

ANNOUNCEMENT

Cameroon in consultation with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will be celebrating the International Day of Biodiversity on the 12th of May 2010 under the official theme: “*Biodiversity and Development*”. This activity coincides with the period of Cameroon’s celebration of 50 years of independence (1960-2010).

The objectives of the celebration for this year are:

- To highlight Cameroons rich biodiversity with a special focus on its forest, mountain, agricultural and coastal biodiversity
- To create an increased awareness on the wealth of Cameroon’s plant and animal biodiversity, ecosystem services and the opportunities this offers in contributing to national development.
- To provide an opportunity for major stakeholders to experience and identify diverse biological species and the need to prevent the degradation of valuable ecosystems.

Activities identified to mark this celebration include:

- Organised national wide media talks
- Organised Competitions of schools, universities and the media;
- A Field trip to the biodiversity hotspot in Bankingili, at the foot of Mount Fako.
- Organisation of a Biodiversity Cultural Evening
- A publication to be presented during a launching ceremony

In view of the importance of this occasion, the Minister of Environment and Protection of Nature will lead a delegation made up of Government Officials, Experts, NGOs, Students, school children and the media to the foot of Mount Fako in Limbe for the celebration.

The Ministry of Environment and Protection of Nature will be carrying out this activity in partnership with GTZ, IUCN and WWF. A national organising committee has been set up composed of representatives from all partner organisations.

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