



Organización del Tratado de Cooperación Amazónica

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OTCA/SP/61/2009

Brasília, 12 de febrero de 2009

Señor
AHMED DJOGHLAF
Secretario Ejecutivo
Convención sobre Diversidad Biológica
Montreal.

De mi consideración,

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a usted con relación a la comunicación SCBD/ITS/EB/65842 referente al trabajo conjunto entre la Secretaría de la Convención de Diversidad Biológica (SCBD) y la Secretaría Permanente de la Organización del Tratado de Cooperación Amazónica (SP/OTCA).

Como fuese discutido previamente con el señor Eric Belvaux, Oficial de Programa de la Unidad Biodiversidad para el Desarrollo, la SP/OTCA está interesada en establecer una estrecha relación de trabajo con la SCBD con miras a divulgar y generar herramientas técnicas apropiadas en la temática de conservación de biodiversidad como estrategia para el alivio a la pobreza y desarrollo sostenible de la región amazónica.

En este sentido, manifestamos nuestro acuerdo con el Programa de Trabajo propuesto, aclarando que para el ítem C de los resultados esperados, se incluirán igualmente casos de productos maderables, para dar cabida a las experiencias que actualmente se encuentran en curso en la región.

Con el fin de avanzar en las actividades previstas en dicho Programa de Trabajo y facilitar la comunicación permanente del equipo de técnicos que trabajarán esta iniciativa, la coordinación del trabajo se efectuará a través del Coordinador de Medio Ambiente de la SP/OTCA.

Sr. Luis Alberto Oliveros
Coordinador de Medio Ambiente
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Quiero reiterarle nuestro compromiso para avanzar en este trabajo conjunto.

Atentamente,

Francisco J. Ruiz M.
Secretario General a.i.
Organización del Tratado de Cooperación Amazónica



Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



Ref.: SCBD/ITS/EB/65842

29 December 2008

Subject: **Partnership SCBD / ACTO**

Dear Mr. Ruiz,

As a follow-up to your recent participation in the Experts Meeting on South-South Cooperation and your discussions with Mr. Eric Belvaux, Programme Officer in the Biodiversity for Development Unit, I would like to express our interest in strengthening the partnership between the Permanent Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization Convention (ACTO) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

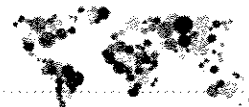
As you are aware, the CBD Secretariat has decided to launch an initial series of pilot projects in targeted geographic areas and specific development sectors in order to assist Parties at the regional and national levels and contribute to a better integration of issues related to the conservation of biodiversity in development and poverty reduction strategies. This initiative is expected to highlight and disseminate, at the international level, the efforts of regional organizations in promoting good management practices for the sustainable use of biodiversity. The overall goal is to further demonstrate how such practices can contribute to the economic development of member countries.

In this regard, I would propose to initiate a first phase of collaboration between the CBD Secretariat and ACTO Permanent Secretariat in the following sectors/topics covered by ACTO and of relevance to the CBD: forest, sustainable tourism, biotrade of non-timber forest products, and agriculture including agro-systems and pastoralism.

Three main outcomes are expected from this partnership:

- 1- The relationship between the CBD and ACTO is strengthened and ACTO is considered a intermediary for the effective implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity in improving institutional, scientific and human capacity of its member countries;
- 2- The integration of biodiversity considerations into existing sectoral and cross-sectoral policies and programmes at the regional and sub-regional levels are promoted by ACTO, making use, as appropriate, of information and guidelines adopted by the Conference of Parties and provided by the CBD Secretariat;

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UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY



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- 3- Training tools and information materials are developed in close collaboration in order to disseminate good practices and lessons learned in the Amazon forest basin at the international level and within the framework of the South-South Cooperation Multi-Year Plan of Action.

A suggested work programme is offered in the annex to this letter. This work programme will be implemented by the CBD Secretariat and the technical staff of ACTO Permanent Secretariat. It includes a brief description of activities to be undertaken by both sides in order to achieve the expected results and the deliverable products. Joint activities are subject to the availability of funding for this purpose and accordingly concerted fundraising initiatives will be undertaken for their implementation.

In each organisation, a contact person will be identified to ensure a follow-up of this arrangement and the effective implementation of activities contributing to the achievement of this agreement. The whole programme of work will be coordinated respectively by the "Biodiversity for Development" Unit for the CBD Secretariat and the Coordination of Environment for ACTO Permanent Secretariat.

All correspondence regarding this arrangement should be addressed to:

ACTO - Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organisation

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SCBD - Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary
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I am looking forward to receiving your agreement to the above proposal at your earliest convenience and I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued cooperation and support towards the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Sincerely yours,


Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary

Attachment

ANNEX: WORK PROGRAMME

This document describes the activities to be undertaken under the agreement between the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Permanent Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organisation Convention (ACTO).

Activities:

In an effort to strengthen linkages between CBD Secretariat and ACTO Permanent Secretariat, the two organizations pledge the following:

For the CBD Secretariat

- To disseminate to the ACTO Permanent Secretariat regular information about the activities of the Convention in relation to the four sectors / topics identified in the agreement;
- At ACTO Permanent Secretariat's request, to provide orientation and guidance on relevant topics included in the ACTO strategic plan, through exchanges between the appropriate programme officers;
- To promote, at an international level, the work done by ACTO on the four sectors / topics identified in the agreement;
- To facilitate, as much as possible, the participation and the representation of ACTO in major meetings and workshops of the Convention.

For ACTO:

- To provide the CBD Secretariat with case studies presenting the work done by ACTO in its geographical area on the four sectors/topics identified in the agreement;
- To assist the CBD Secretariat in developing sector-based capacity-building material (training modules, informational material, etc.);
- To assist the CBD Secretariat in providing contacts from the Amazon region to enhance the existing CBD network of professionals on poverty alleviation and development;
- To provide the CBD Secretariat with relevant information material covered by ACTO's strategic plan (e.g. reports, publications, etc.).

Expected products:

In this first phase of collaboration, the deliverable products mainly relate to training modules and information materials. Their main objective will be the dissemination of good practices and lessons learned in the field of biodiversity mainstreaming in development planning and poverty reduction strategies. They will be based on initiatives/experiments conducted by ACTO in the Amazon forest basin. They will target:

- National and regional public in ACTO member countries, including political and economic decision makers, local representatives of multilateral and bilateral development cooperation agencies, private sector, NGOs, civil society; and
- Public at the international level, including bilateral and multilateral development cooperation agencies, development banks, national focal points of the Convention, international NGOs,

organizations similar to ACTO located in other major forest basins involved in the South-South Cooperation initiative, etc.

Four training and information tools will be developed. A detailed review of the training and information material available at the international level in this area will precede the development of new tools to avoid duplication of existing ones. The expected products are the following:

- A- a set of at least 15 cases studies from the Amazon Basin focusing on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the context of poverty alleviation and economic development. These case studies will also contribute to the completion of point B and C;
- B- a poster entitled “Biodiversity for forest, forest for biodiversity in the Amazon Basin” based on the pre-established format used for the Congo Basin;
- C- a booklet on Forest conservation and sustainable use of non-timber forest products (in English-French-Spanish) with at least 10 examples demonstrating good practices in biodiversity mainstreaming in the forest sector of the Amazon Basin
- D- a training module on BioTrade based on the template established by the CBD Secretariat. The purpose of the training module is to provide information, best practices and case studies which profile the links between biodiversity conservation and the BioTrade sector;

The above activities will be implemented according to the following table:

Activities	SCBD	ACTO
A- Case studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide case study form • Integrate in CBD case study data base 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather case studies • Complete forms
B- Poster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compilation of information • Poster design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Print
C- Booklet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide template including structure and design • Review • Print 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft • Translate
D- Training module	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide template including structure and design • Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft • Provide images • Provide short videos on two selected case studies

All products will be developed in data processing format, distributed by e-mail and posted online on the websites of the CBD and ACTO, as well as other selected sites. All the tools will be downloadable electronically, with some published on CD-Rom, and will eventually be available in hard copies.

Schedule of implementation

February 2009: Agreement under the form of an exchange of letters

Mid March 2009: Identification of contact people and inception of the agreement

Mid April 2009: Poster

End of May 2009: Training module on BioTrade

Mid June 2009: Booklet

From March to July 2009: Submission of case studies by ACTO