

MONTHLY BULLETIN OF ACTIVITIES OF THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

MARCH 2011

**Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety - Open for Signature
New York, U.S.A.**

The Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety was opened for signature by Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety on 7 March at the United Nations Headquarters. Colombia was the first country to sign the Supplementary Protocol, followed by Denmark, Sweden and The Netherlands. It will remain open for signature until 6 March 2012.

Following the opening of signature, a press conference on the Supplementary Protocol was held by Mr. Hidenori Murakami, advisor to the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, as well as Ms. Jimena Nieto and Mr. Rene Lefèber, the former Co-Chairs of the group that negotiated the text of the new treaty. The Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol enters into force 90 days after the deposit of the fortieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval, or accession. For more information on the Supplementary Protocol, please visit: http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/NKL_Protocol.shtml



Signing ceremony



Press conference

International Day for Biological Diversity 2011

Theme: Forest Biodiversity



The IBD logo for 2011 is now available in all the United Nations languages. It can be accessed at:

<http://www.cbd.int/idb/image/idb-2011-logo.zip>

A video message of Edward Norton, U.N. Goodwill Ambassador for Biodiversity, on the International Year of Forests, as well as other information on the IBD celebration are also available at:

<http://www.cbd.int/idb/2011/>



Visitors this month



Jon Hutton, UNEP-WCMC

IUCN delegation

U.N. Women - Montreal Launch

Staff from the CBD Secretariat had the opportunity to attend the launching of the new United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, organized and hosted by the National Committee for U.N.-Women Canada on 28 March 2011 at the Ogilvy Tudor Hall in downtown Montreal. Speakers included: Mr. Justin Trudeau, MP for Papineau, Montreal; Dr. Moez Doraid, UN Women; and Almas Jiwani, President of the National Committee for UN Women Canada. The event highlighted that the creation of this new entity reinforces the commitment by the UN Member States to accelerate progress on gender rights and empowerment of women. The CBD is now part of the Canadian National Committee for UN Women and will be keeping the committee updated on the activities of the CBD regarding gender mainstreaming and the empowerment of women.

**Fourth session of the ITPGRFA Governing Body
Bali, Indonesia**

In March, a delegation from the CBD Secretariat attended the fourth session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture held Bali, Indonesia. The CBD Executive Secretary addressed the opening session and presented an overview of the outcomes of the tenth meeting of the CBD Conference of the Parties (COP), including the new Strategic Plan and the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit-sharing. He also noted the complementarities between the Treaty and the Nagoya Protocol and underscored the need for the Protocol's early entry into force. The CBD Programme Officer for ABS carried out a

briefing session on the Nagoya Protocol on ABS, which gathered over 80 participants. Copies of the Nagoya Protocol, of the fact-sheet on the Nagoya Protocol as well as of the information on the ratification process were widely distributed. Under the agenda item on "collaboration with other organizations" the relationship with the CBD was addressed and it is worth noting that the Governing Body appealed to Parties and other countries to give priority consideration to signature and ratification of the Nagoya Protocol. It also called on Parties to ensure that any legislative, administrative or policy measures taken for the implementation of the ITPGRFA and the Nagoya Protocol should be consistent and mutually supportive and finally decided to establish cooperation with the Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol and

later the COP/MOP. In essence, wide support was expressed for close collaboration between our two institutions.

**Workshop on United Nations Decade on Biodiversity
Hanoi, Vietnam**



Dr. Pham Anh Cuong, Deputy Director of the Biodiversity Preservation Department, Vietnam.

In March, the CBD Executive Secretary attended the seminar on "The United Nations Decade on Biodiversity 2011-2020" and delivered the opening remarks. The event, organized by the Vietnam Environment Administration, provided an opportunity to inform participants about

the Decade on Biodiversity, as well as to brief them on the outcomes of the Nagoya Biodiversity Summit, including the new Strategic Plan on biodiversity. The Deputy Director of the Biodiversity Preservation Department of Vietnam also addressed the meeting and outlined activities on preserving biodiversity from now until 2020. Participants discussed priorities of the Convention on Biological Diversity and Vietnam's orientations as well as issues in biodiversity planning and preservation. A number of other issues were also discussed, including: access and benefit sharing, climate change, finance and economic tools.



At the opening of the meeting (Photo credits: IISD/ENB).

**Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation and Capacity-building Workshop on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries, including on Relevant Biodiversity Safeguards
Singapore City, Singapore**

The Secretariat organized, in collaboration with the National Parks Board of Singapore, an "Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation and Capacity Building Workshop on REDD-plus, Including on Relevant Biodiversity Safeguards," held in Singapore, 15-18 March 2011. The workshop was the second in a series of expert workshops to consult effectively with Parties on biodiversity aspects of REDD-plus. It developed advice on REDD-plus and relevant biodiversity safeguards, on possible indicators to assess the contribution of REDD-plus to achieving the objectives of the CBD, and on potential mechanisms to monitor impacts of REDD-plus on biodiversity.

The workshop also contributed to capacity-building on REDD-plus in the Asia-Pacific region. The workshop results are intended to support both the CBD and UNFCCC discussions on relevant biodiversity safeguards for REDD-plus, as well as on the monitoring of biodiversity in the context of the forest-related Aichi Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.



Participants at the Singapore meeting.

Regional Workshop for Southern Africa on Updating NBSAPs / Briefing for the Parliament of Botswana Kasane, Botswana

Pursuant to COP decision X/2(17), the Secretariat organized a Regional Workshop for Southern Africa on Updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans: Incorporating work on valuation and incentive measures on 14-20 May 2011 in Kasane, Botswana. The first in a series of regional and sub-regional capacity building workshops, the meeting gave the participants an opportunity to strengthen national capacities for the development, implementation, reviewing, updating, and communication of NBSAPs; to help facilitate national implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 – 2020; and translate the Post-2010 strategic Plan into national targets and commitments (decision X/2

(17)). It also provided an introduction to other COP 10 outcomes. The SCBD also engaged in one-to-one sessions with each of the participants in order to provide them with detailed assistance on their particular country situations. In turn, most participants pledged to start the process of revising and updating their NBSAPs in the immediate aftermath of the workshop.

Following the regional workshop, the SCBD hosted a briefing for the Parliament of Botswana on 22 March 2011, with the aim of highlighting the role that Parliamentarians should play in national and global biodiversity management. A presentation was made on the Nagoya Outcomes with a focus on the main findings of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, the Strategic Plan and the Aichi Targets, the Nagoya Protocol on ABS, the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol and the United Nations Decade on

Biodiversity. The briefing was made to two Parliamentary Portfolio Committees namely the Portfolio Committee on Natural Resources and the Portfolio Committee on Climate Change. In addition to the Honorable Members of Parliament, the



SCBD staff with Botswana members of Parliament.

briefing was attended by the Honorable Onkokame Kitso Mokaila, the Minister of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism (MEWT) and Mrs. Rapelang Mojaphoko, the Deputy Permanent Secretary for MEWT. In his introductory remarks, the Minister emphasized the importance of a coordinated approach to environmental management, and that biodiversity management was a core element in broader efforts to implement sustainable development. He underscored the role biodiversity plays in development and poverty alleviation and the importance of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS for Africa and Botswana and the need to expedite ratification.



Participants at the Botswana meeting.

Latin American and Caribbean Indigenous and Local Community Capacity-building Workshop on the CBD including issues relevant to Article 8(j), Traditional Knowledge and ABS Georgetown, Guyana

A capacity building workshop on CBD for Latin American and Caribbean ILCs was held in Georgetown, Guyana on 16-18 March 2011, which was also the last of a series of workshops organised by the Secretariat of the Convention, in collaboration with the Indigenous Women Biodiversity Network of the LAC Region, and thanks to the generosity of the Spanish Government.

John Scott, CBD Programme Officer for Traditional Knowledge, opened the meeting on behalf of the CBD Executive Secretary. Welcoming remarks were made by: Collin Coral, represen-

tative of the Guyanese Ministry of Amerindian Affairs; George Norton, representative of the Amerindian at the Congress; Jeanne La Rose, representative of the Amerindian Peoples Association; and Melinda Janki and Gino Persaud, the co-Directors of the Justice Institute. The Coordinator of the Indigenous Women Biodiversity Network of the LAC Region, Ms. Florina Lopez, also made welcoming remarks on behalf of the Network.

A total of 31 indigenous and local community representatives (24 women and 7 men) participated in the workshop. They came from 5 different countries and different communities. At the end of the meeting, participants expressed their gratitude to the Secretariat, as well as their desire to participate in future sub-regional workshops to learn more about the Convention, and their eagerness to share what they learned to their home communities.



Participants at the Guyana meeting.

NEW PUBLICATION



Biosafety Protocol News - Working towards a common goal: Ten years of international cooperation on implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
<https://bch.cbd.int/protocol/outreach/newsletter/bpn-08.pdf>

 **Biosafety Protocol News feedback questionnaire:**
<http://survey.cbd.int/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=72KK4m2>

CBD POWPA Review workshop Wolkersdorf, Austria

The CBD PoWPA Review workshop for Carpathian Countries, organized by WWF-Danube Carpathian Programme, and attended by the CBD Secretariat, was held from 2-3 March, in Wolkersdorf, Austria. Delegates from Carpathian countries completed the PoWPA reporting framework to show their progress in implementing the PoWPA. The countries also listed priority actions for the PoWPA implementation in the next 5 years and discussed practical ways to fund these priorities going forward.



View of the meeting in Wolkersdorf (Photo credits WWF International-Danube Carpathian Programme).

GEF-STAP Special Workshop on "Seeking Global and Regional Solutions to Marine Debris Problem" Honolulu, Hawaii

The CBD Secretariat was represented by Ms. Jihyun Lee at a Special Workshop on "Seeking Global and Regional Solutions to Marine Debris Problem", organized by GEF-STAP at the 5th International Ma-

rine Debris Conference, on 23 March 2011, in Honolulu, Hawaii. The workshop was well attended by the representatives of major UN agencies including UNEP, IMO and FAO; NOAA; regional seas organizations; academies; private sectors and NGOs, and successfully concluded paving the way for the development of global partnership toward a life-cycle management of plastic production and consumption, which is very much related to "green economy", while addressing the critical impacts of plastic pollution on marine biodiversity. The meeting recommended for a development of global level strategies and implementation of region-based actions for such a life-cycle management. The Convention was recognized as one of the important global policy forum to bring this important issue to the attention of policy makers for their actions.

As a follow-up to this workshop recommendation, GEF-STAP is currently preparing a report on global and regional response to marine debris/plastic pollution. In view of its critical impacts on marine biodiversity and ecosystem services, CBD Secretariat will also participate in the preparation of this document, together with GEF-STAP, UNEP, FAO, IMO, GESAMP, regional seas organizations, etc., and collaborate toward the development of global partnership for managing marine debris and plastic pollu-

tion. Such collaboration will be in line with the implementation of COP 10 requests called for in paragraphs 68, 69, 70 and 73 of decision X/29.

Workshop on Innovative Financial Mechanisms / Eastern Europe Regional Workshop on Biodiversity and Finance in support of the Nagoya Outcomes Kiev, Ukraine

The CBD Secretariat attended the Workshop on Innovative Financial Mechanisms was organized by the EU Presidency of Hungary from 22-23 March 2011 in Budapest, Hungary. It was designed to provide input for preparing a EU submission on innovative financial mechanisms in response to decision X/3. Participants heard presentations from experts, and discussed, in more details, financial, technical, social and environmental soundness of each innovative financial mechanism. It was a useful follow-up to the Bonn Workshop on Innovative Financial Mechanisms organized by the Secretariat in January 2010.

The first-ever Eastern Europe Regional Workshop on Biodiversity and Finance was held on 25 March 2011, in conjunction with the Eastern Europe Expanded Constituency Workshop of the Global Environment Facility (22-24 March 2011). National focal points of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Global Environment Facility attended the workshop, and examined the national and regional implications of the Nagoya Outcomes as well as strategies to finance national and regional implementation. Participants also brought new insights into further work on innovative financial mechanisms.



•The long-term sustainability of nature's bounty in the Colombian Amazon has received a significant boost thanks to €3.1 million in new funding from the European Union. The new project will improve livelihoods through the prevention of deforestation, forest conservation and sustainable use activities in protected areas, indigenous reserves and their buffer zones.

•Germany's Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, through the International Climate Initiative, has confirmed €22.8 million in financial support to help countries address climate change and secure livelihoods through the conservation of biological diversity. This financing is consistent with Expressions of Interest made by national governments and their partners to CBD LifeWeb Initiative and supplements the previous support given by the Ministry since 2008 to CBD LifeWeb projects. This support is also an inspiring example of concrete follow-through by Germany on its significant commitments made at COP 9 and COP 10 to increase its support in the coming years, in particular for needs conveyed by partner countries through the CBD LifeWeb Initiative.

•CBD LifeWeb Initiative held a series of meetings in March 2011 with public and private donor partners in Germany, France, Switzerland and the USA. The goal of these meetings was to further strengthen partnerships and to facilitate new funding matches for project Expressions of Interest.

•The current status of funding matches made for Expressions of Interest profiled through the CBD LifeWeb Initiative is 37 Expressions of Interest fully or partially funded in 35 countries, involving 16 donors, totaling over US\$200 million. For more information, please see <http://www.cbd.int/lifeweb/matches/>.

For more information on the LifeWeb Initiative, please visit: www.cbd.int/lifeweb

Video on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety



http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb_media_video1.shtml



Secretariat of the Convention on Biological
Diversity
413 Saint-Jacques Street West
Montreal, Quebec H2Y 1N9 Canada
Tel.: 514-2882220
Fax: 514-2886588

