

Ref: SCBD/SEL/DO/RR/43821

18 May 2004

NOTIFICATION**Decision VII/17: Liability and Redress (Article 14, paragraph 2)**

Dear Madam/Sir,

By paragraph 1 of its decision VI/11 the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to convene a group of legal and technical experts composed of government-nominated experts based on a fair and equitable geographical representation and including observers from relevant international organizations, including non-governmental organizations and convention secretariats. The mandate of the group of legal and technical experts is to review information gathered by the Executive Secretary in accordance with paragraph 2 of decision VI/11 and conduct further analysis of pertinent issues relating to liability and redress in the context of paragraph 2 of Article 14 of the Convention. The meeting of the group of legal and technical experts was not convened prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as mandated, due to lack of funding.

At its seventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties by paragraph 1 of decision VII/17 renewed its request to the Executive Secretary to convene a group of legal and technical experts to discharge the mandate specified in that decision. It also urged Parties and Governments to make the necessary voluntary financial contributions to facilitate the convening of the group.

The meeting of the group of legal and technical experts has been tentatively scheduled to take place from 17 to 19 January 2006 in Montreal, Canada, and the Secretariat wishes to seize this opportunity to invite Parties and Governments to provide financial resources to facilitate the holding of the meeting.

Kindly note that contributions should be made to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BE) specifically earmarked by Parties and Governments for this purpose.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter and your continued support towards the work of the Convention.

Accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

To: CBD National Focal Points

