



alpenkonvention • convention alpine
convenzione delle alpi • alpska konvencija

Ständiges Sekretariat • Secrétariat permanent • Segretariato permanente • Stalni sekretariat

secretariat@unfccc.int

Innsbruck, 25.9.2012

MO/jr/Alp12 - 104

Dear Sir,

Mountain ecosystems play a crucial role in providing water resources to a large portion of the world's population; fragile mountain ecosystems are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, deforestation and forest degradation, land use change, land degradation, and natural disasters; and mountain glaciers around the world are retreating and getting thinner with increasing impacts on the environment and human well-being. That is why, as specified in the Decision 6/CP.17 of SBSTA, in which Parties and relevant organizations are invited to submit to the secretariat, by 17 September 2012, their views on potential future areas of work of the Nairobi work programme, on behalf of the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention, it is proposed to establish an area of work on "mountains and climate change" in view of the special attention needed by mountain ecosystems to adapt to the effect of climate change.

Yours sincerely,

Marco Onida

Secretary General of the Alpine Convention

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