



Ref.: SCBD/SAM/DC/JSH/CE/85444

26 February 2016

NOTIFICATION

Nominations for the Global Taxonomy Initiative Training Course on Rapid Identification of Invasive Alien Species for Achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 9

Dear Madam/Sir,

In paragraph 9 of decision XII/17, the Executive Secretary was requested to facilitate, in line with paragraph 19 of decision XI/28, capacity-building in identification of invasive and potentially invasive species, including rapid DNA-based diagnostic approaches, in support of the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

With generous financial support from the Government of Japan, the Secretariat will support a second round of the training course in 2016 on the application of DNA barcoding in the detection and monitoring of priority invasive alien species, pests and zoonotic disease vectors for interested Parties. This course will provide opportunities for Parties to develop national capacity in the detection and management of invasive alien species, pests and disease vectors that threaten habitats, ecosystems or the health of plants, animals and humans.

The course will be provided under the auspices of the International Barcode of Life project. The training course has two major components: an 8-week online distance education course on DNA barcoding methodological approaches and technologies, and a 4-week hands-on training course in standard DNA barcoding protocols for selected trainees at the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario, University of Guelph, Canada. Applicants should be nominated by the National Focal Point for the Convention on Biological Diversity. National Focal Points are encouraged to consult with the national or regional plant protection organization (NPPO or RPPO) to recommend appropriate individuals to take the training course. Complete details can be found in the attached Annex.

While training will be open to nominations from all Parties, financial support will be available to selected trainees from developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as Parties with economies in transition, to build their capacity in rapid identification of invasive alien species. Participation of self-funded trainees is welcome and, in such cases, nominations should also be submitted through the CBD National Focal Points.

Parties are invited to submit their nominations in accordance with the nomination requirements provided in the Annex, along with the attached questionnaire duly completed, to secretariat@cbd.int as soon as possible but no later than **18 March 2016**. Selection of trainees will be carried out by the Secretariat in consultation with the Global Taxonomy Initiative Coordination Mechanism. The names of selected trainees will be posted on the CBD website no later than 1 April 2016.

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

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary

Attachment

To : CBD National Focal Points, SBSTTA Focal Points, GTI National Focal Points



Convention on
Biological Diversity

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United Nations Environment Programme
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Annex

Nomination

The following information should be attached to the official nomination letter signed by the CBD National Focal Point:

1. Curriculum vitae of the applicant for training;
2. The questionnaire attached to this document, duly completed by the applicant.
3. The capacity building form attached to this document, duly completed by the applicant and the head of the institution.

Nomination letters should be sent to secretariat@cbd.int with the required information attached **no later than 18 March 2016**. Selection of trainees will be carried by the Secretariat of the CBD in consultation with the Global Taxonomy Initiative Coordination Mechanism. Selected trainees will be posted on the CBD website no later than 1 April 2016.

Eligible trainees for financial support

Training modules are designed toward professionals involved in national management of invasive alien species and sanitary and phytosanitary risk regulation in developing countries. Applications are welcome from researchers, collection curatorial staff, forensic experts, laboratory technicians and officers affiliated with national organisations in management of invasive alien species or national border inspection authorities.

Applicants must hold at least a Bachelor's degree or equivalent in biology or related discipline and demonstrated clear understanding of key biological principles (e.g., evolution, molecular mechanisms of heredity, the basics of biological systematics, etc.). Experience in molecular biology or collection management is considered as an asset.

Training materials and hands-on training will be provided in English language. Trainees are expected to have a good command of written and spoken English. Participation in the hands-on training is conditional upon highest performance in the online distance education module. If selected, trainees will be responsible for securing the necessary visa to enter Canada in order to participate in the hands on training segment of the course.

Applicants must be enrolled in the implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) or invasive species strategies and action plans and must be endorsed by respective national authorities. If the NBSAPs do not include invasive alien species management, the Government must demonstrate its plan of updating NBSAPs to cover invasive alien species management actions in its nomination letter.

It should be kept in mind that the anticipated outcomes of these training activities include the establishment of national operations capable of applying DNA barcoding in diagnostics and monitoring of invasive alien species. These operations should be integrated into a concerted global effort to prevent introduction of, and control or eradicate invasive alien species through advancing international partnerships, technical and scientific collaborations and networking. As such, applicants should be strategically positioned in their home countries to implement DNA barcoding applications in respective national invasive alien species management and sanitary and phytosanitary risk regulation. Applicants' association with a working collection facility and ability to transport specimens into Canada for processing as part of the training activities, where government restrictions of their home country would not strictly prevent such a transfer, are desirable.

Self-funded trainees

If trainees are funded by their governments or other organizations to take the distance education course (<http://dnabarcodingcourses.com/>), nomination for the self-funded trainees should also be submitted

through the respective CBD National Focal as indicated for the nomination for trainees with financial support. Applicants from the countries that are not GEF eligible countries would fall into the category of self-funded trainees.

Schedule of training events

11 April – 3 June 2016: Online distance education course on DNA barcoding methodological approaches and technologies, with emphasis on rapid detection and identification of invasive alien species.

18 July – 12 August 2016: Round 1 of hands-on training in standard DNA barcoding protocols for selected trainees at the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario, University of Guelph, Canada. Trainees for hands-on training will be selected based on their performance in the online distance education modules.

22 August - 16 September 2016: Round 2 of hands-on training in standard DNA barcoding protocols for selected trainees at the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario, University of Guelph, Canada. Trainees for hands-on training will be selected based on their performance in the online distance education modules.

26 September - 21 October 2016: Round 3 of hands-on training in standard DNA barcoding protocols for selected trainees at the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario, University of Guelph, Canada. Trainees for hands-on training will be selected based on their performance in the online distance education modules.

22 October – 31 December 2015: Follow-up assistance with setting DNA barcoding operations (e.g., establishing laboratory workflows) within participant home countries and establishing priority areas of application of DNA barcoding in line with international collaboration frameworks.

Questionnaire

- This questionnaire should be filled by the potential trainee to the GTI training for rapid identification of invasive alien species for achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 9.

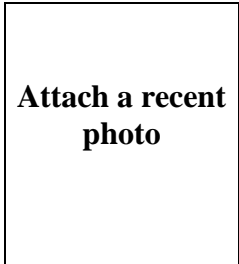
Full name of applicant	First name (middle initial) Last name	
Affiliation of applicant (name of organization; address) If NPPO indicate so		
E-mail address of applicant		
Phone number of applicant	(country code)-(area code)-(phone number)	
What is your level of involvement in the implementation of NBSAPs or invasive species strategies and action plans?	Check all relevant roles <input type="checkbox"/> Risk analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Border control <input type="checkbox"/> Management of IAS in the field	IF others, please describe your role in invasive alien species management in your country:
List your country's priority species to be intercepted at the border or detected for rapid response to them (if list is long you may attach a separate file)		
Does your institution possess facilities and staff to process collection specimens, e.g., for molecular analysis in an external laboratory?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If no what is your/your country's plan of action to make it available?	
Does your institution possess facilities (e.g., laboratory space, equipment and staff) to extract DNA from specimens?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If no what is your/your country's plan of action to make it available?	
Does your institution possess facilities (e.g., laboratory space, equipment and staff) to perform PCR amplification?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If no what is your/your country's plan of action to make it available?	
Does your institution possess facilities (e.g., laboratory space, equipment and staff) to perform DNA sequencing (including funding to outsource these operations)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If no what is your/your country's plan of action to make it available?	
What is your plan for becoming trainer of the gained skill in your country?	Describe your action plans for the next two years after training within 300 words.	



NOMINATION FORM

Capacity-Building Events

Name and date of the meeting/training:



I. INFORMATION ON THE NOMINEE

Family name: _____

First name: _____

Gender: _____ Nationality: _____

Name of the Ministry/Agency: _____

Name of the Department/Unit: _____

Address: _____

Telephone (country and city codes): +_____ Fax: +_____

E-mail: _____

II. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE OF THE NOMINEE

(To be completed by the nominee)

2. *Current employment*

(a) Official title (current position): _____

(b) Date of appointment to current position: _____

(c) Expected duration of current position: _____

3. *Description of the relevant activities of your organization:*



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4. Indicate what relevant information and experience you can contribute to the meeting/training:

5. Please provide a brief statement indicating how you and your organization would benefit from participation in this meeting/training and how you plan to utilize the experience in your work in the context of the implementation of the NBSAP:

III. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

6. Indicate if you have participated in other meetings/trainings on a similar topic:

Name of meeting/training:	Date/Venue:

7. I agree that, if selected, I will complete all the pre- and post-meeting/training assignments requested and attend all the meeting/training sessions. I also agree that, upon return to my work place, I will apply and share with others the knowledge and skills acquired from the meeting/training and will report back to the CBD Secretariat within the prescribed period for this event.

Signature of the applicant

Date

OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT

A letter of nomination and recommendation signed by the administrative head of the nominee's organization and the nominee's CV must be attached to this form. Without this signed letter and CV, the application will not be complete and the Secretariat will not be able to consider them.

(This statement in support for the candidate is required. It must be completed, signed, and stamped by the head of the national institution from which the candidate comes.)

Name of Head of Institution: _____

Title: _____

Name of Institution: _____

Country: _____

endorses the application of Mr./Mrs./Miss _____ for
the _____ (*name of meeting/training*) to be held
from ____ to ____ in _____ (*name of city and
country*).

The institution confirms that on his/her return, Mr./Mrs./Miss _____ will
retain his/her current responsibilities related to subject matter of the meeting/training and will be
supported to apply and share the knowledge and skills gained from the meeting/training.

Signature and Stamp

Date:

Name (Please Print)

(Signature)

THIS APPLICATION HAS TO BE SIGNED, DATED AND ACCOMPANIED BY AN OFFICIAL LETTER OF NOMINATION AND RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARIAT:

The Executive Secretary
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
413 St.-Jacques Street, Suite 800
Montreal, Quebec, Canada. H2Y 1N9
Tel.: 1 514 288 2220
Fax: 1 514 288 6588
Web: <http://www.cbd.int>
E-mail: secretariat@cbd.int.org

Due to the large number of applications received, only selected participants will be notified.

CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED BY THE CBD SECRETARIAT

The success of training activities in part depends on the background of the participants selected to attend and their ability and motivation to subsequently apply and share the knowledge, skills and experience acquired at their work place. It is thus crucial to ensure that participants are selected carefully.

Criteria for nomination of participants

The following criteria will be used to guide Parties and other Governments in nominating candidates for training and capacity-building activities organized by the Secretariat:

1. *Relevant academic and professional background*

The nominated candidates should have requisite academic/professional background and experience related to the subject matter to be covered by the meeting/training.

2. *Institutional affiliation*

The nominated candidates should be working with relevant national institutions that are responsible for or dealing with issues related to the subject matter to be covered by the meeting/training in the context of implementation of the NBSAP.

3. *Relevance to the participant's current roles and responsibilities*

The nominated candidates should be handling or coordinating issues/work related to the subject matter to be covered by the meeting/training or show proof that they are being prepared/ mentored to work in that field. In other words, the candidates' job descriptions should include tasks related to the subject matter to be covered by the meeting/training. The participants should be in a position to start applying the knowledge and skills acquired within a year after the meeting/training.

4. *Continued job tenure after the meeting/training*

Preference would be given to candidates likely to remain in service with institutions dealing with issues related to the subject matter to be covered by the meeting/training for a significant period. Candidates should not have less than one year of service left.

5. *Related previous meeting/training*

Preference would be given to candidates that have not attended a similar meeting/training organized by the Secretariat or partner organizations that covered exactly the same topics as those to be covered by the meeting/training in the last two years.

In the case of indigenous peoples and local communities (ILCs), the selection criteria agreed in Decision VIII/5D, Annex, will be used. (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-08/cop-08-dec-05-en.pdf>)

Selection process

1. Parties and other Governments will be invited to nominate, in accordance with the above criteria and guidelines, **at least three potential candidates** to be considered for selection to attend the meeting/training organized by the Secretariat.
2. The evaluation and final selection of participants for any meeting/training will be done by the Secretariat, taking into account the need to ensure equitable geographical representation, gender balance and appropriate mix of participants with different backgrounds and expertise. The Secretariat will give due regard to the special needs and conditions of developing countries, in particular the least developed and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition. The Secretariat will also take into account the commitment and potential of the nominated participants to apply and share with others the knowledge and skills acquired within a year after the meeting/training and to share their post-meeting/training experience through the Clearing-House Mechanism.

Conditions for selected participants

The nominated candidates should be willing to accept the following conditions upon selection to participate in the meeting/training:

1. Agree to complete and submit a pre-meeting/training assignment before arrival. This will be sent to the selected participants in the coming weeks.
2. Agree to participate in all the meeting/training sessions.
3. Agree to apply and share with others the knowledge and skills acquired from the meeting/training within a year and submit to the Secretariat a post-meeting/training report on how the knowledge and skills acquired have been applied in his/her work.
