



Ref.: SCBD/ABS/SBG/NAD/84003

4 November 2014

**NOTIFICATION**  
**Call for nominations for the Informal Advisory Committee to the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-house**

Madam/Sir,

Article 14 of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing establishes an Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House (ABS Clearing-House) as part of the clearing-house mechanism under Article 18, paragraph 3 of the Convention. At its first meeting, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol (COP-MOP 1), in decision I/2, paragraph 2, established an informal advisory committee (IAC) to assist the Executive Secretary with the implementation of the ABS Clearing-House and to provide technical guidance with respect to the resolution of technical issues arising from its ongoing development. Parties established that the IAC shall be composed of 15 experts, primarily from Parties, and selected on the basis of nominations provided by Parties taking into account regional balance, relevant experience and engagement in the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-house.

In paragraph 3 of the same decision, Parties decided that the IAC will hold at least one meeting in the coming intersessional period, as well as informal online discussions as needed, and address technical issues related to feedback received, including issues related to the internationally recognized certificate of compliance and checkpoint communiqué, and report on the outcomes of its work to the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol. The dates for the meeting will be communicated in due course.

Accordingly, Parties are invited to nominate one expert each as soon as possible **but no later than 15 December 2014**. Nominated experts should have knowledge of the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit-sharing and relevant experience and engagement in the ABS Clearing-House. The nomination should be in the form of an official letter addressed to the CBD Executive Secretary together with the *curriculum vitae* and a cover letter answering the questions contained in the attachment to this notification from the nominated expert. The letter should be signed by the National Focal Point for the Nagoya Protocol, or a senior government official, and should contain the name and full contact information of the nominee, including email address. This letter can either be scanned and emailed to [secretariat@cbd.int](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int) or faxed to the Secretariat at +1 514 288 6588.

Based on the nominations received, the Executive Secretary will select members for the informal advisory committee on the basis of their expertise, experience and engagement in the ABS Clearing-House, the need to ensure fair and equitable geographical distribution, as well as gender balance.

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

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias  
Executive Secretary

**Attachment**

To: Nagoya Protocol National Focal Points



Convention on  
Biological Diversity

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Questionnaire to be answered by the nominated expert and attached to his/her *curriculum vitae*:

1. Please describe your current level of involvement in activities relevant to the Nagoya Protocol and access and benefit-sharing both nationally and regionally.
2. Please describe your previous engagement and experience relevant to the ABS Clearing-House.
3. Being a member of the informal advisory committee may require your active participation in online forums, testing new features of the ABS Clearing-House, providing feedback, helping in the development of capacity-building tools, as well as assisting in the engagement and promotion of the ABS Clearing-House in your region. Please, describe how you foresee your participation and contribution to the ABS Clearing-House as a future a member of the informal advisory committee.