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4 February 2013

NOTIFICATION

**Invitation for nomination to the
Asia-Pacific regional training workshop on public awareness, education and participation
concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs
25-29 March 2013, Hanoi, Viet Nam**

Dear Madam/Sir,

At its fifth meeting, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP) adopted a programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms (LMOs) and invited Parties to use it to implement Article 23 of the Protocol and to share their experiences and lessons learned (Decision BS-V/13). The decision also called for the provision of assistance to enable developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to implement the programme of work.

I am pleased to announce that the Secretariat will conduct a regional training workshop for Asia-Pacific, on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs from 25-29 March 2013, in Hanoi, Viet Nam. The Secretariat will also use this opportunity to raise awareness on the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress in line with COP-MOP/6 decision BS-VI/11 where it encouraged Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to ratify or accede to it as soon as possible and to start implementing it pending its entry into force.

The objective of the workshop is to introduce participants to relevant concepts, tools and instruments and to enable them to share relevant experiences and lessons learned and to discuss strategies for enhancing regional and subregional cooperation in the implementation of the programme of work. The last segment of the workshop aims to raise understanding of the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress and to explore possible opportunities and challenges relating to its ratification and implementation. The programme and documentation for the workshop will be available on the Protocol website (<http://bch.cbd.int/protocol>) in due course. The workshop will be conducted in English.

To: Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety National Focal Points in the Asia-Pacific Region



Convention on
Biological Diversity

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



I, therefore, have the pleasure to invite Parties and other Governments in the Asia-Pacific region to nominate one participant with expertise related to the implementation of Article 23 of the Protocol. Participants will be selected on a first-come, first-served basis.

In order to enable the Secretariat to finalize arrangements for the workshop in a timely manner you are kindly requested to submit your nomination as soon as possible but **no later than 22 February 2013**. Nominations must be submitted by fax to +1 514 288 6588, or by email to: secretariat@cbd.int.

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

Brulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary