



Ref.: SCBD/CPU/DC/PD/PS/88104

1 May 2019

NOTIFICATION

Global Environment Facility (GEF) support for the preparation of the fourth national reports under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Dear Madam/Sir,

Further to notification 2019-019, dated 13 February 2019, inviting the submission of fourth national reports on the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, I am pleased to inform you that the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is preparing a project for funding by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to assist eligible Parties in the preparation of their reports.

In order to facilitate the project development, I encourage eligible Parties to submit a letter of commitment, expressing their support for the project, signed by their GEF operational focal point to UNEP, through Mr. Alex Owusu-Biney (alex.owusu-biney@un.org), as soon as possible, but no later than **8 May 2019**. Meanwhile, relevant Parties are encouraged to begin preparation of their national report while waiting for GEF resources.

I also wish to reiterate the importance of completing and submitting the fourth national report no later than 1 October 2019. The information to be submitted in the fourth national report will provide a key source of information for, among others, the fourth assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Cartagena Protocol and the final evaluation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol 2011-2020.

The Compliance Committee, at its seventeenth meeting, foreseen for the first quarter of 2020, is expected to consider compliance by Parties with the obligation to submit their national report.

The offline common format for the fourth national report is now available through the management centre of the Biosafety Clearing House (<http://bch.cbd.int/managementcentre/register/> – log-in required). Parties will be notified once the online format is available in the coming weeks.

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

Cristiana Paşca Palmer, PhD
Executive Secretary

To: Cartagena Protocol National Focal Points, CBD National Focal Points (where CPB focal points have not yet been designated), BCH Focal Points