



NOTIFICATION
**Nomination of experts to participate in the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on
Synthetic Biology**

Dear Sir or Madam,

In its decision [16/21](#), the Conference of Parties established a new ad hoc technical expert group on synthetic biology, which was tasked with (i) reviewing and synthesizing the information presented during the intersessional period; (ii) identifying the current and potential benefits of synthetic biology; (iii) identifying the potential negative impacts of the most recent technological developments in synthetic biology; (iv) identifying the potential negative impacts of the most recent technological developments in synthetic biology; and (v) providing advice on how capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology and knowledge-sharing in synthetic biology can be taken into account with respect to the draft thematic action plan, in light of future developments of synthetic biology. The report of the Group will be considered at the twenty-eighth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

Accordingly, I would like to invite Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, academia, research institutions, the business sector and relevant organizations to nominate synthetic biology experts to participate in the meeting of the Group. Nominations of experts that have not been involved in previous meetings of ad hoc technical expert groups on synthetic biology are encouraged.

CBD National Focal Points or Heads of organizations, as appropriate, are kindly requested to submit nominations of experts, in the form of an official letter addressed to the Executive Secretary, clearly indicating the name and full contact details of each nominee, as well as curriculum vitae, to be sent by e-mail to secretariat@cbd.int as soon as possible, but no later than **19 December 2025**. In line with decision [14/33](#) and as amended by decision [16/26](#), nominees are also required to complete the interest disclosure form available at <https://www.cbd.int/doc/forms/conflict-interest-form-en.pdf>.

The Group is expected to meet virtually and in person, with its first in person meeting of the Group provisionally scheduled to take place from 19 – 22 May 2026 in Montreal, Canada. With the generous financial support of the European Union, selected eligible Parties, as well as a limited number of representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities, and women, youth, academic and research organizations, will receive financial assistance to cover the cost of travel and a daily subsistence allowance.

The selection of experts will be made, in consultation with the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, taking into account relevant expertise and experience as per the terms of reference of the Group, as well as gender balance and equitable geographical representation. A notification announcing the composition of the Group will be issued once the selection process is complete.

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

(Signed) Astrid Schomaker
Executive Secretary

To: CBD National Focal Points, relevant organizations and indigenous peoples and local communities
cc: SBSTTA National Focal Points, Cartagena Protocol National Focal Points