



APEDJ/AFEYD

Nom de l'Organisation : Association Pour l'Environnement et Développement de la Jeunesse (APEDJ)

Organization name: Association For Environment and Youth Development (AFEYD)

Devise: « Pour chaque jeune, un environnement sain et durable »

Motto: “For every young person, a healthy and sustainable environment”

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REPORT ON BIODIVERSITY IS OUR LIFE

The beauty of our countries and continents dwells in its rich biodiversity. That biodiversity is the variety of species living in our ecosystems or in another way, biodiversity is the variety of life on earth, and in a motto's way, I say: “biodiversity is life and from a general way, biodiversity is our life”.

So, see, the existence of the word “life” in that definition of biodiversity. That is to tell you, the life of our species are very sacred and we have that duty to take care of that life by: the safeguard, protection and conservation.

The biodiversity is characterized by 3 elements very important which are:

- The plenty of species (the number of species we have in our continents and countries)
- The diversity of species (the kind of species that each country and continent has)
- The endemism (the uniqueness of species in a country or continent).

Our natural resources: forest, water, earth, air are part of biodiversity and they furnish us food, combustible, health, wealth and other vital services we need. The human beings are part of biodiversity too.

So, we, who are the humans, with a higher intelligence than other species, have the power to destroy and protect biodiversity. And actually, the human activities destroy the biodiversity at alarming rates. Those losses are impoverishing us all and damaging the life system we need. Nevertheless, biodiversity is life, is our life, and the worldwide biodiversity is threatened. In my country (Republic of the Congo), that threat is due to certain factors, which are: species disappearance by the poaching, death due to disease, illegal hunting and fishing for food and trade, the medicinal and trading use of plants, the loss of habitat. The natural resources are threatened too by the deforestation (case of forests. But with the arrival of the project REDD in Congo, I think that deforestation will be reduced), there is also the degradation of soils (by erosions, inundations, waste), the air and waters pollution. Although, the government of the Congo is taking measures to protect some areas but few means and resources are put in service to well manage those areas efficiently, that is to tell you, the natural resources and country species are always threatened. The oil installations also threaten coastal and marine environments.

LET ME TO TALK YOU ABOUT BIODIVERSITY SAFEGUARD

The world community is faced with challenges to overcome loss of biodiversity. The safeguard of biodiversity is possible if the distribution of costs is fair or whether the levy is below the natural coast. So, we must look for strategies to respect this idea.

About Conservation: Conservation started in Central Africa in the end of 19th century. The first elephant reserve was established in 1889, the national parks were created in 1925, protected areas of forest have been put in place in 1970 with the creation of national park of Solonga (in D.R.Congo-Kinshasa) and after, many others have been created in 80s. Now, every country of the world has got a culture of conservation of its heritage. But, for a sustainable conservation of biodiversity, we must also seek sustainable strategies, put them in practice to avoid threats and loss of biodiversity. Programmes or projects on biodiversity must be implemented in our countries and continents. In my country (Republic of the Congo), the Congolese youth is ready to work in those projects or programmes, this will allow to reduce the unemployment. My organization called: Association For Environment and Youth Development (AFEYD), in French speaking: APEDJ is ready to work in those kinds of projects or programmes. APEDJ/AFEYD calls for assistance all those who have possibilities to support NGO, young people groups, associations so that they have opportunities to achieve their projects on biodiversity. APEDJ/AFEYD is in need and wants to be supported too without forgetting the training of members in the mechanisms and management of biodiversity. There are projects of conservation, but the support is lacking them in material and funding to achieve their projects of biodiversity in conservation and safeguard in Congo to avoid the conflicts between the man, fauna, flora and aquatic species because biodiversity is life, biodiversity is our life. Thus, APEDJ/AFEYD calls for assistance and support in equipment and funding for all those who want to support them.

Conclusion

Now, this is the time to act and reflect upon our achievements for the protection and conservation of biodiversity which provides us life. So, let's open our mouths so that we talk about the importance of biodiversity around us, about its blessings for our life. To finish, I say ***Biodiversity is life, Biodiversity is our life.***

Thanks

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