



Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



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16 July 2008

NOTIFICATION

Regional Capacity-building Workshop for Western Africa, Comoros, and Djibouti on National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and Mainstreaming Biodiversity

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that a regional workshop for countries of West Africa, Comoros, and Djibouti, on capacity-building for national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) and mainstreaming biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and policies at the national and regional level, will be held in **Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, from 29 September through 3 October 2008**.

This workshop is being organized by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in collaboration with the government of Burkina Faso. This is one in a series of regional and sub-regional capacity-building workshops to be organized during 2008, in response to [decision VIII/8](#) (paragraph 6) by which the Conference of the Parties recommended that regional and/or sub-regional workshops be convened to discuss national experiences in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and the integration of biodiversity concerns into relevant sectors, at national and regional levels. The importance of convening these workshops was also highlighted at the second meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation held in July 2007 in Paris, as well as [decision IX/8](#) (paragraph 17) adopted by the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties held in May 2008 in Bonn.

The purpose of the workshop is to strengthen national capacity for the development, implementation, review, and updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and for biodiversity mainstreaming into relevant sectors, through the exchange of experiences and training on the use of relevant tools and mechanisms. It will also provide an opportunity for Parties to identify ways and means to overcome obstacles associated with the implementation of NBSAPs, as well as inform the ongoing review of implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan of the Convention. Further information on these workshops is available at: <https://www.cbd.int/nbsap/workshops.shtml> .

In light of the above, I am pleased to invite you to provide the Secretariat with the name and coordinates of the nominated representative of your government who will participate in this

To: CBD National Focal Points of West Africa, Comoros, and Djibouti



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workshop via an official letter. I also invite you to recommend the name and coordinates of a second person or expert who may also be invited, depending on the availability of funds. The nomination should reach the Secretariat by **no later than 15 August 2008**. Please note that the workshop will be held in French, with English translation for Anglophone participants.

In submitting nominations, Parties are requested to note that the representative should be responsible for the development and/or implementation of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan and in a position to prepare and present a report on progress made in the development, implementation, review, and updating of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan, as well as the integration of biodiversity concerns into relevant sectors (using, for example, the voluntary guidelines annexed to [decision VIII/8](#)). Moreover, following the workshop, the representative should be in a position to translate the capacity gained into concrete actions in support of national implementation. The second person should be from a different sectoral ministry, a national institution, a non-governmental organization or the private sector, and in a position to share significant experiences on biodiversity mainstreaming in one or more national development sector(s).

The nomination of the representative of your government should be sent to the Secretariat, along with the name of the second person, through an official letter addressed to the attention of the Executive Secretary, by fax to +1 (514) 288-6588 or scanned and attached to an email addressed to: secretariat@cbd.int .

We look forward to receiving your nominations and recommendations, and I thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary