

## 2010 International Year of Biodiversity (IYB) events in Korea

### Background

The 61st UN General Assembly (Dec. 2006) designated the year 2010 as the "International Year of Biodiversity (IYB)."

- Participants expressed concerns over continued losses of biodiversity and resulting social, economic and cultural impacts;
- Designation of the "International Year of Biodiversity" will help raise awareness of the importance of biodiversity and enable sharing of the best practices of preserving biodiversity;

In joining this global efforts, Korea plans to hold various events such as ceremonies, seminars and education programs where the public can participate so as to help enhance public awareness of and interest in biodiversity.

### Organization

The events are to be held consistently and effectively with the cooperation and coordination between relevant ministries, local governments and private organizations. For such purpose, the "IYB Korea Organizing Committee," which consists of relevant ministries, international and private organizations, will be formed to organize and oversee the events (Mar. to Dec. 2010).

Various contents for the event centered around meaning, significance, and measures to preserve biodiversity will be developed and supported, and the practicality of the event will be enhanced through provision of programs in which the youth and the public from all walks of life can participate.

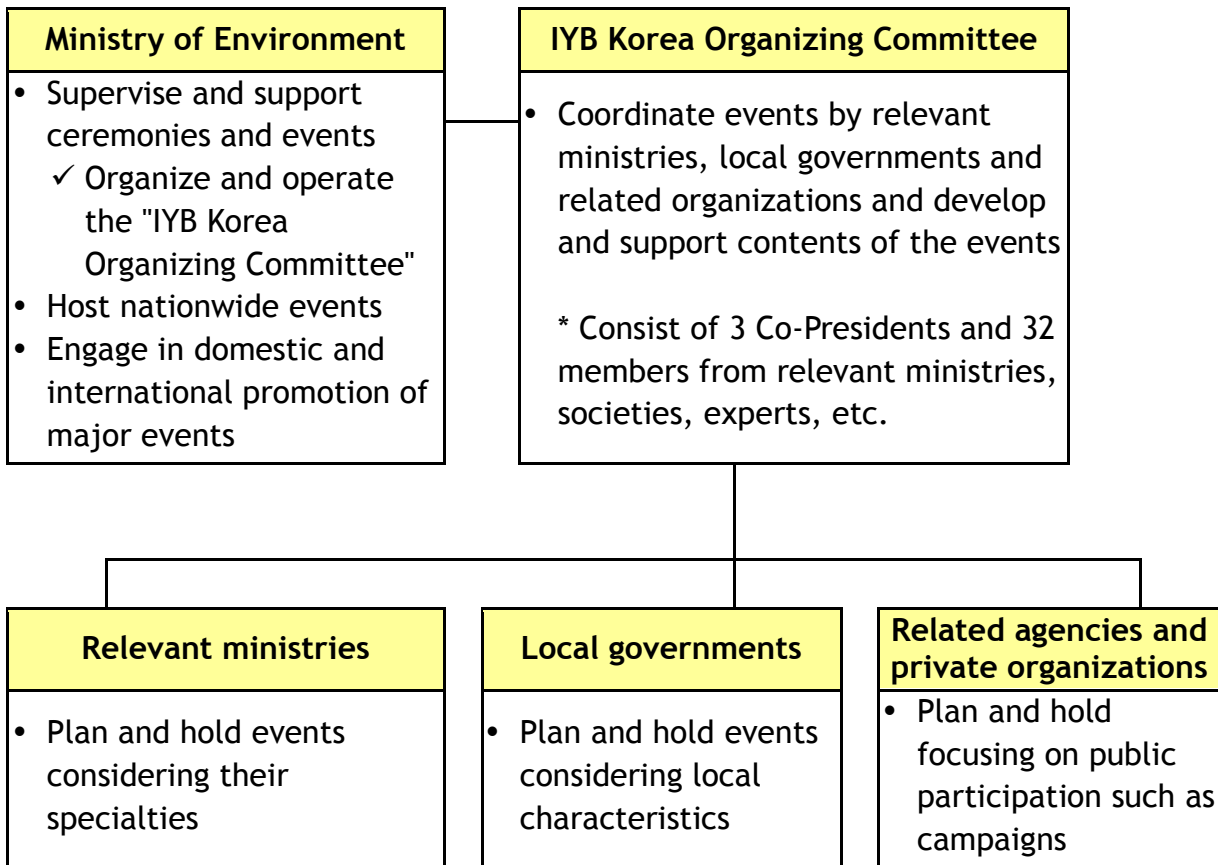
Ministry of Environment and its affiliate agencies are to supervise and support the "2010 International Year of Biodiversity" events by, among others:

- Organizing the "IYB Korea Organizing Committee" and steering committee;
- Hosting nationwide events such as ceremonies and international symposiums; and
- Engaging in various promotional activities such as distributing press releases, articles to international academic journals, brochures.

Other relevant ministries and local governments will establish plans for events considering the characteristics of ministries and local provinces and pursue joint holding of the events with local governments.

Related organizations (e.g. Korean National Commission for UNESCO) and private organizations will establish and execute plans for events focusing on public participation such as campaigns and eco-tours.

< Organizational Chart >



## IYB Korea Organizing Committee

Co-Presidents (3):

Vice Minister, Ministry of Environment [government agencies]

Secretary-General, Korean National Commission for UNESCO [education, science]

President, the Korean Association of Biological Sciences [private sector]

Members (32):

1. Relevant ministries (4)

- Ministry of Education, Science and Technology; Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs; Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; Korea Forest Service

2. Affiliated agencies (11)

- Korea National Arboretum; National Research Institute of Cultural Heritage; Korea Research Institute of Bioscience and Biotechnology; National Academy of Agriculture Science; National Fisheries Research and Development Institute; Korea Foundation for the Advancement of Science and Creativity; Korea Ocean Research and Development Institute; Gwacheon National Science Museum; National Science Museum; Korea National Park Service; National Institute of Biological Resources

3. Societies (11)

- Presidents from: Korean Society for Integrative Biology; Botanical Society of Korea; the Ecological Society of Korea; Korean Society of Limnology; the Korean Society of Biology Education; the Genetics Society of Korea; the Entomological Society of Korea; the Korean Society of Plant Taxonomists; Korean Wetlands Society; the Korean Society of Oceanography; Korean Society of Environment and Ecology

4. Relevant organizations (4)

- Chair, Korean National Committee of IUCN; Secretary General, UNEP National Committee for the Republic of Korea; Chair, Korea Protected Area Forum; Secretary General, Green Korea United

5. Experts (2)

- Prof. Choe Jae-cheon (Ewha Womans University), Park Yong-ha (Korea Environment Institute)

Responsibility: coordination and assessment of ceremonial events

Secretariat: Nature Resources Division, Ministry of Environment

- All events are to be reported to the Secretariat
- Secretariat will compile the events and report periodically, every quarters, to the Organizing Committee

## Plans for Major Events

### 1. Ministry of Environment, National Institute of Biological Resources (NIBR), etc.

| Dates and Venue  | Event   |
|--|---|
| 31 March 2010<br>Ministry of Environment                       | Launch of the 2010 IYB Korea Organizing Committee   |
| 2 April - 31 October<br>2010<br>NIBR, Incheon                  | IYB Special Exhibition  |
| 20 May 2010<br>NIBR, Incheon                                   | 2010 IYB Ceremony   |
| 20 May 2010<br>NIBR, Incheon                                   | 4 <sup>th</sup> NIBR International Symposium in commemoration of the 2010 IYB   |
| 7 - 11 June 2010<br>BEXCO, Busan                               | 3 <sup>rd</sup> intergovernmental and multistakeholder meeting on Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services<br>( <a href="http://www.ipbes.net">http://www.ipbes.net</a> ) |
| 29 May - 20 June 2010<br>Key-chungsan Botanical Garden, Pohang | Endangered flora exhibition   |
| September 2010<br>tbc  | International Symposium on Access and Benefit-Sharing   |
| September 2010<br>tbc  | Symposium on Biodiversity and Endangered fauna and flora Conservation   |
| October 2010<br>tbc  | National Biodiversity Celebration   |

### 2. Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

| Dates and Venue                                       | Event                                     |
|---|---|
| 31 March - 15 April<br>2010<br>Jinhae                 | UNESCO Biodiversity Photo Exhibition Tour |
| 20 May 2010<br>NIBR, Incheon                          | 2010 IYB Ceremony                         |
| June 2010<br>National Science Museum                  | UNESCO Biodiversity Photo Exhibition Tour |
| July 2010<br>Gyeryongsan Natural History Museum, etc. | Biodiversity Experience Program for Youth |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 19 - 20 August 2010<br>Seoul National<br>University | Biodiversity Conference   |
| 15 - 16 September 2010<br>Seoul                     | International Conference on Climate Change,<br>Biodiversity, and Ethics                     |
| 9 - 16 October 2010<br>Hwaseong, Gyeonggi-do        | 17 <sup>th</sup> Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)<br>Governing Board Meeting |
| October 2010<br>tbc                                 | National Biodiversity Celebration   |

### 3. Others

| Dates and Venue   | Event  |
|---|--|
| 23 - 28 August 2010<br>COEX, Seoul  | 23 <sup>rd</sup> International Union of Forest Research<br>Organization (IUFRO) World Congress [Korea Forest<br>Service]   |
| May 2010<br>Gimhae  | Invasive alien species removal   |
| June 2010<br>Andong   | Agriculture and Flowers exhibition and events  |
| July - August 2010<br>Junam Wetland Park  | Wetland Education  |
| 13 - 17 September 2010<br>Kyungpook National<br>University,<br>Gyeongsangbuk-do | 4 <sup>th</sup> East Asian Federation of Ecological Societies<br>(EAFES) International Conference in conjunction with<br>the 8 <sup>th</sup> International Long Term Ecological Research<br>(ILTER) - East Asian-Pacific (EAP) Regional Conference |
| October 2010<br>Miryang   | Wetlands eco-tour for Youth  |