

MONTHLY BULLETIN OF ACTIVITIES OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY SEPTEMBER 2008

OFFICIAL VISIT TO JAPAN

At the kind invitation of the Government of Japan, the Executive Secretary paid a visit to Tokyo, Nagoya and Kanazawa. At the sixth International Conference on Science and Technology, held in Tokyo, on 12 – 13 September 2008, the Executive Secretary made a presentation on "Biodiversity, Well-Being and Sustainable Society". At the invitation of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, the Executive Secretary made a presentation on "Biodiversity Challenges and responses: Towards the Nagoya Biodiversity Summit" at the sixteenth Environment Congress for Asia and Pacific 2008, (ECO-Asia) held in Nagoya, exclusively devoted to biodiversity and the tenth meeting of the



H. E. Dr. Tetsuo Saito, new Minister of Environment of Japan

Conference of the Parties (COP 10). At the invitation of the Governor of Ishikawa Prefecture the Executive Secretary opened the First National meeting on Satoyama-Satoumi Sub

Global Assessment held on 16 September 2008 in Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture.

During this visit, bilateral meetings with His Excellency Dr. Saito the new Minister of the Environment, the Director General of Nature Conservation and relevant directors of the Ministry of the Environment on the preparation of COP 10 were held. In addition, meetings with the Director General for Global Affairs and the Director of the Global Environment Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. A meeting with Japanese Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) at the initiative of IUCN's office in Tokyo was also convened and attended 50 participants, including NGOs from Nagoya and members of the COP 10 Promotion Committee.



Participants of the ECO-Asia 2008 Conference, Nagoya

SIGNATURE OF MoU WITH GEO SECRETARIAT

On 8 September 2008, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the SCBD and the GEO Secretariat in Geneva at UNEP's Regional Office for Europe. The objective of this MoU is to collaborate in supporting science-based decision-making, promoting the gathering, analysis and dissemination of biodiversity data and information, improving the scientific understanding of the status and trends of, and threats to, biodiversity, including the drivers of change, and encouraging interaction amongst scientists and decision makers.



Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary, CBD and
Mr. José Achache, Director, GEO Secretariat

ENHANCING PARTNERSHIP WITH PARTNERS

In September 2008, the UNCBD Executive Secretary, Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaf, met with a number of officials from Partner Organizations.



On 3 September 2008, Mr. Djoghlaf had bilateral meetings with senior officials of the cabinet of the Minister and the Secretary of State as well as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France in their capacity as current president of the European Union, regarding the implementation of COP 9 decisions and the preparation of the 2010 International Year on Biodiversity.

On 4 September, Mr. Djoghlaf had a meeting with Mr. Koichiro Matsuura, Director General of UNESCO, in Paris, where they discussed the finalization of the revised Memorandum of Understanding between the SCBD and UNESCO. In addition, Mr. Djoghlaf also met with the Assistant Director Generals for Earth Science and Natural Science.



On 4 September, a meeting was also held with new Director of the Environment Management Group, Mr. Ivar Baste and the possibility of establishing a system-wide issue management Group on the 2010 biodiversity target was discussed.

On Monday 8 September, in Geneva, Mr. Djoghlaf made a joint presentation with the Executive Secretary of UNCCD, Mr. Luc Gnacadja to the permanent missions in Geneva on the outcomes of COP 9. More than 40 participants attended the meeting. It was the first time that such a joint briefing was held.



CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR CENTRAL AFRICA ON NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS (NBSAPS) AND MAINSTREAMING OF BIODIVERSITY

From 22—25 September, the SCBD, together with the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC), organized the Capacity Building Workshop for Central Africa on the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and the mainstreaming of Biodiversity, in Limbé, Cameroon. Some 60 participants from nine countries – all members of the – reviewed progress in implementing the Convention in the region and on integrating biodiversity into Sectoral policies and national strategies for poverty reduction. Representatives from COMIFAC, OCSWA, UNDP, FAO, CIFOR, IUCN, WWF, FFI and a number of local NGOs as well as all relevant ministries of the Cameroon government also participated. The opening was attended by the COMIFAC Executive Secretary and the local mayor as well as representatives of the Minister of Environment and the Prime Ministers Office. As part of an interesting field trip, the Mayor later invited the participants to his municipality to witness the biotrade of *Gnetum*, a high value vegetable for which there are efforts to develop sustainable harvesting. Participants committed themselves to the strengthening the implementation of the Convention in the region, with COMIFAC's Working Group on Biodiversity playing a leading role in follow-up. The conclusions and recommendations of the Workshop are available at: <https://www.cbd.int/nbsap/workshops/central-africa.shtml>



*Delegates learn about Cameroon's Eru trade.
Photo courtesy of IanRedmond.co.uk*

LATIN AMERICAN SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON PROTECTED AREAS



From 23—25 September, the SCBD organized the Latin American Sub-regional workshop on protected areas, which was held in the City of Salinas in Ecuador, with the generous financial support of the European Union and the Government of Ecuador, and in collaboration with the PoWPA FRIENDS Consortium. At the margins of the workshop, the Minister of Environment, of the Government of Ecuador, Her Excellency Ms. Marcela Aguinaga Vallejo signed a declaration designating a new protected area, “Puntilla de Santa Elena” constituting 50,000 ha of littoral and coral systems, the first protected area of the newly created province of Santa Elena. The workshop reviewed the status of implementation of ecological gap analysis, sustainable finance plans and management effectiveness, the three main pillars for implementing the programme of work on protected areas. 40 participants attended the workshop.



Her Excellency Ms. Marcela Aguinaga Vallejo, Minister of Environment of Ecuador

Participants during the proceedings of the workshop



Press Release:

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/press/2008/pr-2008-09-26-ec-pa-en.pdf>

CBD GUESTS IN SEPTEMBER

On 15 September 2008, **Ms. Ruth Raymond**, from Bioersivity International visited the Secretariat.



On 22 September, representatives of the **Society for Ecological Restoration (SER)** led by Mr. George Gann, Chair of SER visited the Secretariat and met with a number of staff.

(left to right: Mr. Nik Lopoukhine, past SER Chair and Chair of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas, Mr. Sasha Alexander, SER Project Director, Mr. George Gann, Chair, Board)

The same day, a delegation from **The Wild Center of the Natural History Museum of the Adirondacks** also visited the Secretariat.

On 23 September, **Mr. Philippe LePrestre**, Directeur/Professeur, Institut Hydro-Quebec en environnement, développement et société, Université de Laval and Chair of the Steering Committee of the Canadian universities partnership visited the Secretariat and **Ms. Roslyn Slawner** of Hart Resources.

On 25 September, the Executive Secretary welcomed **Ambassador Raymundo Santos Magno**, Permanent Representative of Brazil to ICAO.

PUBLICATIONS IN SEPTEMBER (available on the CBD website)

Biosafety Protocol News,
Volume 3, Issue 4 – 5th Anni-



Third Issue of the "Biodiversity
for Development" newsletter



5th Anniversary of the Protocol on Biosafety

<http://www.cbd.int/biosafety/>

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

On the 11 September 2008, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety marked its fifth anniversary of its entry into force. The event was celebrated among Parties and other stakeholders to further promote awareness of the Protocol, and mobilise different stakeholders to support its implementation. There were goodwill messages from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the meeting of the Parties to the Convention on

Biological Diversity serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP) and the Executive Secretary of the CBD. The theme of the anniversary is: “*The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: Five years of global cooperation towards sustainable development*”. This theme was selected to highlight the spirit of consensus and cooperation that has characterised the Protocol process to date and to underline the contribution of the Protocol to the implementation of Agenda 21, the global programme of action on sustainable development, which was adopted by the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

Other meetings:

- Fifth anniversary of the entry into force of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, 11 September 2008
- Capacity-building Workshop for Central Africa on National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and Mainstreaming of Biodiversity, 22-25 September 2008, Limbé, Cameroon
- Meeting via teleconference on the cities and biodiversity initiative, 24-25 September 2008
- Latin American Sub-regional Protected Areas Workshop, 23-25 September 2008, Salinas, Ecuador
- Capacity-building Workshop for Western Africa, Comoros and Djibouti on National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and Mainstreaming of Biodiversity, 29 September-3 October 2008, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
- Meeting with Brazilian officers of the Ministry of Environment and Brazilian National Park Service (ICMBio), 1-2 September 2008, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- Participate in the second meeting of the International Organizing Committee for the World Climate Conference-3 (WIOC-2), 3-5 September 2008, Geneva, Switzerland
- Keynote presentation and contribution to Adventure Travel World Summit – South America, organized by the Adventure Travel Trade Association and the Brazilian Adventure Travel Association, 3-7 September 2008, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- Handover of the BCH Help System Project from UNEP-GEF to SCBD, including training (with developers) on system building process and final transfer of all help and training material, 7-26 September 2008, Montevideo, Uruguay
- Bilateral meetings with senior officials of the cabinet of the Minister and the Secretary of State of Environment as well as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France, in their capacity as EU President, 3 September 2008, Paris, France
- Meeting with the Director of the *Institut du développement durable et des relations internationales* (IDDRI), 4 September 2008, Paris, France
- Meeting with the Director General of UNESCO, as well as the Assistant Director General for Earth Sciences and Assistant Director General for Natural Sciences, 4 September 2008, Paris, France
- Meeting with the new Director, Environment Management Group (EMG), 4 September 2008, Paris, France
- Attend the planning meeting of Airline Companies, 4 September 2008, Paris, France
- Keynote presentation at the “Cycle des Conference 2008” focused on biodiversity, 5 September 2008, Paris, France
- Meeting with the Swiss Ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, 8 September 2008
- *Presentation at L’Institut de Formation de l’Environnement, 8 September 2008, Geneva, Switzerland*
- Joint presentation with the Executive Secretary of UNCCD on COP9 to the Diplomatic Corps in Geneva, 8 September 2008, Geneva, Switzerland
- Signature of the MOU with the Group on Earth Observations Secretariat, 8 September 2008, Geneva, Switzerland
- Take part in a training workshop on climate neutrality, 8-10 September 2008, New York, U.S.A.
- UNEP Expert for the Day on the 5th Anniversary of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, 9 September 2008
- Participate in a refresher training course on security, organized by the Security section of ICAO, in conjunction with the Montreal Fire Department, 9-10 September 2008, Montreal, Canada
- Participate in the Bern Convention Expert Meeting on biodiversity and climate change, 11-12 September 2008, Strasbourg, France
- Presentation at the 6th International Conference on Science and Technology on “Biodiversity, well-being and sustainable society”, 12-13 September 2008, Tokyo, Japan

Continuation of meetings in September 2008

- Presentation at the 16th Environment Congress for Asia and Pacific (ECO ASIA 2008) on Biodiversity Challenges and responses: Towards the Nagoya Biodiversity Summit”, 13-15 September 2008, Tokyo, Japan
- Open the meeting of the first national meeting on Satoyama and Satoumi Sub-Global Assessment in Japan, 16 September 2008, Tokyo, Japan
- Meeting with members of the COP-10 Promotion Committee, including the Mayor of Nagoya and the Vice-Governor of Aichi Prefecture
- Bilateral meetings with the new Minister of Environment of Japan, Director General of nature Conservation and relevant Directors at the Ministry of Environment, 11 September 2008, Tokyo, Japan
- Meeting with representatives of Japanese NGOs, 11 September 2008, Tokyo, Japan
- Meeting with the COP10 Promotion Committee, 14 September, Nagoya, Japan
- Meeting with representatives from the Keideran, 14 September 2008, Nagoya, Japan
- Visited and COP10 booth on “energy and environment, at the international trade fair Messe Nagoya, 14 September 2008, Nagoya, Japan
- Meeting with the representative of Dentsu, Inc., 14 September 2008, Nagoya, Japan
- Visit of Ruth Raymond, Bioversity International, 15 September 2008
- Meeting with the Governor of Ishikawa, 16 September 2008, Nagoya, Japan
- Meeting with the new Director General for Global Affairs and the Director of Global Environment Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 17 September 2008, Tokyo, Japan
- Meeting with the Senior Executive Officer as well as the General Manager of Konica Minolta, 17 September 2008, Tokyo, Japan
- Attend the EC-CHM workshop, organized by EEA: The Biodiversity Clearing-House Mechanisms in Europe: Challenges for the next 3 years”, 15-16 September 2008, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Represent the Secretariat in the annual meeting of the Inter-agency Support Group on Indigenous People’s Issues (IASG), 15-17 September 2008, Paris, France
- Filming of a short video for CEPA toolkit by CEC crew at the Secretariat, 16 September 2008
- Participate in the Global Forest Leaders Forum on Forests and Climate Change, 16-17 September 2008, Washington D.C., U.S.A.
- Meeting with GBIF technical staff, 17 September 2008, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Attend the Deutscher Naturschutztag, symposium on the German NBSAP, 17 September 2008, Bonn, Germany
- Deliver opening remarks at the ModEthik fashion show, 18 September 2008, Montreal, Canada
- Visit of representatives from the UNFCU, 18 September 2008
- Attend the TEEB Phase II Stakeholder workshop, 18 September 2008, Bonn, Germany
- Take part and represent FICSA at the 16th session of the High Level Committee on Management, 18 September 2008, New York, U.S.A.
- Attendance of Vilm workshop on Biodiversity Conservation and Poverty Reduction – Taking an Economic Perspective, 21-23 September 2008, Isle of Vilm, Germany
- Visit of representatives from the Society for Ecological Restoration International, 22 September 2008
- Visit of representatives from the Natural History Museum of the Adirondacks, 22 September 2008
- Participate in the first all African Biotechnology Congress organized by the African Biotechnology Stakeholders Forum, and make a keynote address about the Biosafety Protocol and its processes, 22-26 September 2008, Nairobi, Kenya
- Visit of Mr. Philippe LePrestre, Directeur/Professeur, Institut Hydro-Quebec en environnement, développement et société, Université de Laval, 23 September 2008
- Visit of Ms. Roslyn Slawner, Hart Resources, 23 September 2008
- Attend the side event “Water and Sanitation for All”, in the margins of the High-Level Event on the Millennium Development Goals, 24 September 2008, New York, U.S.A.
- Visit of the Permanent Representative of Brazil to ICAO, 25 September 2008
- Attend the 22nd Session of the Latin American Forestry Commission, 29-30 September 2008, Quito, Ecuador
- Contributed an article to the Centre for Global Environmental Research (Japan) newsletter, Volume 19, Number 6, September 2008 issue



Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

413 Saint-Jacques Street West
Montreal, Quebec H2Y 1N9 Canada
Tel.: 514-2882220
Fax: 514-2886588
Email: secretariat@cbd.int
URL: <http://www.cbd.int>