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7 November 2013

## NOTIFICATION

### Preparation and Submission of the Fifth National Report to CBD

Dear Madam/Sir,

Pursuant to Notification 2013-019 of 26 February 2013, on initiating the preparation of the fifth national reports, I would like to remind you that, in accordance with decision X/10, this report is due by **31 March 2014**.

As you know, the fifth national report will provide a key source of information for a mid-term review of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020), which will be undertaken at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 12) in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, in October 2014. This review will be critical to developing a roadmap for enhancing actions to implement the Strategic Plan and achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The fifth national report will also contribute to an assessment of the contribution of biodiversity towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

In addition, the fifth national reports will be a key source of information for the preparation of the fourth edition of Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-4), which will be launched during COP 12. In this regard, decision XI/3 urges all Parties to submit their fifth national report by the deadline and to contribute to the development of GBO-4 by sharing advanced draft reports, examples or cases for possible inclusion in the fourth edition. Guidance on the type of information that Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, including indigenous and local communities, may wish to contribute to GBO-4 is accessible at: <http://www.cbd.int/gbo/gbo4/GBO-4-InformationNeeds.pdf>.

Furthermore, in accordance with decision X/10, a series of capacity development workshops for developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing states, is being organized by the Secretariat to support fifth national report preparation in these countries. This series of workshops began early in 2013 and is supported by the Governments of Japan, Republic of Korea, The Netherlands and other donors, and conducted in collaboration with a range of partners. Documents and reports for these workshops can be accessed at: <http://www.cbd.int/nr5/default.shtml>. Three more workshops have been planned in the coming months for countries belonging to the following regions: Latin America, Middle East and North Africa and Central Asia, Central and Eastern Europe.

To further facilitate the preparation of the fifth national report, a portal has been developed by the Secretariat (<http://www.cbd.int/nr5/>) at which the reporting guidelines, resource materials (e.g. resource manual in all UN languages, training module, web links to resources provided by relevant organizations and institutions) can be accessed.

To: CBD National Focal Points



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Biological Diversity

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Finally, further to the pilot online reporting system presented by the Secretariat during SBSTTA 17, which will allow countries to report on a more regular basis on progress made towards achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and implementing their NBSAPs, a separate notification will be issued in this regard once the online reporting system is operationalized.

Should you require support from the Secretariat and/or other partners in regard to preparing your fifth national report, please do not hesitate to inform us of your needs.

I look forward to receipt of your fifth national report no later than 31 March 2014.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation for the work of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias  
Executive Secretary