





STATEMENT BY

MR. AHMED DJOGHLAF

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

ON THE OCCASION OF THE

EASTERN EUROPE REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON BIODIVERSITY AND FINANCE

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Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity United Nations Environment Programme 413 Saint-Jacques Street, Suite 800, Montreal, QC, H2Y 1N9, Canada Tel : +1 514 288 2220, Fax : +1 514 288 6588 secretariat@cbd.int www.cbd.int



Madam Barbut,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In his statement to the sixty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly last September, the President of Ukraine, Mr. Viktor Yanukovych, said: "Global challenges require a global response. The world must develop a new financial and economic system of relations." It is thus fitting that you take up global biodiversity challenge and innovative financing as the themes of the workshop in this great country.

Explicitly guided and driven by consideration of fairness and equitability, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, adopted by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, provides a set of international rules that can facilitate access and benefit-sharing for utilizing genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge in various sectors such as pharmaceuticals, agriculture, horticulture, cosmetics and biotechnology. It is a new landmark for implementing the Convention, and offers an elevated base for advancing its third objective.

The Nagoya Protocol was officially opened for signature by Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in New York on 2 February 2011. The following Parties have already signed the Protocol: Colombia, Yemen, Brazil, Algeria, Mexico and Rwanda. The next signing ceremony will take place in New York on 11 May 2011 in conjunction with the high-level segment of the nineteenth session of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development. The Nagoya Protocol remains open for signature until 1 February 2012 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The Nagoya Protocol enters into force 90 days after the deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval, or accession.

To ensure that the first meeting of the governing body of this historic instrument will take place in India in October 2012 back-to-back with the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, 50 ratifications are required before 19 July 2012. The GEF has adopted a Medium Sized Project to ensure the early entry into force of the Protocol. At the initiative of Japan, a dedicated Trust Fund for the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization was established at the Global Environment Facility (GEF) on 17 March 2011. The Trust Fund for Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund (NPIF) aims at facilitating the early entry into force and the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

The Global Biodiversity Strategic Plan for the period 2011-2020, which was also adopted by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties last October, provide an internationally agreed master plan to address the global biodiversity challenge for the whole decade. If the 20 Aichi targets are achieved effectively, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, i.e., 27 per cent of the Planet's surface under national jurisdiction, will be under protection, and sustainability will prevail in national policies and societal pursuits. No any other international agreement has broader coverage or will leave greater legacy to next generations to come than the Convention on Biological Diversity. There should be no delay in advancing the implementation of the Nagoya Compact.

To assist eligible countries to translate the Aichi Target into national strategies and action plans before COP 11, Japan has established a Japan Biodiversity Fund which is now fully operational at the Secretariat. The funding envelope envisaged by the GEF for national biodiversity planning is about US\$40 million. A series of regional and sub-regional workshops are being organized by the CBD Secretariat in order to expedite the national planning process. The first regional workshop on biodiversity strategies and action plans was already convened in Botswana last week. The joint leadership and visionary efforts of national focal points of the CBD and the GEF are essential to ensure early and timely delivery of national and regional chapters of the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan of the Convention.

The Strategy for Resource Mobilization of the Convention, major thrusts of which were mostly adopted by COP 9, strives to assist countries in the implementation of the Convention by generating financial resources from multiple sources though multiple channels by multiple mechanisms at multiple levels, including innovations in an optimal structure of mixing these sources, channels, mechanisms and levels. This mixed architecture includes central funds such as the Global Environment Facility at the global level, country-to-country direct assistance, national-level and local-level funding, as well as innovative solutions with the private sector. Better global understanding of funding needs and corresponding funding sources is essential to design and improvement of the financial architecture. This regional workshop should shed light on further elaboration and implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization, including at national and regional levels.

The Strategy for Resource Mobilization calls for innovative financial solutions. Earlier this week, a workshop on innovative financial mechanisms was organized under the EU Presidency of Hungary in Budapest. The financial architecture of the Convention adopted in the early 1990s must evolve with the global financial and economic environments and respond to the emergence of new and additional challenges and opportunities for biodiversity interventions. For instance, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) estimated emissions from deforestation in the 1990s to be at 5.8 gigatons of carbon dioxide per year, or about 20% of annual global greenhouse gas emissions. It only makes sense that funding schemes addressing climate change challenges make available about 20% of such funding to biodiversity conservation, that is, \$20 billion per annum under the Copenhagen funding scenario.

President Viktor Yanukovych stated, "The Earth is our common ship, and it should not become a 'Titanic'." Your joint consideration of global biodiversity agenda at this workshop will undoubtedly enhance the survivability of our common ship.

Thank you very much for your attention.