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29 May 2020

NOTIFICATION

**Further postponement:
Twenty-fourth Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice
(SBSTTA 24), and Third Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI 3)**

Dear Madam/Sir,

I refer to the meetings of SBSTTA 24 and SBI 3, which were tentatively scheduled for 17-22 August and 24-29 August 2020, respectively, in Montreal, Canada.

Given the continued uncertainties arising from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, including those related to restrictions on travel and the convening of large physical gatherings, the meetings of SBSTTA 24 and SBI 3 will not take place physically in Montreal in August as earlier announced. Therefore, delegations should not make any plans to travel to Montreal in August.

The Secretariat is currently exploring alternative arrangements, including:

1. The possibility of holding some preparatory sessions for the meetings virtually during early September;
2. The possibility of holding the physical meetings of SBSTTA-24 and SBI-3 in the second half of October, or at a later date, subject to logistical constraints, and restrictions on travel and the convening of large physical gatherings being lifted.

The Secretariat is consulting with the COP Bureau, the SBSTTA Bureau, and the SBI Chair, as well as the Co-Chairs of the Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework on these matters, and will make further announcements in due course.

The Secretariat and the Bureaux remain committed to ensuring the successful and timely preparation of these meetings, the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and other preparations for the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and associated meetings of the Parties to the Protocols. The Secretariat will ensure that the documents are made available in good time and will publish a timeline of the meeting websites shortly.

In addition, the Secretariat is also preparing a series of webinars on various issues related to the agenda items of SBSTTA and SBI to be held in June, July and August and a list will be made available on the CBD website in due course.

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

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema
Acting Executive Secretary

To: CBD National Focal Points, Cartagena Protocol Focal Points, ABS Focal Points, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations

