

From: Ramesh Lilwah [<mailto:ramlilwah@lycos.com>]  
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2001 3:35 PM  
To: secretariat@biodiv.org  
Subject: Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

Dear Sir,

Our sincere apologies for this late response.

I hereby refer to your notification of January 22, 2001 as regards the above subject. The Environmental Protection Agency of Guyana (focal point for CBD) supports this initiative and as is mentioned in "The Gran Canaria Declaration" it is hoped that such a strategy will develop effective mechanisms to enhance collaboration and networking, which will strengthen and support plant conservation locally, regionally and internationally.

While Guyana is one of the smaller countries of the wider Amazon region it contributes significantly to biodiversity of that region, both in terms of number of species and number of endemics (shared and unique). Our National Biodiversity Action Plan is the major document that outlines our programme for biodiversity management in Guyana and any global effort for the conservation of a component of biodiversity, in this case plants, will enhance our own national efforts.

Key Programmes in our National Biodiversity Action Plan that supports the Global Strategy on Plant Conservation includes:

Programme Areas on:

- \* Human Resources and Capacity Building
- \* Research and information on Biodiversity
- \* Public Awareness and education
- \* In situ and ex situ conservation
- \* Incentive measures and alternatives
- \* Measures for sustainable use of biodiversity
- \* Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

We also support the view that the strategy should be developed in harmony with other initiatives under development and draw on the experience of already existing efforts. As is outlined in our national strategy, the integration of different disciplines (social, economic and biological) is important towards plant conservation.

Sincerely,

Ramesh Lilwah  
for Per Bertilsson  
Director of the EPA Guyana