

**GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ON CITIES AND BIODIVERSITY
TELECONFERENCE CALL
16 March 2011, 9 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. (Montreal Time)**

Minutes

Participants:

Mr Oliver Hillel, Ms Chantal Robichaud, Ms Kathryn Campbell, Mr Jason Spensley, Mr. Benoît Faucheux, Ms Pascale Rossler, Ms Lena Chan, Ms Wendy Yap, Mr Muslim Anshari, Mr Norbert Muller, Ms Hari Priya, Ms Susanne Nolden, Mr Toshitaka Takagi, Mr Tsuyoshi Ito, Mr Chikara Hombo, Mr Ryo Kohsaka, Mr Thomas Elmqvist, Mr Kiruben Naicker (was replaced by a colleague), Mr Daniel Hodder, Ms Véronique Aubry, Mr Philippe Croze, Mr Andrew Rudd, Mr Stephen Granger, Ms Kobie Brand, Ms Shela Patrickson, Ms Lara Santos Rodrigues, Mr Eduardo Guimaraes, Mr Marilza Dias, Ms Bonnie James, Ms Veronique Bélanger, Mr Benoit Limoges, Mr. José Bernal Stopen, Ms Maruxa Cardama, Dr. Jonel Iurk, Ms Christine Alfsen-Norodom.

Ms Elisa Calcaterra and Mr Peter Werner could not join due to technical difficulties.

I. Opening –

The partnership conveyed their best wishes to our Japanese friends hoping that their country soon recovers from the recent devastating events.

II. GBO / Assessment for Cities (Oliver Hillel, SCBD, Thomas Elmqvist, SRC)

- CBD is hiring a research assistant to work with partners on the assessment;
- Stockholm Resilience Centre is the focal point on the development of a scientific advisory group with a range of experts/partners;
- Draft structure and outline of the assessment is being developed and will be shared with the Global Partnership;
- URBIO, Urbis, UNEP WCMC and IUCN will be involved in the project;
- To be launched at the Singapore World Cities Summit, tentatively held in early June 2012

III. Governance Structure of the CBD Cities and Local Authorities Initiative and the Global Partnership (Oliver Hillel and all)

a. Suggestion of a new name for the Global Partnership

Everyone is invited to send their proposals for the new name of the Partnership. Up to now, we have, in no particular order:

- 1) Local to Global Biodiversity Partnership (Daniel Hodder)
- 2) The Urban Biosphere Partnership (Christine Alfsen-Norodom)
- 3) Global Partnership for Local Action on Biodiversity (Oliver Hillel)
- 4) Biodiversity Partners (Eduardo Guimaraes)
- 5) Biodiversity Global Partnership (Benoit Limoges)

Following reception of other names, CBD will compile best options and send a 'short-list survey' to GP participants.

b. New members of the Advisory committee on Cities: Montpellier and Mexico City

The terms of reference of the Advisory Committee on Cities were circulated to all partners. Montpellier accepted the invitation by Mr Djoghlaflaf to join the committee during the Montpellier meeting in January 2011. Mexico City was invited to join and will send a reply in the days/weeks to come.

c. Creation of the Advisory Committee on Sub-National Governments

The Advisory Committee on Sub-National Governments is 'in the making'. It is suggested that the members can be selected based on the following criteria (listed in the terms of reference previously circulated to all partners):

- geographical balance
- level of commitment
- hosts of CBD related events
- proven track record on biodiversity

The following sub-national governments were formally invited:

- Parana, Brazil
- Aichi, Japan

Other potential members are:

- Hyogo prefecture, Japan
- Ishikawa prefecture, Japan
- Chiba, prefecture, Japan
- the county of Uppsala (Sweden)
- the state of Michoacan (Mexico)
- the province of Sichuan (China)
- the province of Quebec (Canada)
- Andhra Pradesh and/or Kerala, India
- Victoria, Australia
- Brussels, Belgium
- North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany
- Region Centre, France
- Western Cape, South Africa

The SCBD will get back to the GP about the composition of the first Committee to be discussed with Global Partnership participants.

Nrg4sd suggested that the first 2 co-chairs be elected at the same time but that their mandate be scaled out so that the next 2 co-chairs begin their terms at alternate years.

It is suggested that the first informal meeting of the Advisory Committee on Sub-National Governments could take place during nrg4sd general assembly from 28-30 August 2011, in Quebec City, Canada.

IV. Updates

a. ICLEI-LAB workshop results; Local Climate Solutions with TEEB component; and updates on new projects (ICLEI/LAB, IUCN)

22 municipalities representing 6 continents took part in the Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB) Workshop, 1-4 February 2011 in Bergvliet, South Africa. Several international partners participated in the meeting including representatives of GBIF, IUCN, SRC, and CBD, as well as Deputy Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs Rejoice Mabudafhasi, representatives of South Africa and regional networks. The report of the Workshop will be made available soon.

Other ICLEI-LAB news:

- LAB will act as the secretariat of URBIS
- TEEB D2 will be launched in late April-early May, in partnership with IUCN.
- Andre Mader, ICLEI/LAB participated in the NBSAP workshop in Botswana.

b. Water Management in Urban areas (Oliver Hillel, Ruriko Mashida, CBD)

The SCBD welcomes Ms. Ruriko Mashida of Nagoya City University who will be working on water management in urban areas, in collaboration with David Coates, Programme officer at the CBD, and partners such as Ramsar and UN-Habitat. URBIO is also willing to help with the research.

c. Decentralized Cooperation /LifeWeb project (Region Centre France, Jason Spensley, Kathryn Campbell)

The project aims to attract funding and encourage matches between donors and recipients for in-situ conservation in urban areas (an example is Bonn, Germany, and LaPaz, Bolivia) in a collaborative infrastructure similar to LifeWeb. It will also help map the scale and modalities of decentralized cooperation. Possibility to work with ICLEI, the EU Committee of Regions, nrg4SD, association of regions of France, etc

A draft concept note explaining how LifeWeb can act as a platform of collaboration between donors and sub-national governments/cities/local authorities was shared with the Global Partnership in advance of the teleconference. Comments are welcome.

Region Centre (France) is looking at the possibility to work with LifeWeb and promote decentralized cooperation. A meeting of French stakeholders will take place in November 2011. There is a possibility to hold a workshop in France in September 2011.

V. Upcoming meetings

- **Montpellier, France, on Mediterranean NBSAPs 16-18 January 2012 / Montpellier, France, Mediterranean Sub-National Governments, Cities and Local Authorities, 19-20 January 2012 (Philippe Croze)**

The city of Montpellier and the CBD Secretariat are organizing the NBSAP workshop for the Mediterranean basin, back to back with a meeting on Mediterranean cities on the Mediterranean Plan of Action. The aim is to design national and regional biodiversity strategies and action plans and to include cities in the process. IUCN, ICLEI and nrg4sd are supporting the process.

- **Ecocity + Liveable Cities Forum+ informal meeting of the Global Partnership, Montreal, Canada, 20-26 August 2011 (Daniel Hodder, Bonnie James); nrg4SD General Assembly, informal meeting of Sub-National Gvts, Quebec, Canada, 28-31 August 2011 (Maruxa Cardama);**

The city of Montreal is sponsoring Ecocity (not part of the organization per se). The organizers are expecting 1500 delegates.

Canada is organizing the parallel Liveable Cities Forum on 21-22 August, at the Biosphere. The objective is to bring partners together (ICLEI-Canada, Montreal, Edmonton, the province of Quebec, the CBD Secretariat...) to discuss on the importance of ecosystem services, biodiversity mainstreaming in urban planning, linking local and national biodiversity strategies, and the necessity for all levels of governments to work collaboratively and in synergy in advancing the CBD programme of work.

Nrg4sd is organizing its General Assembly in Quebec city on 30 August. Could be an opportunity to hold an informal meeting of the advisory committee on sub-national governments. Dr Djoghlaflaf will participate in the opening. The Quebec Ministry of Environment (MDDEP) will participate. Western Cape (South Africa) to check if they are participating.

- **Bonn, Germany, Advisory committee on Cities, 5-6 September 2011 (Maria Hohn-Berghorn)**

Dr Djoghlaflaf will take part on 5 September. Local and international participants will join the meeting. Invitations to the Global partnership will be sent in May in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat. The advisory committee on cities will take this opportunity to fine tune its collaboration with ICLEI-LAB.

The following events will take place in Bonn around those dates (5-6 September):

-UNDPI/NGO conference with over 2000 participants

- IUCN Pan European Forum
- IISD – ‘The water, energy and food security nexus’

- **Parana, Brazil, Advisory committee on Sub-National Governments, February 2012 (Dr. Jonel Iurk, Parana State Secretary of Environment)**

Dr. Iurk and Clovis Borges shared that Governor Beto Richa is committed to biodiversity and to reinforcing the links with the Curitiba city and federal levels of governments. Parana will be hosting the first meeting of the Advisory Committee of Sub-National Governments on 14-16 February 2012.

- **Nagoya, Japan, Advisory committee on Cities and 2012 LAB international workshop, February or March 2012 (Chikara Hombo)**

Representatives of Nagoya thanked everyone for the kind messages related to the earthquake in Japan.

Update on the *City Biodiversity Summit* : the conference report is on the website at the following address: <http://www.kankyo-net.city.nagoya.jp/citysummit2010/english/2010.html#report>, and will be posted on the CBD website.

The *cities' Advisory Committee meeting in Nagoya*: the initial note concept is being prepared with the secretariat. As a co-chair of the Advisory Committee on Cities, Nagoya will contribute to preparations for the next city summit and COP 11 in India. The March 2012 meeting will be an opportunity for the Advisory Committee members, SCBD, ICLEI-LAB and other Global Partnership participants to discuss preparations for India, with the Indian host city of the next COP. Nagoya welcomes the idea from ICLEI-LAB to hold the next LAB international workshop back to back with the Advisory Committee meeting, and plans for a joint event.

VI. Varia.

- **CEPA activities: IDB, UN Decade, Green Wave, 1000 Days for the Planet (Chantal Robichaud)**

(Due to lack of time, the information below was not discussed during the teleconference)

The Green Wave: Get schools involved in biodiversity-related activities right now and start planning your event for 22 May! For more info, see: <http://greenwave.cbd.int/> or contact chantal.robichaud@cbd.int

MEMO -bell ringing project: On 22 May, ring your city's bell for biodiversity! For more info: <http://memoproject.org/>

International Day for Biodiversity 22 May / Forest Ecosystems: register your activities on our website: <http://www.cbd.int/idb/2011/>

Booklet on the **International Year of Forests**: download here:

<http://www.cbd.int/idb/2011/booklet>

-or contact Chantal if you want to receive hard copies.

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity: The official launch will take place on 22 May (possibly in Tokyo, tbd). A logo will be made available soon.

'1000 Days for the Planet' expedition by yachtsman and biologist Jean Lemire: departure in June 2011. Contact Chantal for more info.

- **Others**

Participation of the CBD and Global Partnership at Rio+20 in May 2012:

Various suggestions:

-nrg4SD World Summit of Regions in Rio in 2012

-Ecosystems and Climate Change Pavilion (CBD) and one day Joint Conference of the Parties – but no decision yet

-ICLEI will explore their participation in Rio/links with Agenda 21 next week –poss. World Congress –suggestions are welcome.

-Curitiba is willing to host a meeting on environmental issues in Curitiba

-Sao Paulo can also host a meeting

-Proposal to hold a meeting of the Global partnership involving Ramsar wetlands

Other news:

-A link to UNESCO Urban water publications, chairs and activities:

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/water/>

-Join Earth Hour! March 26 from 8:30 to 9:30 pm.

New books

“Urban Ecology” by Jari Niemela, Thomas Elmqvist et al,

"Urban Biodiversity and Design " Müller, Werner & Kelcey (eds) published by Blackwell in April 2010 (summary of the most important results of the Conference URBIO 2008 including a foreword of Ahmed Djoghlaflaf and the Erfurt Declaration).

The keynotes of URBIO 2010 and the Nagoya Declaration have been published in Jan 2011 in the Springer Journal "Landscape and Ecological Engineering" within the special issue:

Biodiversity and Ecosystem services: Importance of cities for post 2010 perspective.

Further results of URBIO 2010 are in press in other International Journals (more information on the URBIO Website www.fh-erfurt.de/urbio).

VII. Closing of the teleconference