



Ref.: SCBD/TSI/RS/LZ/82827

19 November 2013

NOTIFICATION
Second Dialogue Seminar on Scaling up Finance for Biodiversity
9-12 April 2014 – Quito, Ecuador

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that the Second Dialogue Seminar on Scaling up Finance for Biodiversity will be organized by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and hosted by the Government of Ecuador on **9-12 April 2014** in Quito, Ecuador. The meeting will be convened jointly by the Governments of Ecuador, India, Japan, Norway, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Uganda and the European Commission.

You may recall that the first Dialogue Seminar, held in March 2012, discussed the importance of scaling up finance for biodiversity, in particular biodiversity financing mechanisms, instruments and safeguards. Held under the Chatham House Rule, the seminar provided a platform for participants to share their views and identify areas of convergence. The summary report is available at: www.cbd.int/financial/quitoseminar.

In its Decision XI/4, para 20, the Conference of the Parties noted the reports of the informal seminar dialogue, which was organized to enhance understanding among participants with a view to facilitating discussions at the fourth meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention and the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The Second Dialogue Seminar (2014), following a similar approach, will focus on the implementation of Aichi Targets 2, 3 and 20 in the context of Decision XI/4, and its three sections on target-setting, review of the implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization and the roadmap. Particular attention will be given to the different ways of assessing the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services and the mechanisms to integrate these values into decision-making.

The objectives of the seminar are to:

- Enhance mutual understanding of the different views and perspectives on financing for biodiversity that are otherwise difficult to achieve in formal negotiations;
- Review the importance of integrating the values of biodiversity, and, in this context, explore opportunities for incorporating positive incentive measures;
- Share best practices and lessons learned on potential risks and benefits of biodiversity financial mechanisms, as well as principles and safeguards in their use;
- Exchange country experiences in mobilizing financial and non-financial resources and, in this regard, identify gaps and needs for the effective implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization; and
- Build synergies with the Rio Conventions, Ministries of External Affairs, poverty-related issues, the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

To: CBD National Focal Points



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The dialogue seminar will not negotiate recommendations, though an output reflecting the enhanced understanding of both convergence and divergence will be presented to WGRI-5 and COP-12. The dialogue seminar will include a mix of keynote presentations, case studies and small group discussions.

A Steering Committee for the dialogue seminar has been established to provide overall guidance on the organization and preparation of the dialogue seminar. The membership of the Steering Committee consists of representatives of the convener countries, in addition to SwedBio at the Stockholm Resilience Centre, IUCN - Sur and the CBD Secretariat.

The majority of participants will be representatives of national governments, taking into account the need for fair and equitable regional representation. The seminar will also include a variety of key actors active in the field of finance for biodiversity from international organizations, the academic community and civil society.

In this regard, I invite your government to nominate **one** representative to participate in this dialogue seminar. The nominee should either be the CBD Focal Point, CBD Resource Mobilization Focal Point or other senior officer responsible for implementing the Strategy for Resource Mobilization in your country. The nominee should be comfortable working in English. Limited interpretation will be provided in Spanish. Nominations should be made as soon as possible and no later than **20 December 2013** to secretariat@cbd.int.

The seminar will be held with the generous financial and in-kind support of the Governments of Ecuador, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) through SwedBio, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the Government of Japan and the European Commission.

The Secretariat will be in a position to finance the participation of one representative from each of the developing countries Parties to the Convention, including the least developed countries, small island developing States, other developing countries, and countries with economies in transition. Eligible Parties to the Convention wishing to solicit such assistance are kindly requested to advise the Secretariat at their earliest convenience, but no later than the above-mentioned date, of the name and coordinates of the Government's officially designated representative to benefit from such financial support.

Further information on the dialogue seminar will be posted on CBD website as it becomes available at: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=DS-FB-02>.

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

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary