No. C-12023/4/15-CS-III

Dated: 17th February, 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Intergovernmental Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is a newly established global independent intergovernmental body to provide for science policy interface on policy biodiversity. The goal of IPBES is to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development. The four main functions of IPBES are: (i) knowledge generation, (ii) assessment, (iii) policy support, and (iv) capacity building. Further details about IPBES may be seen on its website (www.ipbes.net).

The IPBES Chair has invited the Government to nominate experts for the following deliverables:

1) A set of regional and sub-regional assessments of biodiversity and ecosystem services (Decision IPBES/3/1 Annex III), implementing work programme deliverable 2b, including for:
   a. A regional and subregional assessment for the Americas region (Decision IPBES/3/1 Annex V), involving up to 100 experts, with a first authors meeting scheduled for 20 -24 July 2015;
   b. A regional and subregional assessment for the Africa region (Decision IPBES/3/1 Annex IV), involving up to 100 experts, with a first authors meeting scheduled 3 -7 August 2015;
   c. A regional and subregional assessment for the Asia and Pacific region (Decision IPBES/3/1 Annex VI), involving up to 100 experts, with a first authors meeting scheduled 17 -21 August 2015;
   d. A regional and subregional assessment for Europe and Central Asia (Decision IPBES/3/1 Annex VII), involving up to 100 experts, with a first authors meeting scheduled 31 August – 4 September 2015.

2) A thematic assessment of land degradation and restoration, implementing work programme deliverable 3bi (Decision IPBES/3/1 Annex VIII), involving up to 80 experts, with a first authors meeting scheduled 6 -10 July 2015; and

3) The scoping of a global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services for consideration by the Plenary at its 4th session, implementing work programme deliverable 2c, involving up to 20 experts. A scoping meeting is planned for 5 – 7 October 2015.

The letter from Chair of IPBES with relevant details may be seen at the link http://www.ipbes.net/news/641-call-for-nomination-of-experts.html.
The purpose of this communication is to encourage as many scientists and experts in the subject matter of the above-mentioned deliverables of IPBES, so that interested experts can communicate their willingness to contribute to these assessments along with their CVs to this Ministry by 6th March 2015 positively. Thereafter, the CVs would be examined by a committee set up for this purpose, and approved nominations would be communicated to IPBES Secretariat well in time before 31st March 2015. Towards this, as the head of the organisation, you may wish to widely disseminate this information.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Hem Pande)