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25 February 2014

NOTIFICATION

Submission of the Fifth National Report to CBD

Dear Madam/Sir,

Further to the notification issued in November 2013 (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2013/ntf-2013-098-nr5-en.pdf>), I would like to remind Parties that, in accordance with decision X/10, your country's fifth national report is due by **31 March 2014**.

Parties are urged to ensure that the fifth national report will be submitted by this deadline, as the fifth national report will provide a key source of information for the 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 this year. This review is critical to the development of a roadmap for enhancing actions to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. In addition, the fifth national reports are also a key source of information for the preparation of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-4), which will be launched during COP 12 as well.

If you anticipate difficulty in submitting the final report by the above-mentioned deadline, due to time needed for domestic consultations and approvals, it would be appreciated if you could inform the Secretariat in advance indicating the estimated date of submission. Meanwhile, it would also be appreciated if advance draft reports or a summary of key findings from the report, and/or interesting case studies or examples, could be shared with the Secretariat to allow us to extract relevant information for preparing reviews for the upcoming meetings (WGRI 5, SBSTTA 18, COP 12) as well as for possible inclusion in the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook.

Considering that the fifth national reports will be used primarily to assess progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for 2011-2020 and achieving the 2020 Aichi Targets, it is important to re-emphasize that Parties provide an in-depth analysis of progress made in this regard, by following the guidance contained in decision X/10 and the guidelines for the fifth national report.

Also, as requested in decision X/10, the Secretariat has been providing support to the preparation of the fifth national report, in collaboration with its partners at different levels. With the support of the Governments of Japan, Republic of Korea, The Netherlands and other donors, a series of capacity development workshops (totalling eight regional workshops held in 2013 and 2014) has been organized to support the preparation of the fifth national reports. The documents and the reports of these workshops can be accessed at <http://www.cbd.int/nr5/default.shtml>. In addition, the Secretariat has developed a portal for the fifth national report on the Convention's website (<http://www.cbd.int/nr5/>) which contains guidelines for the fifth national report and many resource materials for the preparation of the fifth national report, such as a resource manual (in all UN languages), a training module and web links to resources provided by relevant organizations and institutions.

To: CBD National Focal Points



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If you need additional support from the Secretariat and/or other partners to help you finalize and submit the fifth national report in time, please do not hesitate to inform us.

We are looking forward to receiving your fifth national report before or by 31 March 2014. I thank you for your support and cooperation.

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

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary