



Call for contributions to *[square brackets]*

Submissions due 25 September 2015

[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 9th edition was published in July 2014: www.cbd.int/ngo/square-brackets/square-brackets-2014-07-en.pdf. We invite short articles from members of civil society and indigenous peoples and local communities all over the world.

The new edition of *[square brackets]* will be published in November 2015 to coincide with the nineteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA 19), being held in Montreal 2-5 November 2015, and the ninth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity, being held 4-7 November 2015 in Montreal.

Specifically, we are interested in receiving articles related to issues being addressed at SBSTTA 19 (www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=sbstta-19) and the ninth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) (www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=WG8J-09), including:

- Scientific and technical issues related to implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity
- Implications of the findings of GBO-4
- Climate-related geoengineering
- Biodiversity and human health
- Forest biodiversity
- Developing guidelines: for obtaining prior informed consent or approval and involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities for use of their traditional knowledge; and to ensure that they obtain a fair and equitable share of benefits from the use of their knowledge
- Develop standards and guidelines for the reporting and prevention of unlawful appropriation of traditional knowledge

We are also interested in receiving articles related to the following issues:

- Synthetic biology
- Climate change
- Post-2015 development agenda.



Convention on
Biological Diversity

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Articles will be selected and edited by an editorial board comprising representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities, 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 gadirlavadenz@gmail.com

Guidelines for Articles:

Length: Approximately 800 words

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/
