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NOTIFICATION

Nominations for the Asia Sub Regional Workshop on strengthening capacities for the integrated implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress and the Convention on Biological Diversity Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia – 6-10 November 2017

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have the pleasure to invite nominations for the Asia Sub Regional Workshop on strengthening capacities for the integrated implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress and the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 6 to 10 November 2017.

The workshop is organized in response to decisions CP-VIII/3, CP-VIII/15, CP-VIII/11 and BS-VII/11, with the generous financial support from the Government of Japan through the Japan Biodiversity Fund.

The objectives of the workshop are:

- a. to enable Parties to implement the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress and the Convention on Biological Diversity in an integrated manner; and
- b. to raise awareness and understanding about the objective and provisions of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol to identify needs and requirements by Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety with a view to expedite its entry into force and implementation.

The targeted participants of the workshop are Cartagena Protocol and Convention national focal points, as well as officials involved in the implementation/ratification efforts with regard to the Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress.

Participants will analyse relevant national policies, laws and institutional frameworks, identifying opportunities, and thereby develop a draft national mainstreaming strategy that sets out steps to achieve integrated implementation of biosafety concerns in a variety of sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, laws and institutional frameworks. The workshop will also provide training on the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol, including identifying steps towards its ratification as needed. Participants are expected to undertake some preliminary work in preparation for the workshop, involving, among other things, an overview of current relevant national legislation, policies and initiatives. E-learning materials on mainstreaming biosafety and the Supplementary Protocol will be made available to support these activities.

To: Cartagena Protocol National Focal Points and CBD National Focal Points from the Asia sub-region

The workshop will benefit from the experience of Parties in the region that took part in the pilot phase of the project on “Integrated Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Convention on Biological Diversity”¹ and Parties that have been selected to take part in the current second phase of the project which also includes the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress, as published in Notification 2017-064.²

Accordingly, I have the pleasure to invite the nominations of up to three participants per country in the Asia sub region, as follows:

- a. the CBD national focal point, or, if unavailable, a representative involved in the process for the review/update and implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, such as the NBSAP Coordinator;
- b. the Cartagena Protocol national focal point;
- c. a policy or legal officer actively involved in national efforts to ratify/accede to or implement the Supplementary Protocol.

Except for the national focal points, all nominations should also include a curriculum vitae (CV) indicating nominees’ relevant experience and expertise.

The workshop will be conducted in English only.

The expression of interest and nomination should be coordinated through the Cartagena Protocol national focal point and submitted in the form of an official letter addressed to the Executive Secretary by fax to +1 (514) 288 6588 or by e-mail to secretariat@cbd.int. Due to the limited availability of funds for the workshop, only selected participants from eligible Parties who meet the relevant selection criteria will receive financial assistance from the Japan Biodiversity Fund to cover the cost of travel and a daily subsistence allowance for the duration of the workshop.

In order to enable us to finalize arrangements for the workshop in a timely manner, it would be appreciated if submissions reach the Secretariat as soon as possible but **no later than 1 September 2017**.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support towards the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

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

Cristiana Paşca Palmer, PhD
Executive Secretary

¹ Further information available at: http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/issues/mainstreaming_project.shtml

² Notification 2017-064 (<https://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2017/ntf-2017-064-bs-en.pdf>)