



Convention on
Biological Diversity

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23 March 2011

NOTIFICATION

Regional Workshop for West Africa on Updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans Dakar, Senegal (22 to 26 May 2011)

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that, thanks to the financial support provided by Japan and other donors, a regional capacity-building workshop for the updating and revision of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) for West African countries will be held in Dakar, Senegal, from 22 to 26 May 2011. The workshop is organised by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD), in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Nature Conservation of Senegal and the Regional Program for the Conservation of the Marine and Coastal Zones of West Africa (PRCM).

This workshop is part of a series of regional and sub-regional capacity-building workshops being organised in 2011 and 2012. The purpose of the workshop is to strengthen national capacities for the development, implementation, review, updating and communication of NBSAPs; to help facilitate national implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020; and to translate the Post-2010 Strategic Plan into national targets and commitments (decision X/2, paragraph 17). The workshop will also provide an introduction to other COP-10 outcomes. Further information is available at: <http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/workshops2.shtml>.

In addition, please be advised that, in pursuance of paragraph 7 (b) of decision X/31 and in collaboration with the Government of Senegal and the PCRM, SCBD is also organizing a sub-regional capacity building workshop for implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) in parallel with this NBSAP workshop. *A separate notification is being issued for the PoWPA workshop.*

The Conference of the Parties, in paragraphs 11 and 12 of decision X/31, encourages donors and Parties to hold sub-regional and national donor roundtable meetings to support mobilization of funding based on national priorities, as expressed in NBSAPs and action plans

To: CBD Primary National Focal Points of the following countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo; Relevant organizations.



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for implementing the PoWPA, in collaboration with the LifeWeb Initiative. In this respect, on 27 May 2011, immediately following the NBSAP and PoWPA workshops, seven West African governments (Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Senegal, Sierra Leone), in collaboration with the Regional Program for the Conservation of the Marine and Coastal Zones of West Africa (PRCM) and in partnership with the CBD LifeWeb Initiative, are organizing a one-day financing roundtable to mobilize and help coordinate funding for implementation of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) in the sub-region.

Please note that all workshops will be held in English and French. Interpretation between French and English will be provided.

In light of the above, I am pleased to invite you to nominate two representatives of your Government to participate in this workshop. The nomination should be in the form of an official letter addressed to the CBD Executive Secretary signed by yourself, or a senior government official, and should contain the nominee's name and full contact information, including email addresses. This letter can either be scanned and emailed to secretariat@cbd.int or faxed to the Secretariat at + 1 514 288 6588, no later than **5 April 2011**.

In submitting nominations, Parties are requested to note that one participant should be responsible for the development, updating and/or implementation of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan, and be in a position to translate the capacity gained into concrete actions in support of national implementation. The other participant should be from planning or financing ministries and should be in a position to support the national development, updating and/or implementation of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan through the mainstreaming of biodiversity into national development and poverty reduction strategies and plans as well as into relevant sectors. PRCM countries are invited to nominate their focal point to attend the workshop and roundtable.

Upon receipt of nominations, further information on travel and hotel arrangements will be duly communicated. We look forward to receiving your early nominations.

I thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary