

NOTIFICATION

**Regional Workshop for Southern Africa on
Updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans**

Dear Madam/ Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that a regional capacity building workshop for the updating and revision of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) for Southern African countries will be held in Kasane, **Botswana** from **14 to 18 March 2011**. The workshop is organised by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism of Botswana and with the generous support of the Government of Japan and other donors.

The tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 10), held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010, adopted a Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, which contains five strategic goals and twenty headline targets also known as the Aichi Targets. While adopting this strategy for the next decade, the COP urged Parties to develop national and regional targets, using the Strategic Plan as a flexible framework.

This workshop is the first in a series of regional and sub-regional capacity building workshops to be organised in 2011 and 2012. The purpose of this workshop is to strengthen national capacities for the development, implementation, reviewing, updating, and communication of NBSAPs; to help facilitate national implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 – 2020; and translate the Post-2010 strategic Plan into national targets and

To: To CBD National Focal Points of the following countries: Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

commitments (decision X/2(17)). The workshop will also provide an introduction to other COP 10 outcomes. Further information is available at: <http://www.cbd.int/nbsap>.

In light of the above, I am pleased to invite you to nominate two representatives of your government who will participate in this workshop. These nominations should be in the form of an official signed letter to the attention of the Executive Secretary and should clearly identify their names and full contact information, including e-mail addresses. This letter can either be scanned and emailed to secretariat@cbd.int or faxed to the Secretariat at +1 514 288 6588, and should reach the Secretariat **no later than 15 February 2011**. Participants from eligible Parties will be provided with air travel, accommodation, meals and an allowance for incidental costs according to UN rules. For more information, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Sakhile Koketso at +1 514 834 2720 or Sakhile.koketso@cbd.int.

In submitting nominations, Parties are requested to note that one of the two representatives should be responsible for the development and/ or implementation of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan. The second person should be from the finance, economic or development planning ministry and be in a position to share significant experiences on mainstreaming biodiversity into national development plans. Both nominees should be in a position to translate the capacity gained into concrete actions in support of national implementation.

We look forward to receiving your nominations, 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