

MONTHLY BULLETIN OF ACTIVITIES OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

JUNE 2010

International Conference on Biological and Culture Diversity

The International Conference on Biological and Cultural Diversity – for Development (ICBCD), a joint initiative by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, UNESCO, the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, and the University of Montreal and supported by the International Economic Forum of the Americas and the Government of Canada, was held in Montreal, from 8-10 June 2010.

The objective of the conference was to contribute to transforming political commitments into concrete actions by developing recommendations towards effectively integrating biological and cultural diversity into development cooperation strategies and programmes. The conference brought together civil society, representatives of indigenous and local populations, policy makers, scientists and intergovernmental and development cooperation agencies to exchange knowledge and practices linking biological and cultural diversity. It also provided elements for a programme of work to be jointly implemented by UNESCO, the CBD and other partners.

The report of the meeting will be made available as an information document to the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD (COP 10) and the joint work programme, along with the draft decision which introduces it, will be considered under the item on Cooperation with other conventions and international organisations. For more information on the meeting, please visit: <http://www.cbd.int/meetings/icbcd/>.



Participants at the International Conference on Biological and Culture Diversity.

Japan Airlines adds Aichi Nagoya Biodiversity Summit logo on its Eco Jet



Photo credits: MOE-Japan

In supporting the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 10) to the Convention on Biological Diversity to be held in Aichi, Nagoya in October this year – the International Year of Biodiversity, Japan Airlines (JAL) is pleased to add the COP10 logo on the JAL Eco Jet, and introduce the new COP10 Eco Jet from June 13, 2010 on domestic routes, in efforts to raise awareness for the event and its motto of “Life in Harmony, into the future”.

To view the CBD Press release issued, please go to: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/press/2010/pr-2010-06-17-logo-en.pdf>.

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World Environment Day 2010



At the kind invitation of the Minister of Environment and Lands of Rwanda, the CBD Executive Secretary attended and delivered a keynote speech at the World Environment Day (WED) celebrations in Rwanda, selected as host country of WED 2010 by UNEP. This year’s WED, under the theme “*Many Species. One Planet. One Future*”, and as part of the International Year of Biodiversity, gathered over 30,000 people, and with the special participation of the Rwandan President Paul Kagame. Also in attendance was actor Don Cheadle, who was named UNEP Goodwill Ambassador during the event.



CBD Executive Secretary with TUNZA Youth participants.

The three-day global celebrations in Rwanda involved a number of activities including: tree planting events, TUNZA Regional Youth Conference on Biodiversity, launch of UNEP publication “*Dead Planet, Living Planet: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Restoration for Sustainable Development*”, art exhibit, cycling tour, among others, which culminated in the Kwita Izina gorilla-naming ceremony in the world famous Volcanoes National Park, home to Critically Endangered Mountain Gorillas.



CBD Executive Secretary with Rwandan Environment and Lands Minister Kawanzi.



Participants at a tree planting event during WED event.

Highlights of the International Year of Biodiversity in June



PAKISTAN

The University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF) organized a workshop under the theme, "Agro biodiversity: Threats and Solutions" on 16 June. The purpose of the workshop was to create awareness among the students, teachers, scientists and general public about the importance of agro biodiversity, the threats to its existence and the solutions for its conservation. (E-talk newsletter/R. Bhatti)

JAPAN



Google in Japan has launched a competition for students to design a "Google Doodle," for biodiversity. The winner will be announced in the fall. For more information on the competition, go to: <http://www.google.co.jp/doodle4google/info.html>

MALAYSIA

A biodiversity seminar was held on 18 June 2010, which featured eminent speakers from Malaysia and abroad to share their views on current and emerging issues in biodiversity management. During the event, the 2010 Malaysian Biodiversity video and stamp common vision on Biodiversity were launched. In support of the International Year, the Malaysian authorities had special IYB banners made (see photo).



CAMBODIA

Cambodia celebrated the IYB with over 1000 participants and several senior Ministers, including Yim Chhay Ly, Deputy Prime Minister, who reiterated Cambodia's commitment to the IYB and to the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity.



Postage stamps issued for the International Year of Biodiversity



Malaysia

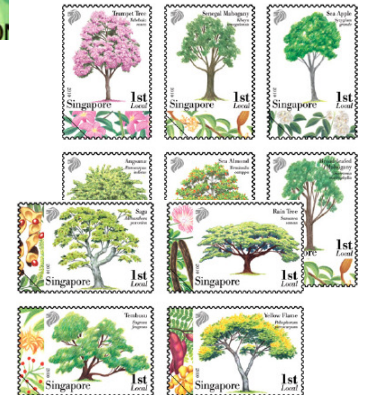
Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Tan Sri Joseph Kurup at the launch of the postage stamps. (Photo credits: Bemama)



India



Syria



Singapore



Hungary

For a full report of the International Year of Biodiversity celebrations and activities for June 2010, please visit: www.cbd.int/iyb/doc/prints/iyb-report-2010-06-en.pdf

Federation of International Civil Servants' Associations (FICSA)

The 2010 issue of the *Focus on FICSA* bulletin features an article on "Preserving biodiversity: a vital challenge", as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity.



IRELAND

To launch the IYB, the National Botanic Gardens and the Department of the Environment are celebrating a unique, specially commissioned piece of art that demonstrates the diversity, and intricacy of the Natural World. Interconnected Earth depicts man's impact on everything from pollen grains to blue whales, all linked through the double helix of a DNA molecule. The banner has been erected in 10 locations across Ireland.

4th Global Botanic Gardens Congress



CBD Executive Secretary with Peter Wyse Jackson, Director, National Botanic Gardens of Ireland.

On 14 June, the CBD Executive Secretary was in Dublin, Ireland to take part and deliver a keynote address at the 4th Global Botanic Gardens Congress - addressing global change: a new agenda for botanic gardens. The Congress has been hailed as a great success, generating renewed momentum for plant conservation.

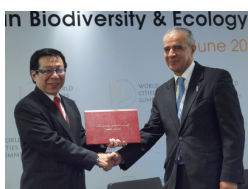
SusCon 2010



Bernard Geier, Conference Chair, with keynote speakers: Ursula Heinen-Esser, BMU; Ahmed Djoghlaif, CBD-ES; and Daizaburo Kuroda, MOE-Japan.

The CBD Executive Secretary participated at the International Conference on Sustainable Business and Consumption (SusCon 2010), held in Nuremberg on 15-16 June, and also delivered a keynote address at the opening of the. Gathering the participation of decision makers and renowned politicians, scientists, business and civil society experts, the conference facilitated the exchange of information on biological diversity and how it can play a greater role in business and society in the future.

World Cities Summit 2010



Minister for National Development Mah Bow Tan presenting the biodiversity index to Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif at the World Cities Summit. (Photo credits: NParks-Singapore)

Building on the success of its first meeting in 2009, the second World Cities Summit was held on 28 June-1 July in Singapore, which gathered over 1,000 delegates of which more than 200 are high level VIPs. The CBD Executive Secretary participated and was one of the speakers at the panel discussion on "Urban Biodiversity & Ecology for Sustainable Cities". The four-day event, under the theme "Liveable and Sustainable Cities for the Future", focused on leadership and governance and building liveable and sustainable communities. Through the exchange of ideas and knowledge,

cities can learn from each other to create a good environment that is sustainable and forward-looking. Prior to traveling to Singapore, the CBD Executive Secretary was in Bangkok to brief ESCAP Permanent Representatives on the work of the CBD and the IYB.



CBD-ES with Noeleen Heyzer, ESCAP Executive Secretary.

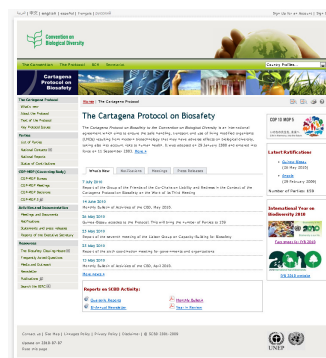
Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

The third meeting of the Group of the Friends of the Co-Chairs on Liability and Redress in the Context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety took place from 15 to 19 June 2010, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Group further negotiated the draft supplementary protocol on liability and redress to the Biosafety Protocol from the second meeting. The Group decided to hold a fourth meeting in Nagoya from 6 to 8 October 2010, prior to MOP 5 in Nagoya, Japan.



View of the meeting in Kuala Lumpur.

A re-designed website of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (<http://bch.cbd.int/protocol>) was launched on 28 June 2010. The new website has an improved layout and includes more user-friendly features, such as simple navigation menus, interactive search tools and hyperlinks. It also contains additional information, including



Screen shot of the newly designed website.

fact sheets and resources for Media and outreach. Plans are underway to make the website accessible in the different UN languages.

Fourth National Report Workshop

The Regional Workshop for Latin American and Caribbean Countries on the Fourth National Report was held from 15 to 17 June 2010 in Panama City, Panama, with the support of Japan and UNEP ROLAC. A total of 10 countries attended this workshop and all of them considered it very useful to their work on the fourth national reports. All participating countries aim to complete and submit their fourth national reports in July and August 2010.



Participants at the Panama meeting.

IPBES-3



Jo Mulongoy, CBD, at the IPBES Intergovernmental meeting. (Photo credits: ENB-IISD)

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity took part in the third Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on an Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), held on 7-11 June 2010, in Busan, Republic of Korea. The five-day meeting saw the adoption of the Busan Outcome document in which IPBES should, *inter alia*: be established; collaborate with existing initiatives on biodiversity and ecosystem services; and be scientifically independent. It also recommended: the United Nations General Assembly be invited to consider the conclusions of the meeting and take appropriate action for the establishment of an IPBES; and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Governing Council invite UNEP, in cooperation with UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and UN Development Programme (UNDP), to continue to facilitate any ensuing process of implementing the IPBES until such time that a secretariat is established.

Invasive Alien Species

Secretariat of the CBD organized the **first meeting of inter-agency liaison group on invasive alien species** on 17-18 June 2010 at the World Organisation for Animal Health (Office International des Epizooties :OIE) in Paris, France. This meeting was to address gaps and inconsistencies in international regulatory framework in relevance with invasive alien species with the relevant UN and other organizations in response to decision IX/4 A and VIII/27. The Secretariats of OIE, International Plant Protection Convention, Committee on Fisheries of FAO, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), International Maritime Organization, World Trade Organization (SPS Committee), IUCN and Global Invasive Species Programme took part the meeting. The secretariats exchanged information and discussed on possible process to address the issue of invasive alien species by e.g. (i) expanding coverage of species under the relevant organizations, such as IPPC and OIE, (ii) formalizing code of conducts / guides by Committee on Fisheries, (iii) setting of guideline for control and management of ship's biofouling by IMO, and (iv) exploring additional means to address invasive alien species of relevance to international trade in CITES-listed species and others. The report will be submitted to COP10.

Clearing-house Mechanism

The Secretariat attended the **CHM meeting on biodiversity information systems in support of policy development**, held on 16-17 June 2010, in Copenhagen, Denmark. The purpose of the meeting, organized by the European Environment Agency (EEA), was to share recent developments in biodiversity information systems related to the CHM in Europe. It was attended by around 20 participants, a majority of which were European CHM NFPs in charge of their national CHM. Several initiatives related to biodiversity information exchange were presented: i) The Biodiversity Information System for Europe (BISE - <http://biodiversity.europa.eu>), a component of the European CHM; ii) Lifewatch (www.lifewatch.eu), an ambitious European initiative aiming at establishing an e-infrastructure to support research on the protection, management and sustainable use of biodiversity; iii) The Transactional Environmental Support System (TESS -

www.tess-project.eu), a project whose objective is to integrate biodiversity information from local communities for planning and decision making purposes; iv) The Carpathian Protected Area CHM of the Carpathian Convention (www.carpathianconvention.org); and v) The development of the national CHM of Romania.

At the meeting, the representative of the CBD Secretariat made a presentation on the status and activities of the central CHM, describing the vision of the CHM expressed in recommendation WGRI III/9 and the corresponding preparatory work towards COP 10. A meeting was also held with the Chair of the CHM IAC to discuss the preparation of the CHM document for COP 10.

A one-day **visit to CITES Secretariat** took place on 21 June, in response to the request of Mr. John Scanlon, CITES Secretary General. Its objective was to provide advice to CITES on how to improve its information services, and gradually establish a dynamic website based on the Joomla content management system (also used by ASEAN CHM countries). During that day, the CBD representative had a long technical discussion with Mr. Liu Yuan, CITES Network Information Officer in charge of the website. A meeting was also held with Ms. Eva Duer and a few other members of the MEA Information and Knowledge Management Steering Committee to prepare for their first steering committee meeting.

The Secretariat also attended the **First Steering Committee Meeting of the MEA Information and Knowledge Management Initiative**, on 22-24 June, in Glion, Switzerland. The main purpose of this meeting was to review the progress made so far, particularly the interoperability proof-of-concept, and determine the way ahead. The steering committee was constituted by MEA representatives as well as representatives from UNEP, UNEP-WCMC, EMG, IUCN, and ECOLEX. The opening was made jointly by several Heads of Convention: Mr. John Scanlon, Secretary General of CITES, Ms. Katharina Kummer-Peiry, Executive Secretary of the Basel Convention, Mr. Marco Gonzalez, Executive Secretary from the Ozone Convention. The closing was made by Mr. Donald Cooper, Executive Secretary from the Stockholm Convention, and

Co-Executive Secretary of the Rotterdam Convention.

The steering committee was shown a demonstration of the interoperability proof-of-concept which consisted of a search engine prototype that could simultaneously search decisions from several MEAs (but not yet from CBD). There were several presentations describing the progress made so far, technical aspects of this project, and possible next steps. The representative from the CBD Secretariat made a presentation on the common formats used to exchange decision and meeting information, and another one to compare the centralized and decentralized querying models for implementing interoperability. The meeting also included some brainstorming discussions on the organization of the InforMEA web portal and its information services. Finally, the steering committee worked on its terms of reference which will be sent to MEA heads for their consideration and endorsement.

The meeting was followed by the **Steering Committee Meeting of the Tematea project on issue-based modules**, which was co-chaired by UNEP and IUCN, with representatives from partner MEAs. Its objective was to review the current status of the Tematea project on issue-based modules (www.tematea.org). Tematea staff provided details on their activities and proposed next steps, which include technical enhancements, capacity building and fundraising. An open discussion followed about some issues and challenges, such as project sustainability, governance structure, MEA representation, coordination of capacity-building at national level, and future services. The CBD representative mentioned that there was a shared goal in terms of streamlining biodiversity and improving coordination at national level, but that CBD position on Tematea will be determined in accordance with COP 10 decisions and the updated CBD strategic plan.

UNEP Ask Today's Expert: 22 June

Yibin Xiang

Topic: New Architecture for Financing Biodiversity

To view the questions and answers on this session, please visit: <http://www.unep.org/experts/>



Post-2010 Strategic Plan

By invitation of the European Commission, the Secretariat presented the outcomes of the discussions on the post-2010 Strategic Plan at European Green Week 2010 in Brussels. The Green Week is a major annual forum for European environmental policy, and was held under the theme of biodiversity in 2010. The event on the post-2010 Strategic Plan on 3 June 2010 was attended by over 200 stakeholders and policy-makers from European Union member States and other countries. Mr. Tim Christophersen from the Secretariat presented the outcomes of discussions at SBSTTA-14 and WGRI-3, and provided information to the media.



Tim Christophersen, CBD, delivering a presentation. (Photo credits: EU-Green week website)

Biodiversity at UNFCCC SBSTA 32

Ms. Gabriele Obermayr, member of the SBSTTA-14 Bureau, delivered a statement on the linkages between biodiversity and climate change to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technical Advice of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at its 32nd meeting. In her statement, Ms. Obermayr presented key outcomes of SBSTTA-14 in relation to climate change and biodiversity. Further during UNFCCC SBSTA 32, the CBD Secretariat organized a side event on the outcomes of SBSTTA-14 and on the LifeWeb mechanism, and contributed to several other side events, including on forest degradation (in collaboration with IUCN, FAO and CIFOR).

IMG on a Green Economy of UN-EMG

A staff from the CBD Secretariat participated in a teleconference on 21 June of the Issue Management Group (IMG) on a Green Economy of the United Nations Environmental Management Group. The IMG seeks to assess how the United Nations system could more coherently support countries in making the transition to a “green economy” and to work on joint and consistent messaging on measures needed to support the transition.

GEF Council, 38th meeting

The thirty-eighth meeting of the Council of the Global Environment Facility was held from 29 June - 1 July 2010 in Washington, D.C. The GEF Council agreed to a new standard of 18 months between PIF approval and CEO endorsement for full-sized projects as well as to the two types of GEF programmatic approaches, and approved the proposal for eligible national entities in recipient countries to receive resources from the GEF Trust Fund directly to undertake on a voluntary basis, GEF National Portfolio Formulation Exercises to produce portfolio formulation documents, and prepare Convention Reports which include national communications/reports/national implementation plans that are undertaken as obligations under the Conventions. The GEF Council also approved *Operational Procedures for the System for a Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR)*.

LAC Capacity Building Workshop / Third International Caucus of Indigenous and Local Communities

The **capacity building workshop**, the fifth in a series of seven, to be held in the **LAC region** in 2010, took place in the Brasilia, Brazil on 2-4 June 2010. Thirty representatives of indigenous and local communities of the Amazonian region participated in the workshop, which provided an opportunity to strengthen capacities of participants in understanding the processes of the Convention, preparing documents for proposals, and suggestions to improve future

RCEN Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on the new Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity

The Canadian Environmental Network (RCEN) organized a multi-stakeholder dialogue on the new Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity which took place on 11 June 2010 at the



RCEN Multi-stakeholder Dialogue at the CBD Secretariat office.

CBD Secretariat. The meeting was attended by Canadian representatives of the public sector (federal, provincial and municipal), NGOs, industry, academia, municipalities’ network, community members and UN agencies. Following the meeting, and in line with the objectives of its MoU with the CBD Secretariat, RCEN has announced that it will play host to a Canadian Friends of the Convention on Biological Diversity Association—the first of its kind worldwide. To be developed in partnership with the Convention Secretariat, the new association will bring together stakeholders from academia, industry, municipalities, non-governmental organizations and other sectors to play an active role in meeting Canada’s commitments to the Convention on Biological Diversity and safeguarding biodiversity globally.

workshops. It also allowed the exchange of relevant national and regional experiences within the Amazonian region.



Participants at the Brasilia meeting.

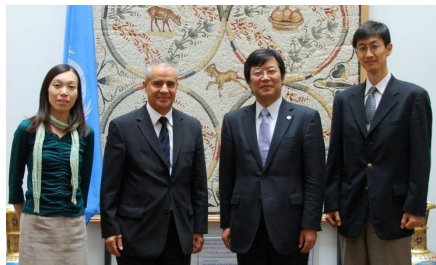
The three-day workshop was immediately followed by the **3rd International Caucus of Indigenous and Local Communities**, held on 5-7 June 2010. It was organized by the Brazilian Indigenous for Intellectual Property INBRAPI. The topics discussed were article 8j) and related provisions, access and benefit-sharing and climate change. About 50 indigenous leaders participated. The Secretariat sent 2 participants who have been involved in making presentations on Article 8j) and its achievements and to access and benefit sharing.



Participants at the ILC International Caucus.

Visitors this month

During the month of June, the Secretariat welcomed the visit of the following:



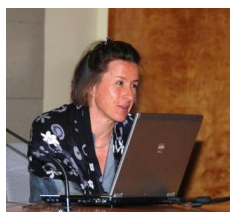
Vice Minister Takemoto of Japan, 10 June



Imed Sassi, Consul General of Tunisia, 11 June



Colorado State University representatives, 18 June



Claudia Mayer, the new Coordinator of GTZ's Biodiversity Programme, 29 June



<http://greenwave.cbd.int/>



<http://www.facebook.com/iyb2010>

Other meetings:

Attend the Conference Forum International "Planète Terroirs", 31 May – 2 June 2010, Chefchaouen, Morocco
Participate in the meeting to validate the content of the UN-HABITAT/SCBD publication, 1 June 2010, UNEP-DTIE, Paris, France
Meeting with the Executive Director of UNEP, 3 June 2010
Attend the World Environment Day Conference, 2-3 June 2010, Pittsburgh, U.S.A.
Hold meetings with donors including BMZ and BMU, 6 June 2010, Koln, Germany
Meet with staff from Government of Poland regarding LifeWeb Initiative, 7 June 2010, Warsaw, Poland
Meeting with Tourisme Montreal and Montreal International, 7 June 2010, Montreal
Conférence aux membres de l'ACNU-Grand Montréal, 7 June 2010, Montreal
International Economic Forum of the Americas - Conference of Montreal, 8 June 2010, Montreal
Meeting with Peter Bridgewater, 9 June 2010, Montreal
Visit of J. Peter Brosius, Director of Center for Integrative Conservation Research and Professor of Anthropology at University of Georgia, 10 June 2010
Take part in the BioNET Board meeting, 10-11 June 2010, London, U.K.
Attend the "Symposium sur les aires marines protégées au Québec", 10-11 June 2010, Rimouski, Quebec, Canada
Interview with Michael Baley, 10 June 2010, Montreal
Meeting with Christine Alfsen, Director, UNESCO-New York, Montreal, 10 June 2010
Meeting with Mr. Parviz Koochafkan, FAO, 11 June 2010
Meeting with Benoit Limoges, 11 June 2010, Montreal
Meeting with Anne McDonald, UNU, 11 June 2010, Montreal
Participate in the RCEN CBD Strategic Plan Dialogue Agenda, 11 June 2010, CBD Secretariat, Montreal, Canada
Meet with UNEP-WCMC staff, 14 June 2010, Cambridge, U.K.
Meeting with Alexander Wandel, World Future Council Foundation, 15 June 2010, Nuremberg
Press Roundtable SusCon, 15 June 2010, Nuremberg
Meeting with Mr. Kuroda of Japan, 15 June 2010, Nuremberg
Attend the "Sustainable Ocean Summit" organized by World Ocean Council, 15-17 June 2010, Belfast, UK
Donor round table for strengthening financing to the national protected area system of Colombia, 16 June 2010, Bogota, Colombia
Meeting with Mr. Murakami, Japan, 17 June, Kuala Lumpur
Participate in the Royal Society/Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew meeting on GSPC, 19-22 June 2010, London, UK
Take part in the IYB celebrations in Cambodia, 20 June 2010, Siem Reap, Cambodia
Attend the UN-Water Journalists Workshop and Panel Session at the Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum, 20-21 June 2010, Bonn, Germany
Meet with senior officials from the Ministry of Environment, 21-22 June 2010, Siem Reap, Cambodia
Attend the ITTO/CBD Conference on transboundary biodiversity, and meet with officials from the Ministry of Environment and Foreign Affairs, 21-25 June 2010, Quito, Ecuador
Participate in the 13th session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, 21-25 June 2010, Bamako, Mali
Attend the International Symposium on Genetic Biocontrol of Invasive Fish, 22-23 June 2010, Minneapolis, U.S.A.
Briefing to permanent representatives of ESCAP on CBD and IYB, 24 June 2010, Bangkok, Thailand
Meeting with Mr. Park, Regional Director, ROAP, 25 June, Bangkok, Thailand
Seminar with UNEP/ROAP staff, 25 June, Bangkok, Thailand
Attend a drafting meeting at IMWI Colombo for a book on the efficient use of water for food production and ecosystems, 28-30 June 2010, Colombo, Sri Lanka
Take part in the 5th Regional Forum on Marine and Coastal Protected Areas, 28 June-3 July 2010, Nouakchott, Mauritania
Interview with the Straits Times, Singapore, 29 June, Singapore



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Life in harmony, into the future
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COP 10 / MOP 5