



Ref.: SCBD/STTM/JM/JSH/CRm/77545

11 October 2011

NOTIFICATION

African Sub-Regional Workshop to Strengthen Capacity for the CBD Programmes of Work relevant to Invasive Alien Species

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that, with the generous financial support of the Government of Japan, a regional workshop will be held on 6-9 December 2011 in Nairobi, Kenya, in an effort to strengthen capacity for the CBD programmes of work relevant to invasive alien species (IAS). The workshop is organized by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD), in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

This workshop aims to build capacity to address the cross-cutting issue of invasive alien species and contribute to the fulfillment of Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 in Africa. The workshop will also introduce the notion of mainstreaming biodiversity and provide a review of existing taxonomic capacity. It will additionally contribute information on the status of capacity in the region to address invasive alien species, which will be useful to the upcoming regional workshops for National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) in Africa.

Please note that this workshop will be held in English only.

A sub-regional training workshop for French-speaking countries in Africa will be held in Dakar, Senegal in January 2012. It should also be noted that another workshop will be held in 2012 for small island developing states, including those in Africa.

I therefore invite you to nominate **one representative** from your government to attend this workshop. In addition, and subject to availability of funds, the Secretariat would also like to invite a limited number of resource persons from national authorities for the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) or The World Trade Organizations' Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures (WTO SPS Agreement). Kindly note that the Secretariat will be in a position to support a maximum of 30 participants to this workshop.

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To: CBD National Focal Points for: Botswana, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe

Parties are requested to use the following criteria when submitting their nominations:

- The government representative should be a national CBD focal point or person with experience in IAS policy issues.
- Subject to availability of funds, we would like to invite a limited number of additional resource persons from national authorities for the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) or The World Trade Organizations' Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures (WTO SPS Agreement) to the workshop. If you would like to nominate such an expert, the Secretariat will do its best to secure funding. However and as previously indicated, participation to the workshop is limited to just 30 participants.
- After the workshop, all participants should be in a position to translate the knowledge gained into concrete actions at national and regional levels.

Kindly provide the name and contact details of your nominees via **official signed letter** addressed to the Executive Secretary (by fax at +1 514 288-6588 or by email to secretariat@cbd.int) at your earliest convenience but not later than **14 November 2011**.

I look forward to receiving your nominations and I thank you in advance for your cooperation and continued support for the work of the Convention.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary