Convention on Biological Diversity

2010 International Year of Biodiversity

Connecting Biodiversity and Climate Change: Adaptation and Mitigation

Friday, 11 December 2009
Time: 13:00-14:30h
Victor Borge (Room 3), Hall H
Bella Center, Copenhagen
A light lunch will be available

It is now widely recognized that climate change and biodiversity are interconnected, not only through climate change effects on biodiversity, but also through changes in biodiversity and ecosystem functioning that affect climate change. The carbon cycle and the water cycle, arguably the two most important large-scale processes for life on Earth, both depend on biodiversity - at genetic, species, and ecosystem levels. The second Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change (AHTEG) has identified key linkages between biodiversity and climate change and developed recommendations for the successful design and implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation and mitigation measures.

Opening Remarks

Mr. **Jochen Flasbarth**, on behalf of the President of the CBD Conference of the Parties Bureau

Mr. **Kazuhiko Takemoto**,
Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Ministry of the Environment, Japan

Key Messages of the Second AHTEG on Biodiversity and Climate Change

Prof **Robert Watson**, AHTEG co-chair

including findings on:

- Ecosystem-based Adaptation
- REDD and Biodiversity
- Ocean Acidification
- Geo-engineering

Followed by **an opportunity for discussion with a Panel** featuring :

Mr. Kazuhiko Takemoto, Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, Min of the Environment, Japan
Mr Jochen Flasbarth, Germany, CBD COP Bureau
Prof. Robert Watson, UK (AHTEG Co-chair)
Dr Guy Midgley, South Africa (AHTEG Co-chair)
Prof. Heikki Toivonen, Finland (AHTEG Co-chair)
Barney Dickson, UNEP-WCMC
Ian Noble, World Bank
Dr Katia Karousakis, OECD
Tim Christophersen, Forest biodiversity, SCBD

For information, contact Anne-Marie Wilson, SCBD consultant.anne-marie.wilson@cbd.int
The AHTEG report '*Connecting Biodiversity and Climate Change: Adaptation and Mitigation*' (CBD Technical Series No 41) is available at the CBD COP15 exhibit or at www.cbd.int/ts.

Second Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change
(AHTEG)
established in 2008 by the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

Dr. Guy Midgley
Prof. Heikki Toivonen
Prof. Robert Watson

Sr. Lic. Juan Carlos Jintiach Arcos
Mr. Neville Ash
Dr. Senka Barudanovic
Dr. Kansri Boonpragob
Mr. Johnson Cerda
Dr. Janet Cotter
Dr. Pavel Cudlin
Mr. Nick Davidson
Dr. Barney Dickson
Dr. John Duguman
Ms. Cordula Epple
Prof. Lin Erda
Dr. Celia Harvey
Mr. Bernal Herrera-Fernandez
Mr. Jonathan Hoekstra
Prof. Lesley Hughes
Mr. Lyndon Johns
Ms. Katia Karousakis
Mr. Kanehiro Kitayama
Dr. Julia Klein
Mr. Joseph Konno
Mr. György Kröel-Dulay
Mr. Kishan Kumarsingh
Ms. Carolina Lasén Diaz
Dr. Sangchan Limjirakan
Dr. Haroldo de Oliveira Machado Filho
Prof. Brendan Mackey
Ms. Valérie Merckx
Dr. Nkobi Mpho Moleele
Mr. Ian Noble
Mr. Balakrishna Pisupati
Dr. Jeff Price
Ms. Snezana Prokic
Dr. Hannah Reid
Dr. Avelino Suarez Rodriguez
Dr. Anond Snidvongs
Dr. Rudolf Specht
Mrs. Nenenteiti Teariki-Ruatu
Dr. Ian Thompson
Dr. Ahmed Faya Traore
Mr. Christophe van Orshoven
Dr. Rachel Warren

Mr. Tim Christophersen
Mr. Jo Mulongoy
Ms. Jaime Webbe

The Convention on Biological Diversity

The objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) include the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. The Convention recognizes that biological diversity is about more than plants, animals and micro organisms and their ecosystems – it is about people and our need for food security, medicines, fresh air and water, shelter, and a clean and healthy environment in which to live.

Parties to the CBD have acknowledged both the need to facilitate biodiversity adaptation; and the contribution of biodiversity to broader adaptation activities, particularly for the most vulnerable regions and ecosystems. They have identified ocean acidification as a potentially serious threat to cold-water corals and other marine biodiversity. On actions for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, Parties are interested in ensuring they do not run counter to the objectives of the CBD, support the implementation of the programme of work, provide benefits for forest biodiversity and to indigenous and local communities, involve biodiversity experts including holders of traditional forest-related knowledge, and respect the rights of indigenous and local communities.

www.cbd.int/