

**MONTHLY BULLETIN OF ACTIVITIES OF THE  
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY  
FEBRUARY 2011**

**Nagoya Protocol—Open for Signature  
New York, U.S.A.**



Colombia

The Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization

was opened for signature by Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity on 2 February at the United Nations Headquarters. Colombia was the first country to sign the Protocol, followed by Yemen, Brazil and Algeria. On the same day, a joint press conference on the Nagoya Protocol was also held by Tatsushi Terada, Japan's Vice-Minister for Global Environmental Affairs, and Sandra Bessudo, Presidential High Adviser for Biodiversity, Climate Change and

Environmental Management of Colombia, with the participation of Ahmed Djoghla, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

For information on the joint press conference, please go to: [http://www.un.org/News/briefings/docs/2011/110202\\_Terada.doc.htm](http://www.un.org/News/briefings/docs/2011/110202_Terada.doc.htm).

Mexico became the fifth country to sign the Protocol on 24 February, and Rwanda the sixth on 28 February.

The Nagoya Protocol enters into force 90 days after the deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval, or accession, and it will remain open at the United Nations Headquarters until 1 February 2012. For information on the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing, please visit: <http://www.cbd.int/abs/>.



Yemen



Brazil



Algeria

Photo credits: UN-Treaty

**UNFF-9 and IYF launch  
New York, U.S.A.**



ES-CBD (right) making an intervention (Photo courtesy: UNFF-Benjamin Singer)

The CBD Secretariat participated in the ninth meeting of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF-9), under the theme "Forests for people, livelihoods and poverty eradication". Participants, with reservations stated by Bolivia on the Cancun outcomes and its relevance for the forest sector, adopted a Ministerial Declaration and an omnibus resolution, covering a range of invitations to the Forum Member States, the CPF, and

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**UN Goodwill Ambassador visits Rwanda**

United Nations Goodwill Ambassador for Biodiversity, Edward Norton, completed a three-day visit to Rwanda on 20 February, his first official country-visit since being appointed by the United Nations Secretary General in 2010. Accompanied by the CBD Executive Secretary, Mr. Norton met with Prime Minister Bernard Makuza, the Minister of the Environment and Lands, Ambassador Stanislas Kamanzi, and other Government officials and the United Nations to learn about work being undertaken in Rwanda to ensure sustainable management of its biodiversity and land resources as a contribution to Rwanda's sustainable development. He also met with the Head of the United Nations in Rwanda, United Nations Resident Coordinator Mr. Aurélien Agbénonci, and the staff of the UN agencies that are supporting Rwanda in its development. Mr. Norton also visited the Eastern and Northern Provinces, as well as other areas including: Akagera National Park, the Nyabarongo River catchment, the shores of Lakes Cyohoha, Sake and Mugesera. Rwanda is currently undertaking two major biodiversity conservation projects implemented by the Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) with support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). To view the joint Press Release issued on Mr. Norton's visit, please go to: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/press/2011/pr-2011-02-21-norton-en.pdf>.



From L-R: Ahmed Djoghla, CBD-ES; Prime Minister Bernard Makuza; Edward Norton, UN Goodwill Ambassador for Biodiversity; Amb. Stanislas Kamanzi, Minister of Environment and Lands, Rwanda; and Aurélien A. Agbénonci, UNDP Resident Coordinator.

## UNFF-9/IYF (cont'd from page 1)

requests to the UNFF Secretariat, mostly related to further advancing the discussion on forest finance. Nagoya outcomes were also duly noted, without objection by any Party. The CBD Executive Secretary made an intervention during the HLS, *inter alia* proposing the idea of an extraordinary joint Rio Conventions COP in Rio 2012. On 2 February, a ceremony was held in the General Assembly Hall to launch the International Year of Forests (IYF), with the participation of the President of the UNGA-65, the Environment Minister of Rwanda, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Regional Development, Forests and Water Management of Croatia; and the UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, among others. Prior to UNFF-9, a meeting of the CPF members was held. The members approved the list of themes for the IYF and also discussed the procedure for joint CPF press releases. Other agenda items included: update on UNFF-9; taking stock of the outcomes of Cancun, including Forest Day 4; preparations for Forest Day 5; Update on CPF initiatives on forest degradation, streamlining forest-related reporting, advancing a common message on SFM, and forest financing.

## Mission to Geneva/Nairobi



Edward Norton, UN Goodwill Ambassador for Biodiversity, at the opening of the UNEP GC-26/GMEF.

The CBD Executive Secretary was in Nairobi in February to take part in the UNEP GC-26/GMEF. The meeting, opened by Mr. Edward Norton, U.N. Goodwill Ambassador for Biodiversity, provided an opportunity to present the outcomes of the successful Nagoya Biodiversity Summit. In the margins of the meeting, a working lunch was organized by the CBD in honour of Mr. Norton. The CBD Executive Secretary also

met with the UNEP Executive Director and with the Executive Director of the UN-HABITAT, as well as engage with representatives of Parties and relevant partner organizations at the meeting. He also attended the Sasakawa Prize award ceremony and participated in the meeting of the Executive Management. A briefing was made with the representatives of the Permanent Missions of the U.N. in Nairobi on the Nagoya Biodiversity Summit outcomes and on the implementation roadmap of the Aichi-Nagoya outcomes.

Prior to Nairobi, the CBD Executive Secretary was in Geneva to attend a number of meetings. He met with the Director General of the World Health Organization to discuss collaboration, in particular linkages between biodiversity and health. A meeting was also held with the Director General of WWF International, followed by a briefing to the Permanent Missions to the U.N. in Geneva on the Nagoya Biodiversity Summit outcomes and on the implementation roadmap of the Aichi-Nagoya outcomes. Also in Geneva, the CBD Executive Secretary attended and co-chaired the fourth meeting of the Issue Management Group on biodiversity.



ES-CBD with James Leape, DG, WWF International.



ES-CBD with Joan Clos, ED, UN-HABITAT.

## Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group meeting on addressing the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food Geneva, Switzerland

Pursuant to COP decision X/38 A, Secretariat organized a meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group meeting on addressing the risks associated with introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species and, as live bait and live food with kind financial support from the Governments of Spain and Japan at the International Environment House in Geneva, Switzerland from 16 to 18 February 2011. The 32 participants were present, including experts selected from among nominations by 67 Parties to the Convention and organizations. The Group recognized that a legal gap exists with regard to the coverage of invasive alien animal species that are not pests of plants under the existing standard-setting bodies recognized by the WTO SPS Agreement. Numbers of suggestions to develop guidelines in collaboration with the relevant international organizations such as IPPC, OIE, CITES and others, to address this legal gap, which will be reported to the meeting of SBSTTA prior to COP11.



Participants at the Geneva meeting.

## Central Africa Regional Workshop on Biodiversity and Finance in Support of the Nagoya Outcomes Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo

The CBD and GEF National Focal Points from the Central African region jointly took part in a regional workshop on biodiversity and finance, on 17-18 February in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo. Held in collaboration with the GEF Country Support Programme, the workshop provided participants an opportunity, for the first time, to analyse national and regional implications of the major outcomes of the CBD COP10. Participants expressed a strong commitment to work towards the early entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising out of Their Utilization, as well as the early updating of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. A recommendation was made on the establishment of a high-level advisory group on financing for biodiversity and ecosystem services, and for innovative financial solutions in support of the achievement of quantitative target 15 of the Strategic Plan.

**UNCCD CRIC 9  
Bonn, Germany**



The Secretariat attended the ninth meeting of the Committee for the Review of Implementation to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (CRIC 9). In addition to providing guidance on the relevance of the Nagoya outcomes to the discussions at CRIC 9 on synergies between the Rio Conventions and harmonized planning and reporting, the Secretariat convened a side event with the secretariats of the UNFCCC and UNCCD on cooperation with the private sector. The Secretariat further participated in a three day workshop on the formulation of the UNCCD Gender Policy Framework at which a presentation was made on the process followed by the CBD for a decision to be taken at COP 10 for gender to be considered a cross-cutting issue in all programme of work areas of the Convention. Also, the Secretariat delivered a presentation on the CBD partnership with Airbus at a brown bag lunch organized by the UNFCCC on the engagement of the transport sector in the implementation of activities in support of climate change adaptation. Side meetings were also held with UNFCCC on CBD activities in LDCs, with the UNCCD on joint activities, including the Ecosystems Pavilion, and with a number of partners on the planned activities of the Secretariat in relation to the biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands.

On the occasion of World Wetlands Day 2011 (2 February), Deputy Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs of South Africa, Ms Rejoice Mabudafhasi, took part in the celebration that took place at the Veloren Vlei Ramsar site, in Venterklip, Elandsbay, South Africa.

tional organizations and 65 representatives of 17 LAB cities including the mayors of Bergrivier Municipality, South Africa, Joondalup, AUS, Auckland, NZ and Jerusalem, IS.

The role of the Secretariat was to support the implementation of the Plan of Action on Sub-National Governments, Cities and Local Authorities on Biodiversity by South Africa and LAB cities, explore ways to collaborate with national governments in view of integrating local authorities in the NBSAP review process, strengthen collaboration with partners such as ICLEI/LAB, IUCN, Stockholm Resilience Center and LAB leading cities, introduce CEPA activities such as the UN Decade for Biodiversity, '1000 Days for the Planet', MEMO-Bell Ringing project and *The Green Wave* to all participants.

On the occasion of World Wetlands Day 2011 (2 February), Deputy Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs of South Africa, Ms Rejoice Mabudafhasi, took part in the celebration that took place at the Veloren Vlei Ramsar site, in Venterklip, Elandsbay, South Africa.



From L-R: Sakhile Koketso, CBD Secretariat; SA Deputy Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs, Ms Rejoice Mabudafhasi; Mayor Cllr JA Liebenberg, Bergrivier Municipality, SA; Chantal Robichaud CBD Secretariat, Veloren Vlei Ramsar site, South Africa.

**World Wetlands Day event "Forest for Water and Wetlands"  
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada**

The CBD Secretariat was invited to Hamilton, Ontario to participate in an event organised by McMaster University and UNU-INWEH celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, and to also explore possibilities of collaboration with UNU-INWEH.

Meetings were held with the UNU-INWEH Director, Assistant Director along with Programme Officers covering all of the UNU-INWEH programme areas. Accordingly, opportunities for cooperation were identified under the following topics: (i) water ecosystems, (ii) drylands programme, (iii) mangroves, and (iv) global changes, ecosystems and health. Additionally, the involvement of UNU-INWEH in future SBSTTA meetings was considered.



Jo Mulongoy, CBD (centre) with meeting participants.

**GLISPA Steering Committee meeting  
Washington, D.C., U.S.A.**

The Secretariat of the CBD attended the GLISPA Steering Committee meeting in Washington, DC, on February 22-23, 2011, focusing on the roadmap towards the in-depth review of the programme of work on island biodiversity for SBSTTA 16 and COP 11, on the NBSAP review workshops for island States and on ABS ratification for island States of the CBD. 17 participants from CBD Parties (Grenada, Seychelles, Italy), IUCN, Caribbean Challenge, Micronesia Challenge, GEF Secretariat, Islands Resource Foundation, Hawaii State and Media Impact attended the meeting.

Issues handled by the Steering Committee included: a) Review of objectives for GLISPA 2011-2012: Steering Committee members agreed on priorities: biodiversity and ecosystem services towards a greener economy in island States, ecosystem-based adaptation as an approach towards increased capacity of island States, invasive alien species, NBSAP reviews and ABS ratification for island States; b) Presentation of the roadmap/guide for the in-depth review of the programme of work: the SCBD explained the milestones and objectives of the IDR GLISPA website: with the contribution of Media Impact, Jessica Robbins is now working to set up an expanded GLISPA website; c) GLISPA budget: the IUCN GLISPA Coordinator position has funding until May 2012, the Steering Committee (including the SCBD) is asked to raise additional resources to ensure GLISPA's role as the main implementing platform for the IB-PoW; and d) Project updates: on the status and trends of the Challenges (Micronesia, Caribbean, Western Indian Ocean Partnership) and on the Global Islands Database led by UNEP-WCMC. An annual report for GLISPA will be circulated and posted on the SCBD website.

**ICLEI/IUCN International Biodiversity Workshop Programme  
Bergrivier, South Africa**

At the invitation of ICLEI, the Secretariat took part in the ICLEI/IUCN International Biodiversity Workshop Programme which took place from 31 January to 4 February in Bergrivier, South Africa. The 5-day workshop brought together interna-

## 7th meeting of the Partners of the Green Customs Initiative Lyon, France

The Secretariat participated in the seventh meeting of the Partners of the Green Customs Initiative from 8-9 February. The meeting was hosted by INTERPOL at its headquarters in Lyon, France. The Initiative is coordinated by UNEP and brings together the enforcement community, international organizations and the secretariats of a number of multilateral environmental agreements to facilitate cooperation to prevent illegal trade and facilitate legal trade in environmentally sensitive commodities. During the meeting, the Partners reviewed Green Customs activities conducted in 2010 and discussed plans for 2011. Planned activities include the development of e-learning modules, the preparation of case studies and further workshops and training.



Participants at the meeting (Photo credits: Interpol).

## CBD and HEC-Algers cooperation established

On 16 February, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the École des Hautes Etudes Commerciales (HEC-Alger) and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Signed by Abdeslam Saadi, Director General of HEC-Alger, the agreement aims to strengthen collaboration between the two organizations on issues of common interest relating to the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity in order to support implementation of the Convention.



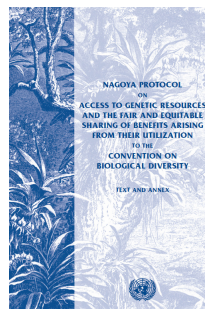
## Sixteenth Poverty Environment Partnership Meeting Vienna, Austria

The overarching theme was "Supporting nationally owned Green Economies to achieve the MDGs and respond to climate change." While the first day focused on economy and policy aspects of a Green Economy, including approaches and tools to factor in the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity into development, the second day was dedicated to sharing knowledge and experiences concerning governance and institutional aspects. The last day of the three-day meeting offered an opportunity for exchange on policy and implementation processes at development agency level and end with setting out future PEP work.'

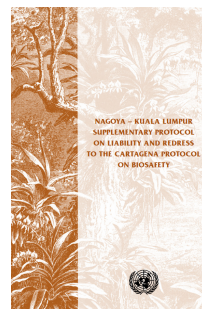
## NEW PUBLICATIONS



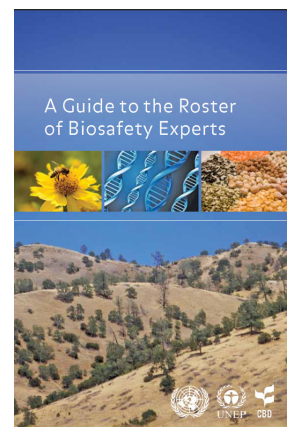
The Convention on Biological Diversity: Year in Review 2010



Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity: Text and Annex



Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: Text and Annex



A Guide to the Roster of Biosafety Experts



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