



Statement by H.E. Mr. László Borbély, Minister for Environment and Forests of Romania

**High-level meeting of the General Assembly as a contribution to the
International Year of Biodiversity**

**Thematic panel “The way forward in achieving the three objectives of the CBD, and the
internationally agreed biodiversity goals and targets”**

New York, September 22nd, 2010

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Mr. President,
Distinguished Co-chairs,
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Romania fully shares the views expressed earlier by the president of the European Commission on behalf of the European Union. We would like to add some considerations from our national perspective.

This is a crucial year for the consolidation of efforts and engagements at international level as regards the implementation of the Convention's three objectives. It is up to us to make the best possible use of our meeting today in order to ensure that a clear vision and objectives are established for the post 2010 period.

A comprehensive long term vision must take into consideration the links between biodiversity, ecosystem services, climate change, desertification, economic prosperity, as well as human health and well-being.

New targets need to be established for longer periods of time aligned with an efficient monitoring of results and the use of operational indicators to measure the progress.

In the run up to the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, as a key contribution to the preservation of biodiversity, efforts must be intensified in order to successfully close negotiations on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits. We welcome the efforts made until now in negotiations which we hope will lead to an agreement on the outstanding issues in Nagoya.

Mr. Chairman,

Under the Strategic Plan for CBD, Romania has the objective of maintaining the diversity of ecosystems, habitats and biomes, within natural protected areas.

The objectives set by the National Sustainable Development Strategy for 2010-2030 aim at maintaining, consolidating, extending and constantly adapting the structural configuration and functional capacity of biodiversity. Furthermore, in order to implement the EU Strategy on biodiversity, Romania has developed an Action Plan whose purpose it is to reduce the current rate of biodiversity loss at national level.

Romania endeavors to promote traditional knowledge, practices and innovative methods as well as green technologies, in order to support the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable development until 2020.

Mr. Chairman,

Romania, believes that sharing responsibilities between local, regional, national and global levels as regards biodiversity and ecosystem services is mandatory in achieving the targets set in the field of nature protection.

Achieving the objectives and targets set in the field of biodiversity is dependent on the mobilization of the necessary resources. In this context, Romania supports a greater involvement of the private and public sectors in finding solutions and innovative mechanisms for financing the implementation of biodiversity objectives.

Moreover, we believe that we need to build on the opportunities provided by other processes, in particular UNCSD 2012 and UNFCCC.

I would like to conclude by stressing the importance of being fully aware of the value of nature and of the social and economic impact of biodiversity loss when taking decisions related to the preservation of our natural heritage.

Thank you.