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20 November 2015

NOTIFICATION

Progress on Implementation of the Programme of Work for Article 8(j) and related provisions: Request for contributions to the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Dear Madam/Sir,

Through its decision XII/26, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention established a Subsidiary Body on Implementation with a mandate to review progress made towards the implementation of the Convention, to identify and develop recommendations to overcome obstacles encountered, and to strengthen mechanisms to support implementation. Furthermore, the ninth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and related provisions also requested the Executive Secretary to place the following items on the agenda for Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its first meeting and at subsequent meetings, as appropriate:

- (a) Progress in implementing Article 8(j) and related provisions, at the national level, including the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities;
- (b) Progress in mainstreaming Article 8(j) and related provisions across the areas of work of the Secretariat, including capacity-building and participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the work of the Secretariat; and
- (c) Progress in implementing of the plan of action on customary sustainable use of biological diversity (Article 10(c)).

In relation to these items and progress made in implementing the programme of work for Article 8(j) and related provisions, the Conference of the Parties at its the twelfth meeting also made a number of decisions with specific requests for input from Parties, other Governments, international organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, non-governmental organizations and other relevant organizations, in order to assist with the timely preparation of documentation for a number of the agenda items to be considered by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.

They are as follows:

Decision XII/12, paragraph 4 on Article 8(j) and related provisions

A. Progress report on the implementation of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions and mechanisms to promote the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in the work of the Convention

“4. In the light of the outcomes of the mid-term review of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020,¹ including of progress towards Aichi Biodiversity Target 18, *invites* Parties, other Governments, international organizations, indigenous and local communities and other relevant organizations

¹ See decision XII/1.

To: CBD and SBSTTA National Focal Points, International and Non-Governmental organizations, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and relevant organizations



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to submit information on the implementation of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions, and requests the Executive Secretary to compile and analyse information received and to make it available for consideration and, as appropriate, during the period of implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020".

B. Article 10, with a focus on Article 10(c), as major component of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions of the Convention

"2. *Invites Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations, indigenous and local communities and stakeholders to implement the plan of action on customary sustainable use of biological diversity, taking into account diverse national circumstances including legal and policy regimes, and to report on progress to the Executive Secretary, as well as through the national reporting process.*" ;

"7. *Requests the Executive Secretary to compile and analyse the information received pursuant to paragraph 2 above and to make this information available ...;*"

Decision X/40, B, National Focal Point for Article 8(j) and related provisions

Additionally, Parties are reminded of decision X/40, (B) paragraph 7, in which the Conference of the Parties invited Parties to consider designating national focal points for Article 8(j) and related provisions to facilitate communications with indigenous and local community organizations and to promote the effective development and implementation of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions.

Parties that designate national focal points (NFPs) for Article 8(j) and related provisions, pursuant to this invitation, are invited to provide the contact information of the focal points to the Secretariat for inclusion in the list of national focal points on the website of the Convention, in order to facilitate networking and communications. In addition, with a view to assist Parties in the implementation of the Convention, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 18, it is my intention to prioritise, along with representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities, the selection of official NFPs for Article 8(j) for participation in capacity development workshops being planned for 2016.

Timeframe for contributions:

In order to facilitate the timely preparation of background documentation for the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, Parties, other Governments, international organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, non-governmental organizations and other relevant organizations are invited to submit their contributions regarding the above-mentioned issues, as soon as possible and no later than 4 January 2016. This will ensure that the submissions received are properly reflected in the documentation for the meeting.

For efficiencies, the Secretariat will build on submissions made regarding progress in the implementation of the programme of work for Article 8(j) and related provisions, at the previous two meetings of the ad hoc open ended Working Group on Article 8(j), therefore Parties and others who have made substantive contributions to these meetings may wish to provide an update only.

Please note that all submissions should preferably be submitted in a word processing format and sent to the Secretariat at secretariat@cbd.int.

I thank you for your cooperation and for 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