



**Invitation to participate in the World Botanic Gardens
Exhibition during the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China**

April 15, 2008

Dear Director,

We are cordially inviting your Botanic Garden to join the World Botanic Gardens Exhibition during the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

With the theme of "Homes for plants, Gardens for humans," the world botanic gardens exhibition is co-organized by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) Botanic Gardens, Beijing Municipal Science and Technology Committee, and Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI). The exhibition will be displayed at the Science and Technology Park near the Olympic Village from 8 July to 8 September 2008.

Our goal is to open a window to Olympic Games' participants, and visitors from around world, through which they can see the beauty and the value of biodiversity, and witness the ongoing efforts of botanic gardens to preserve our natural plant heritage. We believe that the Olympic Games' theme of "One World, One Dream," extends to the worldwide family of botanic gardens, and our goal is to show all visitors how gardens work locally, and internationally, to keep our planet green.

We hope to collect over 100 stories from more than 50 different countries. Each garden will present one story as a separate poster that shows how they work to protect plant diversity and conserve the environment at large. The exhibition can also include a display of living plants with public interests, or other supplemental materials as described in the instructions attached to this letter. Following the exhibition, we will provide each participating botanic garden with a digital copy of the presentations that you can use to create a local exhibition of world botanic gardens. The information provided will also be made available on BGCI's Garden Search global database.

If you are interested in this exhibition and wish to join, please send a confirmation notice by 30 April and the requested material before 30 May 2008 to: **Ms Tang at tangna@xtbg.org.cn (Fax 0086-691-8715070).**

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Tangna', written in a cursive style.

Director of Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, CAS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. P. O'Neil', written in a cursive style.

Secretary General of Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI)

On behalf of Organizing Committee of the exhibition