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10 March 2015

NOTIFICATION

International Training Workshop on Community – Based Monitoring, Indicators on Traditional Knowledge and Customary Sustainable Use and Community Protocols, within the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, 8-10 June 2015; Dialogue Workshop on Assessment of Collective Action of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Biodiversity Conservation and Resource Mobilization, 11-13 June 2015; Expert Meeting on the Repatriation of Traditional Knowledge Relevant to the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity, 14-15 June 2015, Panajachel, Guatemala

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that, with the generous support of the Governments of Japan and Guatemala as well as the European Union and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency through SwedBio at Stockholm Resilience Centre, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in collaboration with SwedBio and the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity, is organizing three international meetings that will be held back-to-back in Guatemala, as follows:

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|------------------|--|
| 8-10 June 2015: | International Training Workshop on Community-Based Monitoring , Indicators on Traditional Knowledge and Customary Sustainable Use and Community Protocols within the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 |
| 11-13 June 2015: | Dialogue Workshop on Assessment of Collective Action of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Biodiversity Conservation and Resource Mobilization |
| 14-15 June 2015: | Expert Meeting on the Repatriation of Traditional Knowledge Relevant to the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity |

I am therefore pleased to invite interested Parties, in particular Parties that have nominated national focal points for traditional knowledge, indigenous peoples and local community organizations to nominate representatives to these meetings based on the following criteria:

- (i) Their ability to conduct further trainings at the regional, national, subnational or local levels on community-based monitoring and indicators on traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use, and community protocols on traditional knowledge (TK), including traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources under the Nagoya Protocol;

To: CBD, TK, SBSTTA, Resource Mobilization and the Nagoya Protocol National Focal Points, International and Non-Governmental organizations, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and relevant organizations

- (ii) Their expertise on methodological frameworks for evaluating the contribution of collective action to biodiversity conservation;
- (iii) Their expertise on the repatriation of traditional knowledge relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

Nominations should be submitted through an official letter addressed to the Executive Secretary, by e-mail at: secretariat@cbd.int, or by fax at: +1 (514) 288-6588, and must contain full contact details of the nominee, along with a curriculum vitae clearly indicating the relevant areas of expertise and the attached nomination form, no later than **27 March 2015**.

Subject to the availability of funds, the Secretariat will select the participants on the basis of subregional balance, gender equity, relevant expertise, and ability to contribute in the meeting(s) and organize other workshops at the regional, national, subnational and/or local levels. For greater efficiencies these meetings are being held back to back and consideration will be given to nominees who can contribute to two or more of these events. In addition, based on the criteria for each event, some nominees may be selected for specific meetings.

I thank you for your cooperation and your continued support for the work of the Convention.

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

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary

Attachments

Annex I

Identify the meeting in which you wish to participate. If you apply for more than one meeting, please indicate your preference/priority using the numbers 1 to 3 (1 being your first priority)

<input type="checkbox"/>	International Training Workshop on Community –based Monitoring, Indicators on Traditional Knowledge and Customary Sustainable Use and Community Protocols within the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, 8-10 June 2015
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dialogue Workshop on Assessment of Collective Action of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Biodiversity Conservation and Resource mobilization, 11-13 June 2015
<input type="checkbox"/>	Expert Meeting on the Repatriation of Traditional Knowledge Relevant to the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity, 14-15 June 2015

Personal information

1. First Name	
2. Middle Name	
3. Family Name	
4. Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
5. Contact Details	

Work-related information/experience

6. Current job title	
7. Specific experience relevant to the meetings' issues	
8. What would be your specific contribution to the meeting (s)?	

Annex II

RELEVANT DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AT ITS TWELFTH MEETING

Decision XII/1. Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

10. Encourages Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, as appropriate, to take steps to disseminate widely the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and its findings, including by translating the report into local languages and producing other appropriate communication products for different stakeholders and making them publicly available;

18. Requests the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to review the main implications and findings of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and its underlying technical reports as well as additional information from fifth national reports and other submissions with a view to identifying further opportunities and additional key actions, including, among others, the contributions of collective actions of indigenous and local communities for the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and other actions for the targets where there has been the least progress at the global level, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;

20 (b) To convene a meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, with the terms of reference provided in Annex II , para 2.: The work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group will also draw upon relevant work of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and its member organizations, the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the Technical Support Team for the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals, the United Nations Statistics Division, the Indicators Working Group of the International Indigenous Forum for Biodiversity, and other partners;

Decision XII/3. Resource mobilization

29. *Recognizes*, in the financial reporting framework, the role of collective action, including by indigenous and local communities, and non-market-based approaches for mobilizing resources for achieving the objectives of the Convention, including approaches such as community-based natural resource management, shared governance or joint management of protected areas, or through indigenous and community conserved territories and areas, and resolves to include activities that encourage and support such approaches into reporting under the Convention;

30. *Takes note* of the report “Conceptual and Methodological Framework for Evaluating the Contribution of Collective Action to Biodiversity Conservation” and its summary, and invites Parties, other Governments, and relevant stakeholder organizations to consider the following steps for its further development:

(a) To evaluate the contribution of collective action to biodiversity conservation and resource mobilization, including by establishing pilot projects, making use of, and further developing, as appropriate, the “Conceptual and Methodological Framework for Evaluating the Contribution of Collective Action to Biodiversity Conservation”, and other experiences;

(b) To provide, within available resources, financial and technical assistance to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition for undertaking activities referred to in subparagraph (a) above;

(c) To provide, through the Financial Reporting Framework and other means, information on the contribution of collective action to biodiversity conservation, including on experiences and lessons learned in applying pertinent methodologies;

31. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to facilitate the exchange of views and experiences on collective action of indigenous and local communities as referred to in paragraph 30 (c) above, and make this information available through the clearing house mechanism of the Convention and to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation at its first meeting for its consideration for update and provision of relevant guidelines;

Decision XII/12, A. Article 8(j) and related provisions

Indicators relevant to traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use

6. *Welcomes* the work carried out under the Working Group on Indicators of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and other international organizations, and particularly the Community-Based Monitoring and Information System approach, to operationalize the indicators on the status of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices and customary sustainable use of biological diversity, to assess progress towards implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with Parties, other Governments, relevant international organizations, the Working Group on Indicators of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity, the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and interested stakeholders, and subject to the availability of resources, to continue to organize and facilitate international technical workshops and regional workshops on indicators on the status of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices and customary sustainable use and to further explore the added value of contributions from indigenous and local communities' Community-Based Monitoring and Information Systems and of applying a Multiple Evidence Base approach when monitoring indicators on the status of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices and customary sustainable use, in order to assess progress towards implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achieving its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and to inform Parties, organizations and stakeholders of progress through the Traditional Knowledge Information Portal;

9. *Encourages* Parties and indigenous and local communities to consider how indigenous and local communities might effectively participate in the development, collection and analysis of data, including through Community-Based Monitoring, and further explore how indigenous and local communities' Community-Based Monitoring and Information Systems can contribute to monitoring of Aichi Target indicators, and how a Multiple Evidence Base approach be applied for validation of such data generated from diverse knowledge systems on equal terms. These efforts might contribute to future national reports and the review of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achievement of its Aichi Biodiversity Targets in particular Target 18;

Decision XII/12, C. Development of best-practice guidelines for the repatriation of traditional knowledge relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling that, according to Article 8(j) of the Convention, Parties to the Convention shall, as far as possible and as appropriate, and subject to their respective national legislation, respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles (hereafter referred to as “traditional knowledge”) relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge, innovations and practices,

Also recalling that, according to Article 17 of the Convention, Parties to the Convention shall facilitate the exchange of information, from all publicly available sources, relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking into account the special needs of developing countries, and that such exchange of information shall include, *inter alia*, traditional knowledge. Exchange of information could also include the repatriation of information from gene banks and other ex-situ storages of biological resources and materials,

Acknowledging that the repatriation of traditional knowledge of indigenous and local communities through the sharing and exchange of information should be consistent with international agreements relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and national legislation,

Bearing in mind the importance of international cooperation in providing access to traditional knowledge for indigenous and local communities, in order to facilitate the repatriation of traditional knowledge relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity,

Mindful of the various international bodies, instruments, programmes, strategies, standards, guidelines, reports and processes of relevance and the importance of their harmonization and complementarity, and effective implementation,

1. *Decides*, subject to the availability of resources, to convene a meeting of a regionally balanced group of government-nominated experts on the repatriation of traditional knowledge relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, including a proportionate number of observers, with at least seven¹ observers from indigenous and local communities, nominated by them, and other observers from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) as well as other relevant organizations, reflecting the expertise of the broad range of actors involved in the repatriation of traditional knowledge of relevance to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, with a view to developing draft voluntary guidelines to promote and enhance the repatriation of traditional knowledge relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, for consideration by the ninth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-Sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions;

2. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, UNESCO, WIPO, UNPFII, other relevant organizations as well as indigenous and local community organizations, to submit relevant information, including on best practices, and their views on the development of the draft voluntary guidelines to promote and enhance the repatriation of traditional knowledge relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity to the Executive Secretary, having regard to the submissions already compiled in document UNEP/CBD/WG8J/8/INF/7, as well as the best practices summarized in section V of the note by the Executive Secretary on development of best-practice guidelines for the repatriation of traditional

¹ The number is based on the seven geo-cultural regions recognized by the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues which are: Africa, Arctic (Europe), Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, Central and Eastern European Countries (CEEC), North America, and the Pacific.

knowledge relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/8/5);

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in order to assist the technical expert group in its work:

(a) To compile the information and views received and make the compilation available to the meeting of the technical expert group;

(b) Taking into account the information and views received, to prepare draft elements of voluntary guidelines, for consideration by the meeting of the technical expert group;

(c) To transmit the result of the work of the technical expert group on the draft voluntary guidelines as well as the compilation of information and views referred to in paragraph 3 (a) above, to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-Sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions at its ninth meeting, for its consideration, and with a view to consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to make the information and views submitted as well as their compilation available on a dedicated web page of the Traditional Knowledge Information Portal of the Convention as a tool to assist indigenous and local communities and potential entities repatriating traditional knowledge, in their efforts to repatriate traditional knowledge relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;

5. *Requests* Governments, to the extent possible, to translate information and best practices to facilitate repatriation of traditional knowledge relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into principal local languages.