



Ref.: SCBD/BS/CG/ET/mac/83958

25 September 2014

## NOTIFICATION

### **Nominations for the West Asia and North Africa Sub-regional Capacity-Building Workshop on Mainstreaming Biosafety into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and Resource Mobilisation Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 16 – 20 November 2014**

Madam/Sir,

In its decision BS-V/16, the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety adopted a Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (2011-2020) and invited Parties and other Governments to review and align, as appropriate, their relevant national plans and programmes, including the national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) with the Strategic Plan and mobilise adequate human and financial resources to expedite its implementation.

Pursuant to that decision, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity together with the Government of the United Arab Emirates, through its Ministry of Environment and Water, is organizing the West Asia and North Africa sub-regional capacity-building workshop on Mainstreaming Biosafety into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and Resource Mobilisation, to be held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates from 16 to 20 November 2014. The workshop is funded by the Government of Japan, through the Japan Biodiversity Fund.

The goal of the workshop is enhance the capacity of Parties in the West Asia and North Africa sub-region to advance the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and its Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress by effectively integrating biosafety into NBSAPs and national development plans, in line with the Strategic Plan for the Protocol and the relevant Aichi Biodiversity Targets. It also aims to increase the capacity of Parties to identify and mobilize sufficient and predictable resources for the implementation of the Protocol and facilitate public awareness, education and participation concerning the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs. The workshop will also enable participants to identify opportunities and means to foster regional cooperation.

Specifically, it is expected that at the end of the workshop, the participants would be able to:

(a) Identify ways and means and opportunities to improve the integration of biosafety into NBSAPs and national development plans.

To: Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety National Focal Points for: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

Cc: National Focal Points for the Convention on Biological Diversity



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(b) Define strategies for mobilisation of additional resources to support the implementation of the Protocol and incorporate them into the national resource mobilization plans being developed in the context of the NBSAP revision process, taking into account the Strategy for Resource Mobilization in support of the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention;

(c) Identify good practices and lessons learned in the implementation of the programme of work on public awareness, education and participation concerning LMOs and how the implementation of the programme of work contributes to the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 1; and

(d) Articulate the objective and core requirements of the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress and identify measures that could be taken at the national level to ratify and implement the Supplementary Protocol.

Accordingly, I have the pleasure to invite Parties from the West Asia and North Africa sub-region, to nominate a participant involved in the development and implementation of national biosafety measures and in the NBSAP review/update process, to participate in the workshop. The Secretariat will cover the cost of participation of **one** official nominee from each Party. This will include an economy class ticket to travel to and from Dubai, and daily subsistence for the duration of the workshop.

In order to enable the Secretariat to finalize arrangements for the workshop in a timely manner, nominations must be submitted through an official letter addressed to the Executive Secretary by fax to +1 514 288 6588, or by email at [secretariat@cbd.int](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int). Nominations should be received as soon as possible but no later than **10 October 2014**.

The workshop will be conducted in English with simultaneous interpretation into Arabic. Further details on the workshop will be made available on the Secretariat's website ([www.cbd.int](http://www.cbd.int)) in due course.

I would like to thank you for your kind cooperation and continued support of the work of the Protocol.

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

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias  
Executive Secretary