



Ref.: SCBD/BS/CG/UN/DA/83367

25 March 2014

NOTIFICATION

Invitation to Participate in the Online Forum on Public Participation Concerning Living Modified Organisms

Dear Madam/Sir,

In its decision BS-V/13, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety adopted a programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms (LMOs) for the period 2011-2015. In paragraph 7 of the same decision, the Executive Secretary was requested to establish an online forum and other appropriate means to facilitate exchange of information and experiences on the implementation of the programme of work.

I am pleased to inform you that, pursuant to the above decision, the Public Participation Forum has been launched in the Biosafety Clearing-House at http://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/portal_art23/pp_forum2014.shtml. The forum will include an online discussion with a series of themes. The online discussion will focus on “Techniques for Engaging the Public”. The outcomes will be summarized in a background document for the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP 8).

The online forum will **commence on 28 April** and **end on 9 May 2014**. Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations are invited to nominate individuals involved in, or responsible for, promoting public participation to participate in the online forum. Submissions should be made to secretariat@cbd.int.

I also wish to invite you to review and exchange any case studies on best practices and lessons learned in promoting public participation concerning LMOs in the resource section for the online forum at http://bch.cbd.int/onlineconferences/portal_art23/pp_resources.shtml

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

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary

To: Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB) National Focal Points
CBD National Focal Points (where CPB focal points have not yet been designated)
Biosafety Clearing House National Focal Points
Relevant Organizations



Convention on
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