



**IPBES briefing and discussion
CSAB 4th meeting
Gland, Feb 13th 2011**

Neville Ash,
Chief, Biodiversity Unit
UNEP Division of Environmental Policy Implementation



IPBES has been established as a science-policy interface:

- Supporting that research is policy-relevant
 - Responds to clearly identified needs of policy makers
 - Incentives? Alignment with research donor priorities?
- And that science is communicated to policy makers
 - Intermediaries – eg NGOs, UN, SABs
 - Assessments, syntheses, policy summaries etc

Achieving these outcomes requires coordination and a *communications* interface

Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

- **Drawing on lessons from IPCC, MA , TEEB, others**
- **“IPCC for nature”**
- **Agreed to establish in Busan, June 2010**
- **Welcomed at CBD CoP 10**
- **Established by UN General Assembly, Dec 2010**
- **To be operationalized by UNEP – in consultation with UNDP, UNESCO, FAO, MEAs and other relevant orgs.**
- **1st plenary – Oct (?) 2011, to put in place structures and procedures**
- **Substantive work initiated in 2012?...**

Busan agreed on 4 functions for IPBES:

- **Identify and prioritize key scientific information needed for policymakers and catalyze efforts to generate new knowledge**
- **Perform regular and timely assessments (global, regional, sub-regional and thematic)**
- **Support policy formulation and implementation by identifying and promoting development of tools and methods**
- **Prioritize key capacity building needs to improve science-policy interface**

Next steps:

- **UNEP Governing Council, 21-24th Feb 2011**
 - Provide mandate to UNEP ED to convene 1st plenary
- **First plenary (Oct? 2011)**
 - Governance, Rules and Procedure, Provisional Budget, Initiate hosting arrangements
- **Second plenary (Q2 2012?)**
 - Hosting arrangements, work programme and budget
- **All need to focus on meeting the needs of governments and other decision makers**

Options for discussion:

- **Role of Chairs in preparations for 1st plenary**
 - Involvement with secretariats in consultation group?
- **Options for relationship of MEA science bodies to IPBES**
 - Inform 1st plenary, discussed at 2nd plenary.
 - Common procedure for interfacing? Requirement for MEA-specific outputs? Clear “user needs” process in design and delivery of work.
- **IPBES governance**
 - Involvement of chairs of SAB in IPBES governance? Science Panel?
- **IPBES work programme**
 - 2nd plenary, but guidance earlier helpful – on focus and scope of work programme



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ipbes.unep@unep.org

