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15 February 2013

## NOTIFICATION<sup>1</sup>

### **Regional workshop for Latin America on updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans and Regional workshop for Latin America on the clearing-house mechanism (CHM)**

Dear Madam/Sir,

At its eleventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 11), requested Parties and other governments that had not yet done so, to develop and to revise/update their national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) in line the framework of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2012-2020 and its target 17. In addition, COP 10 requested that Parties develop national and regional targets using the Strategic Plan as a flexible framework.

COP 11 requested the Executive Secretary to continue to promote and facilitate activities to strengthen the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the progress in the achievement of the Aichi Targets at national, subregional and regional levels.

In support of this process, I am pleased to inform you that, thanks to the continuing funding from the Government of Japan, and in collaboration with the Alexander von Humboldt Institute and the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Colombia, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD), with support from the other partners of the "NBSAP Forum", is organizing the two following workshops for Latin America which will take place in parallel from 6 to 10 May 2013 in Villa de Leyva, Colombia:

- **Regional workshop for Latin America on updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs);**
- **Regional workshop for Latin America on the clearing-house mechanism (CHM).**

The purpose of the workshops is to address various issues that countries in the region have been encountering while updating their NBSAPs and developing their national clearing-house mechanisms

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<sup>1</sup> It is not an official translation. It is a courtesy of the Secretariat.

To the CBD and CHM National Focal Points of the following countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela



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](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int) [www.cbd.int](http://www.cbd.int)



(CHM) in support of NBSAP implementation, as requested by decision X/15 of COP 10. These issues will be defined with the designated participants, partners and the host Government.

I am therefore pleased to invite you to nominate three representatives of your Government to participate in these workshops. When submitting the three participants, Parties should take into account the following criteria to select its representatives:

- The first participant should be directly responsible for the development, updating and/or implementation of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan;
- The second participant, preferably from another Ministry, should be in a position to support the national development, updating and/or implementation of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan through the mainstreaming of biodiversity into national development and poverty reduction strategies and plans as well as into relevant sectors;
- The third participant should be the person in charge of the development of the national clearing-house mechanism (CHM).

All participants should be in a position to translate the capacity gained into concrete actions in support of national implementation.

The nominations should be sent through an official letter addressed to the CBD Executive Secretary signed by yourself, or a senior government official, and should contain each nominee's name and full contact information, including email addresses. This letter can either be scanned and emailed to [secretariat@cbd.int](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int) or faxed to the Secretariat at + 1 514 288 6588, **no later than 22 March 2013**. The letter should also indicate the person nominated to attend the CHM workshop.

Both workshops will take place in Spanish and the relevant documents will be made available in due time.

I look forward to receiving your nominations and thank you in advance for your cooperation and support to the work of the Convention.

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

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias  
Executive Secretary