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20 February 2017

NOTIFICATION

Invitation to provide information on new and emerging issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources

Dear Madam/Sir,

In section II of decision IX/29, the Conference of the Parties decided on the process for the identification of new and emerging issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources. In this regard, I am pleased to invite you to submit proposals for new and emerging issues to be considered by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

Proposals should, where possible, be accompanied with the information specified in paragraph 11 of decision IX/29, reproduced in the annex to this notification. Submissions should be sent to the Secretariat by e-mail to: secretariat@cbd.int or by fax at: +1 514 288 6588, no later than **5 May 2017**.

After the deadline of 5 May 2017, Parties and relevant organizations will be notified of the opportunity to contribute relevant information and views related to the proposals submitted to the Secretariat taking into account the criteria listed in paragraph 12 of decision IX/29, reproduced in the annex. In accordance with paragraph 5 of decision XI/11, the original submissions will be compiled along with the information and views received, as well as a review of information applying the aforementioned criteria where this has not otherwise been provided, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its twenty-first meeting. The Subsidiary Body will review and discuss the proposals and, as appropriate, identify any new and emerging issues and elaborate a scientific and technical analysis with options for action, for consideration by Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting.

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

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

David Cooper
Deputy Executive Secretary
Office in charge

To : CBD National Focal Points, relevant international organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities

Annex

Information which should, where possible, accompany any proposals for emerging issues
(From paragraph 11 of decision IX/29)

- (a) Why the issue needs urgent attention by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (including how it impacts biodiversity);
- (b) How it affects the attainment of the objectives of the Convention (citing relevant articles);
- (c) Thematic programmes of work and/or cross-cutting issues that could contribute to the resolution of the issue;
- (d) Work already under way by relevant organizations addressing the issue; and
- (e) Credible sources of information, preferably from peer-reviewed articles.

Criteria to be used for identifying new and emerging issues related to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity
(From paragraph 12 of decision IX/29)

- (a) Relevance of the issue to the implementation of the objectives of the Convention and its existing programmes of work;
 - (b) New evidence of unexpected and significant impacts on biodiversity;
 - (c) Urgency of addressing the issue/imminence of the risk caused by the issue to the effective implementation of the Convention as well as the magnitude of actual and potential impact on biodiversity;
 - (d) Actual geographic coverage and potential spread, including rate of spread, of the identified issue relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;
 - (e) Evidence of the absence or limited availability of tools to limit or mitigate the negative impacts of the identified issue on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;
 - (f) Magnitude of actual and potential impact of the identified issue on human well-being;
 - (g) Magnitude of actual and potential impact of the identified issue on productive sectors and economic well-being as related to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
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