



## MONTHLY BULLETIN OF ACTIVITIES OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

### JULY 2010

#### Resumed session of the ABS



ABS Co-Chairs Timothy Hodges and Fernando Casas

The resumed ninth meeting of the Ad hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-Sharing was held in Montreal, Canada, from 10-16 July 2010, and gathered the participation of more than 400 delegates. Informal, regional and inter-regional consultations were held on 8-9 July. The meeting made significant progress in the negotiations of the draft Protocol, but the Working Group was unable to finalize the text at this session. The Working Group therefore decided to

continue the negotiations in September using an Interregional Negotiating Group (ING) setting. The ninth meeting of the Working Group will resume on 16 October 2010 to endorse the work of the ING and report to the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting, in Nagoya, Japan, from 18-29 October 2010. Prior to the resumed WGABS9, a COP Bureau meeting was held on 9 July.



Kiyoshi Araki, Ambassador for CBD COP 10, Japan, delivering a statement

For more photos at the resumed WGABS 9, go to page 3

#### Edward Norton: United Nations Goodwill Ambassador for Biodiversity

On 8 July, actor Edward Norton was named United Nations Goodwill Ambassador for Biodiversity by Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. The newly designated Goodwill Ambassador has been very active in garnering support for conservation efforts, to include being a board member of the Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust, taking part in launching an innovative social networking platform called Crowdrise to boost participation in charitable work. Mr. Norton's appointment comes as the UN marks 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity, with heads of State set to discuss the issue at a high-level meeting at UN Headquarters in New York at the start of the General Assembly's 65th annual General Debate in September.



At the designation ceremony (L-R): Kiyo Akasaka, USG for Communications and Public Information; actor Edward Norton; Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary General; and Ahmed Djoghlaif, CBD Executive Secretary.

#### High-level event on gender and biodiversity



Deputy Secretary General Rose Migiro with Ahmed Djoghlaif, CBD Executive Secretary

To commemorate and contribute to the International Year of Biodiversity, as outlined in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 63/219, and in support to Resolution 64/289 on the creation of the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women - UN Women, the Secretariat in partnership with the Secretariat of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations held a high-level lunch time panel discussion on "harnessing the gender dimensions of biodiversity, sustainable land management and climate change to achieve environment protection and sustainable development" on 2 July 2010. The discussions clearly demonstrated the inter-linkages between climate change, biodiversity and sustainable land management, as well as how

gender-sensitive approaches to these issues contribute to sustainable livelihoods, environment protection and sustainable development.

Participants in the discussion held at the margins of the Annual Ministerial Review to assess the state of implementation of the gender-related goals and the UN Development Agenda included Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Mtengeti Migiro; Her Excellency Ms. Ritva Koukko-Ronde, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland; Her Excellency Ms. Elza Pais, Secretary of State for Equality, Portugal;



High level panel on gender and biodiversity

Her Excellency Ms. Melanne Vermeer, Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues, U.S. Department of State – via video message; Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, CBD Executive Secretary; Mr. Narinder Kakar, UN Permanent Observer, IUCN, Mr. Nikhil Seth, Director, Office of ECOSOC Support and Coordination and Mr. Melchiade Bukuru, Chief, UNCCD Liaison Office.

## Highlights of the International Year of Biodiversity in July

### NAMIBIA

The Namibian Coast Conservation and Management (NACOMA) Project, together with other stakeholders in the Erongo region, addressed the biodiversity challenges in Africa with a Coastal Biodiversity Weekend on 30 and 31 July 2010.

### IRELAND



Take part in ECO-UNESCO's Biodiversity Photography & Film Exhibition as part of ECO-UNESCO's National Youth ECO-Forum 2010 "WORLD WILD WEB: Young People Exploring Biodiversity". Held to celebrate the UN International Year of Biodiversity, the theme of the competition is simply nature. For more information, visit the events section of [ecounesco.ie](http://ecounesco.ie). All entries will be displayed in a multimedia exhibition in the run-up to ECO-UNESCO's National Youth Eco-Forum 2010, which will explore biodiversity.

### MOROCCO

Operation Delphis Morocco took place on 10-11 July from the Port of Hoceima. Organized by the Association for the Integrated Management of Resources (AGIR) and the Ministry of Fisheries with support from IFAW, Delphis Morocco targeted 700 square kilometers in and around the Hoceima National Marine Park. Eight boats participated, including fishing boats, Department of Marine Fisheries and Royal Marine vessels. Sixty trained student observers from the National School of Applied Sciences identified hundreds of dolphins, including common bottlenosed, striped, and short-beaked common varieties. They also collected water and plankton samples which will be tested to evaluate the area's health. (Photo credits: AGIR)



### DISNEY PARKS

On July 28, Disney's Animal Kingdom celebrated the International Year of Biodiversity at Rafiki's Planet Watch. In celebration of the event and to raise awareness amongst guests many activities are planned; animal meet-and-greets featuring diverse animal species, a "match the species to the habitat" game, "biodiversity bingo," presentations on seed diversity, and a display on sea life diversity will be featured. (Photo credits: DisneyParks blog)



### FESTIVAL TECIVERDI

Held in Niort, France, the festival for biological and cultural diversity highlighted the fundamental link that exists between man and nature. For information, go to [www.teciverdi.fr](http://www.teciverdi.fr).



### Postage stamps issued for the International Year of Biodiversity



Hong Kong



Dominican Republic



Poland



Argentina



Saint Lucia



### LUXEMBOURG



An IYB event was held at the visitor centre of the "Um Burfelt", located on the shores of the lake of the Haute-Sûre, a Natura 2000 site as well as transboundary Ramsar site. A locomotive that carried the IYB logo and used for a national art contest on biodiversity for children and youth, was chartered. Present at the event, the Minister Delegate Marco Schank underlined the importance of the IYB and also thanked all present for their continuous and relentless efforts to conserve the national biological heritage of Luxembourg.

### THE ROOF OF IRAN, MT. DAMAVAND

On 22 July in the southern path to Mt. Damavand, the Environment Friends Club from SRTTU team of environment educators presented instructive environment-related posters on a small exhibition. Instructive packages were distributed among mountaineers, posters and banners were mounted. On 23 July, an IYB banner was raised on the top of Mt. Damavand to celebrate this global issue.



For a full report of the International Year of Biodiversity celebrations and activities for July 2010, please visit: [www.cbd.int/iyb/doc/prints/iyb-report-2010-07-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/iyb/doc/prints/iyb-report-2010-07-en.pdf)

## CBD-UNDP Retreat

On 19 July, senior officials of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity organized a one-day brainstorming session at the Secretariat premises. Discussions at the retreat focused on the enhanced partnership between the two organizations for supporting Parties in 2011-2012 to implement the expected compact to be adopted at COP 10. With the participation of 12 UNDP senior staff, headed by Ms. Veerle Vandeweerd, Director, UNDP Environment and Energy Group, participants agreed on a two-year action plan for the implementation of COP 10 decisions, to be signed in Nagoya.



CBD-UNDP retreat group picture.

## Second Expert Workshop on the Development of the Cities Biodiversity Index

The second expert workshop on the development of the City Biodiversity Index (CBI) (for more information on the Index, please see: <http://www.cbd.int/authorities/gettinginvolved/cbi.shtml>), took place 1-3 July 2010 at the Singapore Botanic Gardens, at the invitation of the National Parks Board and the CBD Secretariat. The workshop was organized in close consultation with the participants of the Global Partnership on Cities and Biodiversity. A total of thirty-two technical experts on urban biodiversity conservation and planning as well as city representatives responsible for implementation and/or management of biodiversity and urban projects and programmes, whose cities had tested the provisional version of the Index, attended the workshop. The objectives of the workshop were to: review comments by cities which have test-bedded the index; refine the indicators of the CBI; and finalise the User's Manual for the CBI. The report of the workshop will be available at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EWDCBI-02>.



## Regional Workshop for Europe on the Fourth National Report

Pursuant to COP decision VIII/14, and with the kind support of the Governments of Japan and Hungary, a workshop for Europe on the fourth national

## Resumed WGABS 9 SNAPSHOTS



Participants view a video message from Edward Norton, UN Goodwill Ambassador for Biodiversity.



Jochen Flasbarth (UBA-Germany), on behalf of the COP President.



Ahmed Djoghlaif, CBD Executive Secretary



Inter-regional negotiating group at the Palais des congrès de Montréal.



Delegates at the reception hosted by the CBD Secretariat.

report was held from 30 June to 2 July, 2010 in Budapest, Hungary. A few countries from Europe and West Asia attended the workshop and all of them found it useful for their work on the fourth national report.



Participants at the Budapest meeting.

## Pacific Sub-regional Workshop on Capacity-Building and Exchange of Experiences on Risk Assessment and Risk Management of Living Modified Organisms

Pursuant to paragraph 12 of COP-MOP decision BS-IV/11, and following an offer from the Government of Fiji to host the workshop and the generous financial contributions from the Governments of the Netherlands, Norway and Spain, the Pacific Sub-regional Workshop on Capacity-building and Exchange of Experiences on Risk Assessment and Risk Management of Living Modified Organisms was held in Nadi, Fiji, from 5 to 7 July 2010. The workshop focussed on how conducting risk assessment in the context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety; understanding the general framework in which the risk assessment has to be conducted and how to establish an interdisciplinary teamwork in the context of risk assessment. With the help of a case-study on risk assessment, participants took part in a hands-on group exercise to put into practice some of the concepts learnt and discussed how risk assessors may communicate the outcomes of a risk assessment in a structured report so as to provide relevant information and recommendations to decision makers. Twelve participants nominated by six Parties to the Protocol (Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga), two non-Party countries (Cook Islands and Vanuatu) and one organization (University of Canterbury, New Zealand) attended the workshop. The report of the meeting is accessible at: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/bs/bsrwebpac-01/official/bsrwebpac-01-mop-05-inf-16-en.pdf>.



Participants at the Fiji meeting.

## Asian Training Course on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms

In response to paragraph 13 of COP-MOP decision BS-IV/11, and following an offer from the Government of Cambodia to host the training course, and with the generous financial contributions from the Governments of the Netherlands, Norway and Spain, the Asian Training Course on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, from 12 to 16 July 2010. Following a general overview of biosafety and the Cartagena Protocol, the training course focussed on how to conduct risk assessment in the context of the Protocol; understanding the general framework in which the risk assessment has to be conducted and how to establish an interdisciplinary teamwork in the context of risk assessment. The analysis of a case study assisted the participants to gain hands-on experience in putting into practice the steps of the risk assessment in accordance with Annex III as well as in preparing and evaluating risk assessment reports. The chair of the AHTEG Sub-Working Group on the Roadmap also offered an overview of the objectives and structure of the

“Roadmap for Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms”. Participants took part in discussions and group exercises to evaluate the usefulness and completeness of the Roadmap as guidance to facilitating and enhancing the effective use of Annex III and welcomed the Roadmap as a useful tool. Twenty three participants attended the training course. They were nominated by fifteen Parties to the Protocol (Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Viet Nam and Yemen), a non-governmental organization (Third World Network) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). One resource person from the Netherlands also took part in the training course.

The report of the meeting is accessible at: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/bs/bsrat-as-01/official/bsrat-as-01-mop-05-inf-17-en.pdf>



Participants at the Cambodia meeting.

## Farnborough International Airshow 2010



In the margins of the Farnborough International Airshow 2010, more than 3,000 young people were given a lesson on the crucial importance of biodiversity to human well-being and to our future during the Airshow’s Futures Day event which took place on 23 July, with the support of A|D|S, Airbus and the South West RDA among others. The Futures Day is an initiative designed to encourage young people to consider careers within the aerospace, defence and security industries, as well as to get them to be part of the solution to global challenges such as climate change and biodiversity loss. Taking part in the event, the CBD Executive Secretary had an opportunity to meet with young people and inform them of the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity and *The Green Wave* initiative. To view the CBD Communique issued on this occasion, please go to: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/press/2010/pr-2010-07-23-farnborough-en.pdf>



Students at the Farnborough Futures Day, with Ahmed Djoghlaif, CBD Executive Secretary (centre left) and Mr. Rainer Ohler, VP, Public Affairs and Communications, Airbus (centre right)

## UNEP Ask Today's Expert - July 2010



11 July  
Jaime Webbe  
Topic: How can we use nature to help adapt to climate change



21 July  
David Ainsworth  
Topic: Biodiversity, development and poverty alleviation

To view the questions and answers for these sessions, visit: <http://www.unep.org/experts>



THE GREEN WAVE  
One school, one tree, one gift to Nature!

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



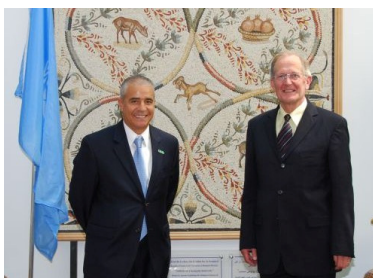
<http://www.facebook.com/iyb2010>

## Other meetings:

ECESA Principals meeting via videoconference, 6 July  
Meeting Mr. Sebaa of Algeria, 6 July  
Discussion with Mr. Timothy Hodges, ABS Co-Chair, 6 July  
Meeting via teleconference with Ms. Monique Barbut, CEO, GEF, 9 July  
Meeting with representatives of BIO, Montreal, 9 July  
Meeting with Mr. Hugo-Maria Schally of the European Union, 12 July  
Meeting with the Consul General of Korea, Amb. Chong Hoon Kim, 12 July  
Video conference with Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP, 13 July  
Meeting with Mr. Spencer Thomas, SBSTTA Chair, 13 July  
Meeting with Ms. Nicola Breier, Germany, 13 July  
Attend the Business and Biodiversity Meeting, 13 July 2010, London, U.K., 13 July  
Meeting with Ms. Snezana Prokic, COP Bureau member, 14 July  
Meeting with Mr. Gunter Mitlacher, WWF, 14 July  
Meeting with Mr. Jean-Pierre Thebault, Ambassadeur delegue a l'environnement, France, 14 July  
Meeting with the ABS Co-Chairs, 15 July  
Meeting with Cheikh Ould Sidi Mohamed, Mauritania, 15 July

Take part in the Symposium for Japan's National Ocean Day in Tokyo and Nagoya and in a series of planning meetings with Japan Civil Network for CBD Marine Working Group on the preparation for COP 10, 15-19 July, Tokyo, Japan  
Meeting with Dr. Ali Al-Lami, Iraq Focal Point, 16 July  
Meeting with Mr. Shakeel Bhatti, ITPGRI, 16 July  
Meeting with Mr. Robert Lamb, Switzerland, 16 July  
Meet with organizing team of the Nagoya Biodiversity Summit, as well as the incoming COP/MOP5 President, 20-23 July, Tokyo, Japan  
Participate, as member of the Executive Committee of FICSA, in the 20th session of the CEB HR Network, 20-22 July, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.  
Interview on ABS with Stanford University student, 21 July, Paris, France  
International Conference on Biodiversity Conservation in Transboundary Tropical Forests, organized by CBD/ITTO/IUCN, 21-24 July, Quito, Ecuador  
Teleconference with Christiana Figueres, ES-UNFCCC, 22 July  
Consultation to discuss specific problems met by academic research institutions as the international regime on ABS is being finalized, 22 July, Paris, France  
Third meeting of the Expert Panel on the State and Trends of Biodiversity Science in Canada, 22-23 July, Vancouver, Canada

## Visitors this month



Joseph Deiss, President-elect, 65th session of the United Nations General Assembly



Representatives of MISIA, Honorary Ambassador for COP 10



Kiyoshi Araki, Ambassador for COP 10, Japan



Delegation from India



Dr. Darwich, CBD Focal Point for Syria



Jochen Flasbarth, UBA-Germany, on behalf of the COP President



Birthe Ivars and Tone Solhaug, Norway



Dr. Al-Lami, CBD Focal Point for Iraq



Jean Lemire, Ambassador for *The Green Wave*



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Life in harmony, into the future  
いのちの共生を、未来へ  
COP 10 / MOP 5