



Call for contributions to *[square brackets]*

Submissions due 5 May 2014

[square brackets] is a newsletter produced jointly by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) (www.cbd.int) and the CBD Alliance (www.cbdalliance.org).

The newsletter aims to facilitate timely dialogue among civil society stakeholders on cutting edge biodiversity issues, from both policy (advocacy and decision-making) and practical (implementation) perspectives. The 8th edition was published in October 2013: www.cbd.int/ngo/square-brackets/square-brackets-2013-10-en.pdf

We invite short articles from members of civil society all over the world (including NGOs, social movements, indigenous organizations and representatives, local communities).

The new edition of *[square brackets]* will be published to coincide with the Eighteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA 18), being held 23-28 June 2014 in Montreal, Canada.

Specifically, we are interested in receiving articles related to sustainable development, the poverty/biodiversity linkage and issues to be addressed at SBSTTA 18, including:

- Global Biodiversity Outlook: Mid-term review of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets
- Marine and coastal biodiversity
- Invasive alien species
- New and emerging issues: synthetic biology
- Incentive measures: obstacles encountered in implementing options identified for eliminating, phasing out or reforming incentives harmful for biodiversity
- Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

Articles will be selected and edited by an editorial board comprising representatives of indigenous and non-governmental groups and staff from the SCBD.

Potential contributors are advised to review guidelines for articles appended below.

Please send submissions electronically to: johan.hedlund@cbd.int and nele.marien@gmail.com

Guidelines for Articles

Length: Approximately 800 words



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Topics: We seek submissions on the CBD issues of concern to the civil society, both at the national and global levels, particularly in relation to sustainable development and the forthcoming Eighteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

Photos: Photos that are of publishable quality are most welcome. Please note that photos should be sent as image files and not placed in Word documents. They can be sent as jpeg, tiff, or psd. Photos should be sent in the largest size available; please do not reduce the size of images before sending.

Tone: Articles must be written in a constructive and analytical manner and contribute to a deeper understanding of the issue. Contributions must not identify or target particular Parties on issues under negotiation. Opinions are more than welcome, but total coverage of topics in the newsletter will aim to present diverse and balanced viewpoints and arguments that enable readers to formulate their own informed opinions.

Style: Please note that the newsletter follows a similar style to popular publications. If possible, please keep sentences and paragraphs short; and use simple language, bearing in mind that for a large number of readers English is not their first language.

Links:

Convention on Biological Diversity: www.cbd.int/

CBD Alliance: www.cbdalliance.org/

Non-Governmental Organizations / *[square brackets]*: www.cbd.int/ngo/
