

EM/2018/04

04 April 2018

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce the start of the external review for the second order drafts of the chapters and the first draft of the Summary for Policymakers of the IPBES global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The period for this second external review of the global assessment is from 30 April until 29 June, 2018.

This assessment will be the first global snapshot of the state of the world's biodiversity in more than a decade, since the release of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. The global assessment will provide decision makers with the state of knowledge regarding the planet's biodiversity, ecosystems and their contributions to people, as well as the options to protect and use these natural assets more sustainably. Furthermore, the global assessment will provide vital data to assess progress against the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Sustainable Development Goals.

This second review is addressed to governments and interested and qualified experts, including scientists, decision makers, practitioners and knowledge holders, and it is essential to ensure consistency and continuity after the first external comments have been addressed. Therefore, the widest-possible participation and most diverse engagement of experts in this second external review is vital to ensure the scientific quality and policy relevance of the global assessment.

If you would like to be an expert reviewer for the global assessment, please follow these easy steps:

- 1) Register as user of the IPBES website ([http://www.ipbes.net/registration\\_global\\_fod](http://www.ipbes.net/registration_global_fod)) if you have not already done so.
- 2) Apply to become an IPBES external reviewer for individual chapters of the global assessment at [http://www.ipbes.net/user/login?destination=registration\\_global\\_fod](http://www.ipbes.net/user/login?destination=registration_global_fod) (this will only work when logged in first as IPBES website user).
- 3) Once registered, you will immediately receive an email providing confidential access to the draft chapters and will be requested to submit your comments in English using a template that is available on the same webpage.

If you have any further queries about this external review please email Hien Ngo ([hien.ngo@ipbes.net](mailto:hien.ngo@ipbes.net)). Thank you again for your participation and assistance in strengthening the IPBES assessments through this external review.

Yours sincerely,



**Anne Larigauderie** | Executive Secretary

Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services