

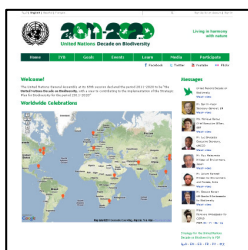
MONTHLY BULLETIN OF ACTIVITIES OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

MAY 2011

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

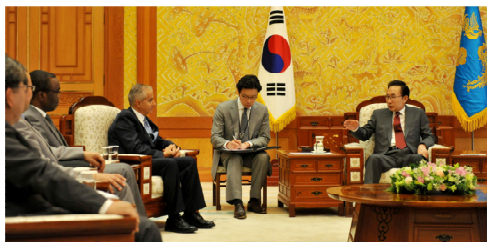
Following the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 65/161, proclaiming the period from 2011 to 2020 as the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity (UNDB), the Secretariat unveiled the official UNDB logo. Parties and relevant partners are encouraged to use the logo for their respective UNDB celebrations/activities. The electronic version of the logo is available upon request by submitting a duly completed Waiver of Liability Form (<http://www.cbd.int/2011-2020/waiver/>) to the Secretariat at: UNBiodiversity@cbd.int.

The Secretariat has also launched a UNDB website (<http://www.cbd.int/2011-2020/>), which provides information on activities, draft strategy for UNDB celebrations, video messages, outreach materials, upcoming events, links to social media, and others.



Screenshot of the UN Decade on Biodiversity website.

In May, regional launches in Asia were held in the Republic of Korea, India and the Philippines. In the Republic of Korea, more than 1,000 participants attended the launch of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, which coincided with the celebrations of the International Day for Biological Diversity and the launch of the International Year of Forests. A meeting was also held



President Lee Myung-bak meeting with the Executive Secretaries of CBD, UNCCD and G-77 Secretariats.

with the President of the Republic of Korea, together with the Executive Secretaries of the UNCCD and the G-77 Secretariat.



The Minister of Environment and Forests of India, Jairam Ramesh, also launched the UNDB in New Delhi, with the participation of more than 500 participants, including the CBD Executive Secretary, the Vice Minister of Environment of Japan, Ministers of Environment of Sri Lanka and Afghanistan, representatives of the diplomatic corps in New Delhi, Government officials, international bodies, industry, among others. The official logo of COP11 and slogan - *Rakruthi Rakshathi Rakshita* - which means "Nature protects if she is protected" was unveiled. During the event, Minister Ramesh unveiled the COP11 logo. A Stakeholders' meeting on biodiversity was also held on the same day.



Environment and Forests Minister Ramesh of India at the Stakeholders meeting on biodiversity held on the same day as the UNDB launch.

The UNDB was also launched by President Benigno Aquino III, at the Malacañang Palace, with the participation of diplomats from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam; high-level government officials;

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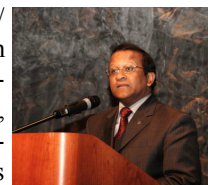
President Benigno Aquino III of the Philippines with the CBD-ES at the unveiling of the Malacañang Heritage Tree at the Presidential Palace.

International Day for Biological Diversity 2011



Jean Langlais, Director of Biosphère

On 20 May, some 150 people assembled at the Biosphère, environmental museum in Montreal, to mark this year's International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB), celebrated under the theme "forest biodiversity", as a contribution to the 2011 International Year of Forests (see <http://www.cbd.int/idb/2011/>). Jean Langlais, Director of Biosphère, delivered welcoming remarks at the event.



Alan de Sousa, on behalf of the Mayor of Montreal

Brief statements were also made by: Alan de Sousa, on behalf of the Mayor of Montreal; Jean Lemire, Ambassador of *The Green Wave*; representative from RCEN; staff and students from St-Laurent Academy. The IDB message by the United Nations Secretary General was read out and a video message by



David Ainsworth (CBD) with Jean Lemire.

(cont'd on page 2)



Tree planting at the Biosphère, as a contribution to The Green Wave.

U.N. Decade (cont'd from page 1)

and representatives of media, conservation organizations and the business community. At the event, President Aquino issued a Presidential Proclamation declaring 2011-2020 as the National Decade on Biodiversity in the Philippines. Also at the event, which coincided with the launch of the International Year of Forests, President Aquino declared the *balete* tree as “Heritage Tree” under the DENR’s Heritage Tree Program. A commemorative marker was unveiled by President Aquino and the CBD Executive Secretary. More UNDB launches are being planned throughout the year.



Launch of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity in the Republic of Korea



President Benigno Aquino III of the Philippines with the CBD-ES and other guests at the Malacañang Palace.

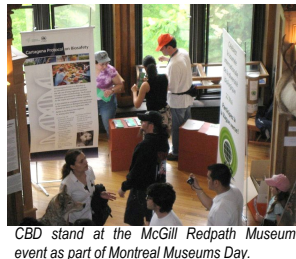
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On 27-29 May, the Secretariat was pleased to join the over one hundred exhibitors during the “Rendez-vous horticole” held annually at the Montreal Botanical Garden. This family event showcases local horticultural products and reminds us of our relationship to nature.

Attended by over 9750 visitors, outreach materials on the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity and explaining the work of the Convention were distributed to the public.

An exhibition highlighting the UN Decade on Biodiversity was also organised, in collaboration with the Redpath Museum, on 29 May at McGill University as part of the Montréal Museums Day. The event, which was attended by more than 4800 visitors, aimed at raising awareness of *The*



CBD stand at the McGill Redpath Museum event as part of Montreal Museums Day.

Green Wave initiative for the International Day of Biodiversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. It also aimed to increase participation of academia in biodiversity and biosafety activities.

Biodiversity Day (cont'd from page 1)

the CBD Executive Secretary was presented, who was unable to attend due to the Asian launch of UNDB (see page 1). Immediately after the event, a tree-planting event was held, as a contribution to The Green Wave initiative. For photos on the event, please see IBD 2011 album at: <http://www.cbd.int/photos/>. To find out how other Parties and relevant partners celebrated the International Day for Biological Diversity 2011, please go to: <http://www.cbd.int/idb/2011/celebrations/>.

Third expert meeting on South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development Incheon, Republic of Korea



Korean Environment Minister Maanee Lee addressing the SSC meeting

The third expert meeting on South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development was held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, on 18-20 May 2011, with the objective of further developing the Multi-Year Plan of Action for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development as adopted by the Group of 77 and China and welcomed by the CBD Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting, held in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2010. The Plan of Action was submitted as a key mechanism for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The expert meeting was hosted by the Korean National Institute on Biological Resources (NIBR) and attended by 25 experts from 12 specialized centers in developing countries, 7 UN agencies and G-77 office in New York. In a project fair exercise 12 cooperation concepts were generated. For the first time, agencies from Ministries of Commerce, Foreign Affairs and Planning, working in collaboration with their counterparts in Environment, explored means to incorporate biodiversity into their international cooperation frameworks and strategies. During the meeting, Environment Minister Lee of Korea announced a commitment of contributing USD 250,000 to the multilateral fund on South-South cooperation on biodiversity to be hosted by the GEF.

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View of the South-South Cooperation meeting

Meeting of the Consortium of Scientific Partners on Biodiversity Incheon, Republic of Korea

The Korean National Institute of Biological Resources also served as host to the meeting of the Consortium of Scientific Partners on 20 May. Several members of the Consortium met to discuss their involvement and contribution to the implementation of the Aichi Nagoya Targets and Strategic Plan of the CBD. The meeting also served as witness to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the South African National Institute of Biodiversity and the Convention on Biological Diversity, becoming the first African institution to be part of the Consortium.



Agreement with SANBI as the newest CSP member

Regional Workshops on Updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

► Beirut, Lebanon



The third regional capacity building workshop on revising and updating National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) was convened by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) on 2-7 May 2011 in Beirut, Lebanon.

The workshop was hosted and co-sponsored by the Ministry of Environment of Lebanon, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Asia and the Government of Japan through its Japan Biodiversity Fund to support implementation of the CoP-10 Nagoya Outcomes. The meeting was attended by 32 participants from 17 countries, with additional resource persons from different institutions, including Lebanon American University of Beirut (Lebanon); National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (Egypt), *Tamunt n iffus* (Morocco), SPNL (Lebanon), IUCN-CEC, UNEP-ROWA, League of Arab States, and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). The meeting provided an opportunity for countries from all Arab States to meet and exchange early experiences with the challenge of integrating the Nagoya Strategic Plan and its associated Aichi Targets into national biodiversity planning processes.

► Xi'an, China

A six-day regional capacity building workshop for the updating and revision of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAP) for East, South and Southeast Asia was held in Xi'an, China from 9 to 16 May 2011, with the support of the Government of Japan and through the kind assistance of the Ministry of Environmental Protection of China, the Environment Department of Shaanxi Province, Chanba District of the City of Xi'an and the Executive Committee for the 2011 Xi'an International Horticultural Expo.



The workshop focused on assisting countries in the region to develop national targets in line with the framework of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020), and to strengthen capacities for the updating or revising, implementation, monitoring and communication of national biodiversity strategies and action plans as well as mainstreaming biodiversity into national and local planning processes.

In cooperation with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and with additional financial support provided by the Mercuria Energy Group, the work-

shop also addressed how economic valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services and the application of incentive measures can be used to communicate and mainstream biodiversity in relevant sectors such as agriculture, forestry, mining, transport, and energy. Presentations were made on the work undertaken by the initiative on the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB), on the experiences of Japan in undertaking valuation and applying incentive measures, and on China recent work in integrating ecosystem services into land use planning as well as into national environmental accounting.

The workshop is one of a series of regional and sub-regional capacity building workshops that have been and will be organized by the CBD Secretariat in 2011 and 2012 to support national efforts in updating their NBSAPs in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020).

► Dakar, Senegal

The Regional Workshop for West Africa on Updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans was convened by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in collaboration with the Minis-



try of Environment and Nature Conservation of Senegal and the Regional Program for the Conservation of the Marine and Coastal Zones of West Africa (PRCM), and with the financial support provided by Japan and other donors. The workshop aimed at strengthening national capacities for the development, implementation, reviewing, updating, and communication of NBSAPs; helping facilitate national implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020; and translating the post-2010 Strategic Plan into national targets and commitments.



Participants at the NBSAP Workshop in Beirut

SIGNATORIES TO THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL ON ABS AND THE NAGOYA-KUALA LUMPUR SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL

Nagoya Protocol on ABS

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1) Panama | 6) India | 11) Gabon |
| 2) Peru | 7) Japan | 12) Mauritania |
| 3) Guatemala | 8) Norway | 13) Ghana |
| 4) Indonesia | 9) Switzerland | |
| 5) South Africa | 10) Tunisia | |

As of 31 May, total number of signatories is: 24

Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol

- | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 1) Panama | 6) Romania | 11) Finland | 16) Switzerland |
| 2) Peru | 7) Slovenia | 12) France | 17) Tunisia |
| 3) Hungary | 8) Austria | 13) Latvia | 18) European Union |
| 4) Ireland | 9) Bulgaria | 14) Lithuania | 19) Mauritania |
| 5) Montenegro | 10) Czech Republic | 15) Luxembourg | |

As of 31 May, total number of signatories is: 23

Official visit to Beijing



MEPA Vice Minister Li Ganjie with CBD-ES.

In May, the CBD executive Secretary paid a two-day official visit to Beijing to meet with senior officials in the Ministry

of Environmental Protection (MEP), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), and the China International Centre of Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE), a South-South Cooperation implementing agency under the Ministry of Commerce. Issues discussed included: the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, China's engagement in South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity as well as the possibility of promoting biodiversity in the China-Africa cooperation framework.



Ms. Li Yanduan, Special Representative for on Climate Change Negotiations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, PRC with CBD-ES.

Sub-regional action plans unveiled for effective implementation of PoWPA for achieving Target 11 Isle of Vilm, Germany

In pursuance of paragraph 7a, 1b and 1c of decision X/31, and paragraph 12 of decision IX/18 the CBD Secretariat and the IUCN Global Programme on Protected Areas co-hosted a planning meeting with the support of UNDP and with the generous financial support of the Government of the Netherlands for capacity building for implementation of the CBD programme of work on protected areas from 1-5 May 2011 on the Isle of Vilm, Germany.



Participants at the PoWPA meeting

The participants, from protected area agencies globally, discussed the modus operandi of the 2011-2012 series of protected area sub regional workshops, which will be supported by the European Union, and supplemented by Belgium, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands and

Spain and other donors. The participants also discussed the feasibility of conducting these workshops as part of a larger sub-regional support strategy of capacity building, and possible terms of reference of these sub regional networks.

Expert meeting on Capacity Building for IPBES Trondheim, Norway

The SCBD participated in an expert workshop on Capacity Building for IPBES in Trondheim, Norway, 25-27 May 2011. The workshop was convened by the Brazilian and Norwegian environment ministries and was designed to be an informal expert meeting to help preparations for the upcoming IPBES Plenary meetings in October and March. David Cooper presented the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, 2011-2020 highlighting the Aichi Targets, the opportunities provided through the NBSAP process for national assessments and identification of capacity needs, as well as links between CBD and IPBES capacity building activities. He emphasised the need for strong links between IPBES and the CBD to maximise the usefulness of IPBES for the CBD and to promote a coherent approach to biodiversity issues. All presentations are available at www.dirnat.no/ipbes. SCBD (David Cooper) co-chaired the group focussed on capacity building for the assessment processes. The main conclusion of this groups was the important role for national and other sub-global assessments as an engine for capacity building.

2nd meeting of the NFPs and CNAs of European Union Parties to the CPB Berlin, Germany

The Secretariat participated in the 2nd meeting of the National Focal Points and Competent National Authorities of European Union (EU) Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, 12-13 May 2011 in Berlin, Germany, organised by the German Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (Bundesamt für Verbraucherschutz und Lebensmittelsicherheit, BVL) which serves as the German CNA and BCH-NFP. At the meeting, the EU Parties to the Cartagena Protocol exchanged view and experiences with regard to (i) the implementation of the requirements of the Protocol and (ii) the submission of information to the BCH.

The specific topics discussed include: a) the submission of valuable information to the BCH including decisions on deliberate releases, placing on the market, genetically modified food and feed, etc.; b) Art 17 of the Protocol (Unintended Transboundary Movements of LMOs and Emergency Measures) and notification to the BCH; c) Art 18 of the Protocol (Handling, Transport, Packaging and Identification) and possible contributions from EU Parties; d) BCH national nodes: formation plans, developments and implementation; e) Art 6 Regulation (EC) No 1946/2003: experiences regarding notifications to the BCH of transboundary movements of LMOs; and f) Case Study: What to do if the party of import does not respond to a notification of import?

The Secretariat presented the recent progresses made in the development of the BCH, made inputs on specific BCH operational matters and provided EU countries with a detailed list of known challenges about record submissions and incomplete information. Participants welcomed the opportunity to discuss the implementation of the requirements of the Protocol and agreed to hold similar meetings in the future.

UNPFII and Equator Initiative

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) has a bi-annual working method of one policy year and one review year. With 2011 as a review year, it was devoted to examining the implementation of previously recommendations made by the Forum. In particular, SCBD was able to report back regarding the adoption of the code of ethical conduct at COP 10 which arose as a recommendation of the 2nd session of the UNPFII. Also, SCBD reported on the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS and held a side event on the outcomes of COP 10, as well as participated in the ABS Nagoya Protocol capacity building workshop hosted by GIZ and Indigenous Information Network. On 19-20 May, the SCBD participated in the Equator Initiative Board meeting which met for two days to discuss plans for 2011-12 including the promotion of EI prize winners and their participation in relevant CBD meetings.



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