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27 March 2013

NOTIFICATION

Call for nominations for the second phase of the High-level Panel on Global Assessment of Resources for implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity

Dear Madam/Sir,

In accordance with Recommendation 4/2 of the fourth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review and Implementation of the Convention (WGRI 4), the High-Level Panel (HLP), presented its initial findings on the Global Assessment of Resources for Implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/14/Add2) to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 11). The High-level Panel, composed of eight experts and chaired by Mr. Pavan Sukhdev, former leader of The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB), submitted the preliminary report as an information document (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/INF/20).

Parties welcomed the initial findings and invited the HLP to broaden its composition and continue its work using a bottom-up approach, and to present its findings to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Para. 24, Decision XI/4). With the generous financial support provided by the United Kingdom and the European Commission, the Secretariat is now organizing the second phase of the HLP (see enclosed draft Concept Note).

The role of the High-level Panel will be to:

- (i) Provide strategic leadership and guidance to the research and identify the priorities within it;
- (ii) Work directly with the researchers and the Secretariat to draw out key messages from its research;
- (iii) Engage with other relevant institutions and initiatives to secure the cooperation and provision of evidence for analysis;
- (iv) Engage with Parties to raise awareness of the study and its findings; and
- (v) Assume responsibility for the key findings and recommendations of the second phase of the HLP and summarise these (where appropriate, with the support of the CBD secretariat and researchers) in a draft report for consideration at WGRI-5 and in a final report for COP-12.

Recognizing that benefits of investments vary greatly between locations, the research underpinning the second phase will build upon a broader range of evidence from initiatives taking place at smaller geographic scales. To achieve this, relevant international agencies which fund and work with relevant initiatives, such as the World Bank, United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Global Environment Facility (GEF), will be invited to sit as official observers on the HLP. As requested by Parties, bottom-up initiatives will be embedded in any

To CBD National Focal Points



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research conducted in the work programme of the second phase. The second phase of the HLP will also include interactions with researchers, using mostly electronic communication, including teleconferences.

Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations are therefore invited to nominate, or re-nominate (see Annex 1), experts to serve on the second phase of the HLP, which will consist of up to 15 experts, and provide the Secretariat with the name, coordinates and curriculum *vitae* of their selected experts via an official letter. Nominees need to be recognized experts in finance and environmental sciences, in particular issues relating to biological diversity. Candidates with experience in conducting similar work on global assessments for environmental or sustainable development programmes, for the CBD or other UN Offices, will be an asset. Nominations/re-nominations should be received no later than **20 April 2013**.

Based on the nominations received, the COP Bureau will select experts for the second phase of the HLP. As per usual practice, the experts will be selected on the basis of their expertise and the need to ensure fair and equitable geographic representation and gender balance.

Three meetings will be organized back to back with relevant conferences. The first physical meeting of the second phase of the High-level Panel will be tentatively held on 31 May - 1 June 2013 in Trondheim, Norway, following the Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity. Information on the Conference is available at: <http://www.dirnat.no/tk13/>.

Relevant documentation can be found on the CBD website at the following addresses: <http://www.cbd.int/cop11/doc/>; and <http://www.cbd.int/financial/hlp-gar/>. Information on upcoming HLP meetings, including the list of experts for the second phase of the HLP, will be made available in due course.

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

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary

Enclosure

**Annex 1: High-Level Panel Members
Phase 1**

Mr. Pavan Sukhdev (Chairman)	Chief Executive Officer GIST Advisory India
Dr. Kevin Urama	Executive Director African Technology Policy Studies Network Kenya
Dr. Zakri Abdul Hamid	Science Adviser to the Prime Minister; Federal Government Administrative Centre Putrajaya, Malaysia
Mr. Carlos Manuel Rodriguez	Vice-President of International Policy - Conservation International Costa Rica
Dr. Ussif Rashid Sumaila	Director and Professor, Fisheries Center, Fisheries Economic Research Unit , University of British Columbia, Fisheries Centre, Canada
Dr. Zhu Liucan	Director, Foreign Economic Cooperation Office Ministry of Environmental Protection China
Dr. Robert Watson	Chief Scientific Advisor, DEFRA United Kingdom
Dr. Georgina Mace	Professor of Biodiversity and Ecosystems University College London United Kingdom