

NOTIFICATION**Submission of national biodiversity strategies and action plans using the online reporting tool**

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am pleased to inform Parties that a new feature has been added to the online reporting tool of the clearing-house mechanism to enable the online submission of revised or updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans. I would like to encourage Parties to utilize the online reporting tool to submit their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and to discourage submission by e-mail.

All such online submissions will be automatically reflected on an online dashboard that indicates the Parties that have submitted their national targets and/or national biodiversity strategies and action plans and provides access to the submitted information.

The Secretariat is closely monitoring submissions and maintaining a list of Parties that have submitted national targets and/or national biodiversity strategies and action plans in order to ensure that this information will be accurately reflected in the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting (COP 16) under its agenda item 8. Given its heavy workload, the Secretariat will have difficulties in processing any submissions made by e-mail during COP 16.

The online reporting tool may be accessed at <https://ort.cbd.int>. Should Parties experience any difficulties in using it, they are invited to contact the Secretariat by e-mail to mea-cbd-monitoring-support@un.org. A help desk will also be provided at the margins of COP 16.

I would like to congratulate all Parties that have already submitted their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and urge those that have not yet done so to submit them as soon as possible.

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

(Signed) Astrid Schomaker
Executive Secretary

To: CBD national focal points, ABS focal points, Cartagena Protocol focal points, SBSTTA focal points