



Ref.: SCBD/SSSF/AS/JSH/VA/KM/88592

12 November 2020

NOTIFICATION
Revised dates and modalities for the Global Taxonomy Initiative Forum 2020

Dear Madam/Sir,

Reference is made to notifications [2020-016](#), [2020-026](#) and [2020-029](#), and in this context, I am pleased to inform you that the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) Forum, previously scheduled to take place at the Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin, Germany, from 7 to 9 April 2020, will now be held from 2 to 4 December 2020. In light of the guidance received from the United Nations concerning the COVID-19 pandemic, and in consultation with the host institute and the Government of Germany, the GTI Forum will be conducted virtually.

The GTI Forum is being facilitated by the Secretariat, pursuant to SBSTTA recommendation 23/6, paragraph 2, which *requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to develop proposals for an inclusive process to review and renew technical and scientific cooperation programmes, including the Global Taxonomy Initiative, in order to support the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and to submit these proposals for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting.

The three-day GTI Forum will consist of an opening symposium on “*Best practices and challenges of the GTI in achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets*”, followed by two days of workshops. The workshops will focus on the following themes: “*The GTI 2021-2030 activities to support Parties’ achievement of the post-2020 biodiversity targets*” and “*The GTI 2021-2030 activities to enhance education, public engagement and collaboration between governments and taxonomic institutions*”, respectively.

Kindly also note that discussions at the GTI Forum on activities and innovations relevant to strengthening technical and scientific co-operation, in support of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, will be captured in a technical document to inform discussions at the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI 3), when it meets in 2021. SBI 3 is tasked with providing advice to the post-2020 global biodiversity process on this, and other matters.

The selected participants for the GTI Forum are listed in notification [2020-031](#) issued on 20 March 2020.

In addition, observers are welcome to participate in the GTI Forum and are requested to register as soon as possible, but no later than **23 November 2020**, at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4571897302356263436>. The GTI Forum will be conducted in English.

Further details concerning the agenda and virtual platform are available at <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/GTI-OM-2020-01>.

I look forward to your active participation in the GTI Forum and thank you for your continued support to the work of the Convention.

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

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema
Executive Secretary

To: CBD National Focal Points; SBSTTA Focal Points; GTI Focal Points; Consortium of Scientific Partners on Biodiversity; Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and relevant organizations