International Year of Biodiversity

The Conference of the Parties

1. Takes note of the draft strategy for the International Year of Biodiversity as submitted by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/25/Add.1) and calls on donors to provide financial support for the recommended activities;

2. Encourages all Parties to create national committees, including representatives of indigenous and local communities, to celebrate the Year and invites all international organizations to mark this event;

3. Decides to transmit to the United Nations General Assembly for its consideration and adoption at its sixty-third ordinary session the draft resolution on the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB) in 2010 contained in the annex to the present decision.

Annex

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF BIODIVERSITY (IYB)

The General Assembly,

Recalling the commitment of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to a more effective and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, and the target to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biodiversity,

Deeply concerned at the social, economic, environmental and cultural implications of the loss of biodiversity, compounded by the negative impact of climate change,

Conscious of the need for effective education to raise public awareness for achieving the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the target of achieving by 2010 a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biodiversity,
Recalling its resolution 61/203 of 20 December 2006, on the International Year of Biodiversity, as well as the reference to the International Year contained in paragraph 12 of its resolution 62/194 of 19 December 2007, on the Convention on Biological Diversity,

1. Invites the Secretary-General to consider appointing an Honorary Ambassador for the International Year of Biodiversity before 2010, who would have a mandate to call for practical actions and solutions towards meeting the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

2. Decides, as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity, to convene at its sixty-fifth session, in 2010, a one-day high-level segment of the General Assembly, with participation of Heads of State, Governments and delegations.

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