

Overview of Belgian celebrations in the framework of the 2010 International Year of Biodiversity

Numerous Belgian governmental and non-governmental organizations, academic entities, scientific institutions, private companies and other actors celebrated the 2010 International Year of Biodiversity (IYB) through a diverse set of events and activities. The Belgian National Focal Point to the Convention on Biological Diversity is proud to present this non-exhaustive overview of Belgian IYB activities.

Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| 1. Introduction | 3 |
| 2. Campaigns | 3 |
| 3. Public events..... | 3 |
| 4. Conferences | 5 |
| 5. Exhibits | 7 |
| 6. For youth and schools | 8 |
| 7. Reports and publications..... | 8 |
| 8. TV programmes | 9 |
| 9. Websites..... | 9 |
| 10. IBD celebrations | 10 |
| 11. Other | 10 |

1. Introduction

In Belgium, the International Year of Biodiversity was launched on 17 November 2009 through a presentation of the 2010 activity program at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences. The IYB was closed on 14 December 2010 by a conference in Marcinelle focusing on the importance and value of biodiversity as well as the Nagoya commitments.

The national contact group “22 May”, addressing the yearly International Biodiversity Day, was mandated to serve as the Belgian IYB national committee. Its membership was enlarged to include a broad range of actors and stakeholders in charge of biodiversity communication. The national committee ensured the dissemination of the CBD information on the IYB and the sharing of information on the respective 2010 programs and activities of each of the concerned Belgian actors.

The Belgian CBD National Focal Point developed a national website on the International Year of Biodiversity. Its main feature was a calendar of events that promoted all biodiversity-related activities proposed in Belgium.

www.biodiv2010.be

2. Campaigns

2010 and beyond – National – Campaign – The **biodiversity campaign “I give life to my planet”** makes people aware about biodiversity and stimulates them to take action in everyday life. At the end of 2010, more than 15,000 people were engaged and more than 50,000 actions were registered. The campaign was launched by the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences and the Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment. More than 80 organizations, nature education centers, municipalities, provinces,... relay the campaign.

www.igivelifetomyplanet.be

2010 – Walloon Region – Campaign – **“Biodiversité 52”** presents Wallonia’s biodiversity through one different species or theme every week. This includes not only information on the species or theme but also

photos, anecdotes and activities planned around it. www.biodiversite52.be/Public/

2010 – Walloon and Brussels Regions – Campaign – **“La biodiversité ne sert à rien... sauf à assurer notre survie”**: a public awareness campaign on the value of biodiversity, set up by Natagora, an environmental French-speaking NGO.

www.natagora.be/biodiversite

2010 and beyond – Flemish Region – Campaign – **“Geef om Natuur”**: a fundraising campaign to collect 250,000 euro to buy 125 additional ha of nature reserve. The campaign was set up by the East-Brabant section of Natuurpunt, an environmental Flemish-speaking NGO. Towards the end of 2010, more than 160,000 euro was already collected.

www.geefomnatuur.be

3. Public events

17.11.2009 – Brussels – **Launch of the International Year of Biodiversity at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences**. Information desks and animations presented the IYB activities foreseen by the Institute and some of its partners.

15.05.2010 – Brussels – The municipality of Brussels, among other things, organized a **free distribution of seed packets of nectar plants** to encourage bees to settle in the city.

www.bruxelles.be/5986

31.03-31.05.2010 – Brussels – **“Falcons for everyone”**: live cameras were installed on the cathedral of St Michaels and Gudule in Brussels, inviting the public to observe a falcon couple nesting, breeding and feeding on top of the

cathedral. Organized by the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences.

www.sciencesnaturelles.be/active/biodiv2010/biodiv2010_site/programme/falcons



01.05-31.10.2010 – Shanghai – Belgium was present with a well-visited **pavilion on sustainability during the Expo 2010**. On 31.05, the Environment, Nature and Energy Department of the Flemish Region organized a seminar on biodiversity.

www.lne.be/themas/beleid/internationaal/Inezine-artikels-aim/Ine-op-expo-shanghai-2010

20.05.2010 – Brussels – The Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences launched the **BioGeoSafari**, a biodiversity trail game across 50 locations throughout Brussels. Prizes were distributed to participants completing the game in the period 20.05-29.08.2010. The BioGeoSafari questions remain available online and the trail game can still be performed (without reward).

www.biogeosafari.be

30.05.2010 – Flemish Region – The 2010 edition of the **“Park Day”** was held on the theme “Green in your neighborhood”, with focus on all green spaces ranging from green facades and roofs to natural reserves.

www.natuurenbos.be/nl-BE/Activiteiten/Campagnes/Dag_van_het_Park.aspx

06.06.2010 – Brussels – The 2010 edition of the **“Fête de l’Environnement / Milieufest”**, organized by Brussels Environment, was celebrated with a special focus on biodiversity.

The event included: information booths in the Jubilee Park, the photo exhibition “Brussels, a Green City”, a guided bicycle tour along the Green Promenade, a visit of the city biodiversity

hotspots, a free brunch and a concert.

www.bruxellesenvironnement.be/Templates/news.aspx?id=25258&langtype=2060

06.06-15.10.2010 – Brussels – Brussels Environment put **300 deck chairs** in place across seven parks in Brussels. Made of organic cotton and FSC certified wood, they were illustrated with various animal species living in Brussels. The aim was to create a leisurely place for people to discover and enjoy Brussels’ green spots.

www.bruxellesenvironnement.be/Templates/news.aspx?id=25636&langtype=2060&site=pa



07.07.2010 – Brussels – The **Bee Party**, organized by the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, was a festive event allowing the discovery of flavours, food and products that depend on pollination: honey, fruit, vegetables, oils, spices, coffee, chocolate, wine, beer, cotton, etc. It was used to inform and raise awareness on the importance of pollination for human beings as well as on the decline of pollinators both in the North and the South. The importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services for everyday life was also addressed.

www.naturalsciences.be/active/biodiv2010/biodiv2010_site/programme/pollenpicnic/index.html/document_view



19.09.2010 – Brussels – **“Bruxelles Champêtre / Landelijk Brussel”**: during this annual event Brussels transforms into a rural village with a 2000 m² picnic grass area, an animal farm, a food market, music, kiosks, games for children and info on a more ecological way of life. For the IYB, the event put extra emphasis on biodiversity.

www.bruxelles-champetre.be

4. Conferences

19.01.2010 – Brussels – Seminar **“La biodiversité et les entreprises: enjeux et solutions / Biodiversiteit en bedrijven: uitdagingen en oplossingen”** organized by the Federal Council for Sustainable Development.

www.frdo-cfdd.be/FR/fora_biodiversiteit_2010.html



11.05.2010 – Brussels – Brussels Environment organized a meeting with the Brussels naturalists' organizations and the Brussels' Minister of Environment to discuss process and planning of nature policy in the Brussels Capital Region, in the framework of the IYB and the preparation of the Brussels' strategic Nature and Biodiversity Plan.

07.06.2010 – Brussels – Seminar **“Climate change and biodiversity: shall the Natura 2000 Network become an empty shell”** organized by the SERES (UCL) and the CEDRE (FUSL).

www.uclouvain.be/cps/ucl/doc/drt/documents/seminaire_biodiversite.pdf

24-26.08.2010 – Namur – A pluralist congress for science professors was held at the University of Namur. Entitled: **“From nanoparticles to**

continents, biodiversity in all its states”, its objective was to show that biodiversity not only concerns biologists but the entire scientific community. There was also a special day dedicated to educational resources.

www.probio.be/spip.php?article171

08-09.09.2010 – Ghent – In the framework of the Belgian EU Presidency, the Flemish Ministry of Environment, Nature and Energy, in cooperation with the European Commission and the other Belgian Ministries of Environment, hosted a conference on **“Biodiversity post-2010: Biodiversity in a changing world”**. The main objective of the conference was to feed into the preparation of an EU biodiversity strategy for the post-2010 period and to streamline the EU's position in the international negotiations on a global biodiversity policy at COP-10. The conference focused on three themes: (1) biodiversity in an urbanizing Europe, (2) valuation and benefits of ecosystem services, (3) ways and means for implementing the vision and targets for biodiversity post-2010. Additionally, the event served as venue for the official EU launch of the “TEEB D2 Report for Local/Regional Policy & Public Management”.

www.lne.be/en/2010-eu-presidency/events/bio-diversity-post-2010/about-the-conference-biodiversity-in-a-changing-world

10.09.2010 – Brussels – In the framework of the conference **“Biodiversity in a changing world”**, Brussels Environment organized a post-conference excursion. It showed practical examples of conservation, integration and development of nature and biodiversity in urban and peri-urban areas of Brussels, from the city centre to urban green spaces and Natura 2000 sites in the periphery, landscape parks and semi natural areas embedded in the urban area and peri-urban, interregional Sonian Forest, etc.

13-17.09.2010 – Ghent – The IUCN Academy of Environmental Law held its Eighth Annual Colloquium in the Ghent University. The Colloquium focused on **“Linkages between Biodiversity and Climate Change”** and was hosted by the Centre of Environmental Law and Energy Law at the Faculty of Law.

www.iucnael.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=118&Itemid=83

16-18.09.2010 – Meise – The Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences held an **international symposium on botanical diversity**: exploration, understanding and use. Themes were the history of exploration, the study of richness, evolution and conservation, and traditional and modern uses. The aim of the symposium was to stimulate a wide interest for the topic in the IYB, to highlight the contribution of Belgian scientists to overseas biodiversity research and to demonstrate the importance of biodiversity conservation.

www.kaowarsom.be/documents/Programma%20Biodiversiteit_finalversion.pdf

22-24.09.2010 – Brussels – **Annual meeting of the Green Spider Network** (information and communication officers from environment ministries and national environmental agencies in Europe), organized by the Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment and the Flemish Region, Walloon Region and Brussels Capital Region, and supported by the DG Environment of the European Commission. This year's focus was on biodiversity and various parties presented their biodiversity campaigns. In addition, there was a best practice competition, various workshops and visits of some of Belgium's cultural and natural parks and assets.

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/networks/greenspider/am2010.html>



Green Spider Network

Annual meeting 2010

18-19.10.2010 – Brussels – **The annual conference of the European Forum of Judges for the Environment** met in the Belgian capital to discuss European biodiversity law. The aim was to encourage the exchange of information based on experience but also to assess EU biodiversity law and make recommendations regarding its implementation in Member States. The Belgian Presidency of the EU Council actively

supported this initiative, which was organised with the European Commission's endorsement.

www.eutrio.be/pressrelease/enforcement-european-biodiversity-law-national-level

www.eufje.org/EN/conferences/brussels_2010

16-17.11.2010 – Brussels – Conference on restoration of large wild areas **“Rebuilding the Natural Heart of Europe”**. Organized by Wild Europe and the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, with the support of the European Commission as one of the events of the Belgian Presidency of the European Union.

www.eutrio.be/rebuilding-natural-heart-europe

16-19.11.2010 – Brussels – **Positive Visions for Biodiversity: meeting of the European Platform for Biodiversity Research Strategy (EPBRS)** under the Belgian Presidency of the European Union. Over 200 participants from 43 countries gathered in Brussels for this participative event. Their aim was to create a Positive Vision of the world that we want and need for the future of humanity and nature and to share ideas on how to build a sustainable society.

www.positivevisionsforbiodiversity.org

14.12.2010 – Marcinelle – Conference **“Closing the International Year of Biodiversity 2010: How to better communicate the socio-economic value of biodiversity? A green future and benefits for all-Biodiversity and social responsibility”** organized by the Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment. This event marked the closing of the IYB and launched a number of new multi-stakeholder initiatives. The aim was to start translating the decisions taken in Nagoya into practical terms for “use on the ground” and the recommendations of TEEB into concrete and pragmatic commitments for companies, consumers, trade unions and local actors - to increase their understanding of the socio-economic value of biodiversity for society.

www.health.belgium.be/eportal/Aboutus/eutrio/environment/Biodiversityclosure/index.htm

<http://fed-health-env.be/docs/press-releases>

<http://fed-health-env.be/docs/other-documents>

<http://fed-health-env.be/docs/documents>

<http://fed-health-env.be/docs/photos-and-images>

5. Exhibits

2010 – Mechelen – To highlight its conservation efforts through the participation to several breeding programs, the animal park Planckendael designated three resident **species as ambassadors for biodiversity**: the cinereous or black vulture, the snow leopard and a giraffe subspecies, all three endangered to critically endangered in the wild. Information signs were placed next to their cage throughout the IYB and on the IBD a narrator told the public stories about the species.

www.argusactueel.be/binnenlands-nieuws/ook-planckendael-ijvert-voor-biodiversiteit-0

22.03-02.04.2010 – Liege – Exhibition on biodiversity with information on **green spots in the city** as well as activities and advice on biodiversity conservation: workshops on gardening without pesticides and building natural ponds, botanic gardens promoted biodiversity friendly gardening which included exchange of seeds, composting demonstrations and conferences on nature-friendly gardens.

www.liege.be/nouveautes/archives/mars/ab-2010-annee-internationale-de-la-biodiversite-2013-liege-ville-verte-bb

27.04.2010-09.01.2011 – Tervuren – Exhibition **“Congo River”** by the Royal Museum for Central Africa. The exhibition was designed as a walk along the river, with different stops presenting about ten different themes. Its centerpiece was a 22 m long and 3500 kg heavy pirogue displayed at the entrance.

www.congo2010.be/fr/expositions/fleuve-congo



22.05-24.10.2010 – Meise – Photo exhibition **“Boxes brimming with Life”** by the nature photographer Tom Linster. During the International Year of Biodiversity he presented

his latest creations in the castle of the National Botanic Garden of Belgium.

www.br.fgov.be/PUBLIC/GENERAL/event1.php

27.05.2010-09.01.2011 – Meise – The exhibition **“Amazing Africa”** was a tribute to both the International Year of Biodiversity and the 50 years of independence of Congo. The National Botanic Garden of Belgium manages an extensive collection on African flora and dried specimen in the herbarium and continues to collaborate with Congolese and other African institutes. In the Plant Palace, visitors can discover the fascinating plants of the African continent.

www.plantentuinmeise.be/PUBLIC/GENERAL/event13.php

06.06-31.08.2010 – Brussels – A **photo exhibition on biodiversity** in Brussels was shown along the 63 km of the Green Promenade. Organized by Brussels Environment.

www.bruxellesenvironnement.be/Templates/news.aspx?id=25598&langtype=2060

01.07-31.08.2010 – Mons – The scientific adventure park “PASS” created a special **summer program for the IYB**. Activities included a guided walk through different ecosystems, the touring exhibition “BBC Wildlife photographer of the Year”, an exhibition on forest canopy ecosystems, and a short film entitled “The race of the sardines”

www.pass.be/fr/evenements/ete_2010|ete_de_la_biodiversite.shtml

27.07-05.09.2010 – Brussels – **“Science at the Palace”** was an exhibition at the Royal Palace developed by four federal museums: the Royal Museums of Fine Arts, the Royal Museums of Art and History, the Royal Museum for Central Africa and the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences. Joining their collections, they presented the history of mankind and its ever changing relationship to nature and wildlife.

www.monarchie.be/fr/actuel/agenda/archives/le-palais-royal-de-bruxelles-ouvert-au-public-ete-2010

24.09.2010-31.08.2011 – Mechelen – **“Plantastisch”**: interactive exhibition presented by Technopolis to show the wonderful world of plants and their relations with each

other but also with humans, insects and other animals.

www.plantastisch.be

09.12.2010 – Brussels – Opening of a new permanent hall on biodiversity in the Museum of the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences. **BiodiverCITY** invites visitors to learn about biodiversity, how to protect it, explore the biodiversity in cities and try to manage a city in a biodiversity-friendly manner.

www.naturalsciences.be/museum/biodivercity



6. For youth and schools

31.03.2010 – Brussels – **Launch of BiodiverCity, a travelling workshop and exhibition** for primary schools developed by the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences on the theme of biodiversity in urban regions. It will stretch over two years and travel through different schools in Brussels.

www.sciencesnaturelles.be/active/biodiv2010/biodiv2010_site/programme/bnec

01-06.07.2010 – Antwerp – The **2010 edition of the European Youth Perspective Conference** focused on biodiversity. Some 150 youngsters from all over Europe convened for 5 days to discuss, share and contribute information and experiences on biodiversity. The conference ended with a declaration from the participants as well as a list of recommendations for the European Union.

www.youpec2010.eu

28.09.2010 – Brussels – **An educational kit** on biodiversity was launched by the Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and

Environment and the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences. Published online, it is conceived as a support to teachers from kindergarten to high school.

<http://ikgeeflevenaanmijnplaneet.indeklas.be>

<http://jedonnevieamaplanete.enclasse.be>

7. Reports and publications

2010 and beyond – Book – **“366 gestes pour la biodiversité / 366 tips voor de biodiversiteit”** is a small book in French and Dutch presenting 366 amusing, educative and creative ideas on how to take action for biodiversity. It is one of the main supporting material of the campaign “I give life to my planet”. More than 60,000 free copies have been distributed. It can be ordered on line. A shorter version presenting 52 actions and published in all UN languages was also produced in 2010. The first copies were distributed during COP-10.

www.sciencesnaturelles.be/active/biodiv2010/biodiv2010_site/366tips



06.06.2010 – Brussels – Brussels Environment launched a new brochure (FR/NL) on biodiversity for the larger Brussels public: **“Biodiversité à Bruxelles / Biodiversiteit in Brussel”**. This publication highlights Brussels’ urban biodiversity in an easy way for everybody. Brussels Environment launched also a special 2010 edition of the Brussels Green Walk brochure. In this edition, special attention is dedicated to the biodiversity along the 63 km of the Green Walk.

www.leefmilieubrussel.be

www.bruxellesenvironnement.be

03.2010 – Publication of the book “**Biodiversiteit in België: soorten – leefgebieden / species – habitats / espèces – biotopes**”. Overview of the biodiversity in Belgium through 100 species. Published by Davidsfonds.

www.davidsfonds.be/publisher/edition/detail.phtml?id=1174



09.12.2010 – Brussels – Publication of the book “**Bruxelles, ville verte, ville nature – Brussel, groene stad, stad vol natuur**”. New book on Brussels green spaces and their biodiversity specially edited in the framework of the IYB, to highlight the importance of urban biodiversity as well as the importance and opportunities of urban green spaces for biodiversity and quality of life in the city. Edited by Racine and Lannoo, under the supervision of Brussels Environment.

www.bruxellesenvironnement.be/Templates/news.aspx?id=28394&langtype=2060

8. TV programmes

2010 – National – **Media partnership** – The Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment and the Flemish Region, Walloon Region and Brussels Capital Region established a partnership with the public broadcasting stations VRT and RTBF. It resulted in biodiversity highlights during various programs on radio and TV, and culminated in the production of a two-part documentary on Biodiversity in Belgium (shown on Canvas, VRT during COP-10) and a TV program on sustainability and biodiversity shown in December 2010 on RTBF.

<http://programmas.canvas.be/category/>

biodiversiteit-in-belgie/

www.rtbef.be/ladeux/revoir/detail_rien-a-jeter?uid=58961101668&idshedule=003c0bb977e016e8eb3dcd279389fbc1&catchupId=10-TMTEH100-100-PR-1&serieId=

9. Websites

2010 – Worldwide/National – **Biodiversity Year Schedule of Events (BYSE)** for 2010. The Public Awareness team of the EU-funded project EDIT and Countdown 2010 have cooperated to create BYSE 2010, which is a search tool to find all events happening during the International Year of Biodiversity and beyond. The calendar contains all biodiversity-related activities scheduled for 2010 organized by museums, zoos, science centres, research institutes, NGOs, local and national governments, businesses, etc. from Europe and across the world! BYSE was made by the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences on behalf of EDIT.

www.countdown2010.net/byse

01.04.2010 – Brussels – Brussels Environment refreshed completely its **web pages on biodiversity**, on the occasion of the IYB.

www.leefmilieubrussel.be

www.bruxellesenvironnement.be

20.05.2010 – Brussels – Launch of the **national website on the International Year of Biodiversity** developed by the Belgian National Focal Point to the CBD. The website included a calendar of events to promote all biodiversity-related activities proposed by any organization in Belgium.

www.biodiv2010.be

2010, International Year of Biodiversity



20.05.2010 – Brussels – Launch of the **“Belgian Species List”** at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences. The registry of species is an inventory with information and pictures, verified by experts, of all living species in Belgium.
www.species.be

18.10.2010 – Brussels – Launch of the **blog of the Belgian delegation on the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-10)** in Nagoya, Japan. Thanks to the support of the Belgian CBD and CHM National Focal Points, the Belgian delegation maintained a blog during COP-10, which included 10 questions and 10 themes, portraits of the Belgian delegation, information on the major COP issues, negotiations and side events, etc.
<http://cop10.biodiv.be>



10. IBD celebrations

22.05.2010 – Marionville – **Party for Biodiversity** – Natagora organized a Party for Biodiversity in the nature reserve of Marionville. The program included the construction of nest boxes, diurnal and nocturnal walks, plant, bird and insect observations, bicycle rallies, animations for children, etc.
www.natagora.be/fileadmin/Natagora/Presse/Presse_2010/CP_pdf/100522_CP_CampBiodiv_Presse.pdf

22.05.2010 – Antwerp – The province of Antwerp celebrated both the International Biodiversity Day and the International Year of Biodiversity with an event entitled **“Roodwaternacht”**

(Red Water Night). During this event, children and families were able to participate in a series of activities and received a book with biodiversity-related stories written by Flemish artists.
www.roodwaternacht.be

22-24.05.2010 – Meise – The National Botanic Garden of Belgium held its annual **“Passiflora”** event centered on the garden and gardening. Themes included: cookery, plants, floral composition, gardening tools, etc. There was also a photography competition, an exhibition on new plant varieties, traditional food stalls, a speech on biodiversity by a follower of Al Gore’s policies and the viewing of the giant water lily, never showcased before.
www.passiflora-meise.be/fr/

22-23.05.2010 – Flemish Region – Natuurpunt, an environmental NGO, threw the challenge to observe 2010 different species in the context of their campaign **“Count them up 2010”**. It resulted in the impressive number of 39 000 sightings and 3 211 observed species. The observations were registered on www.waarnemingen.be.
www.natuurpunt.be/nl/vereniging/pers/-mei-dag-van-de-biodiversiteit---tel-mee-tot-320.aspx

11. Other

2010 – Brussels – The Université Libre de Bruxelles organized throughout the year several conferences and exhibitions on biodiversity as well as a **projection of the movie “The Age of Stupid”**.
www.ulb.ac.be/facs/sciences/biol/biodiversite.html

26.04.2010 – DR Congo – **Boyekole Ebale Congo Expedition**. Start of an expedition on the Congo River, composed of 67 scientists, mostly from Belgium and D.R. Congo. This expedition was set up by the University of Kisangani, the Royal Museum for Central Africa, the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences and the National Botanic Garden of Belgium to celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity

and the 50 years of independence of D.R. Congo.
www.congobiodiv.org



15.07-15.10.2010 – Europe – A **comic book competition** on the topic “What positive visions for biodiversity in the future?” was launched by the Belgian Biodiversity Platform and its partners. Drawings were sent in from all over Europe. The awards were handed at a banquet during the Positive Visions for Biodiversity meeting and the comics pages were printed as posters for display during the meeting and compiled in a booklet to be disseminated with the meeting report.

www.biodiversity.be/epbrsbe2010/page/comics



10.2010 - National - In preparation of the COP-10 Conference of the Parties in Nagoya, WWF Belgium launched an awareness raising campaign on the importance of biodiversity

and on the need to preserve it. Under the slogan “**Everyone to Nagoya**”, Belgian citizens were asked to take a seat on a virtual airplane flying to the COP-10 conference city. Together with Joke Schauvliege, Flemish Minister for the Environment, almost 7 000 Belgian citizens booked their seat on the airplane. By this simple gesture, they showed their concern on the importance of biodiversity and on the need to conclude ambitious agreements in Nagoya.

www.wwf.be/tousanagoya



21.12.2010 - **New species** - *Microcaecilia iyob*. Herpetologists Mark Wilkinson of the Natural History Museum London and Philippe Kok of the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, described a new amphibian species of the Caeciliidae family and named it after the IYB.

www.sciencesnaturelles.be/active/sciencenews/microcaecilia/index.html

