc>) which was kindly drafted by the Conservation Commons. The feedback received will be taken into account when finalizing the document.

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

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary