

Chair's Summary¹

Nagoya High Level Forum on Biodiversity in Development Cooperation

Co-hosted by JICA and the CBD Secretariat

26 October 2010, Nagoya, Japan

The Nagoya High Level Forum on Biodiversity in Development Cooperation was co-organized by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Secretariat of the Convention of Biological Diversity with the participation of more than 70 representatives from development partners such as development cooperation policy institutions and agencies, development banks, United Nations agencies, international NGOs, and partner countries.

The Forum was held building on the outcomes from three previous meetings, a high-level panel on biodiversity for development and poverty alleviation held at COP9 in Bonn and two preparatory meetings on mainstreaming biodiversity in development cooperation, held at the CBD secretariat in Montreal in May 2009 and at the OECD secretariat in Paris in February 2010.

The discussed three key issues:

- i) “coherence” between development and protection of biodiversity,
- ii) “sharing experiences” of successes and failures to mainstream biodiversity in development cooperation, and
- iii) “synergies” between agencies in the implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions to reach the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

¹ Mr. KODERA Kiyoshi, JICA's vice President

The participants recognized that in order to promote these issues, it is important to promote development approaches that have least impact on biological resources, and catalyze equitable and sustainable ecosystem management and sustainable consumption patterns.

In addition, development partners highlighted the following main issues for considering the Aichi-Nagoya Biodiversity Strategic Plan 2011-2020 within their work programs:

- a) to recognize and promote the value of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services as natural capital for development and poverty reduction, indispensable for the achievement of all MDGs;
- b) to mainstream Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services into the broader sectoral and cross-sectoral development and poverty reduction agenda at all levels – from the local to the global level;
- c) to remove perverse incentives for biodiversity, keeping policy-coherence and avoiding undermining investments and to conserve biodiversity and ecosystems functions and resilience;
- d) to increase development assistance especially for capacity-building of all actors involved, but clearly based on the demand and political and institutional efforts made by developing countries;
- e) to find ways to reduce the ecological footprint of development on biodiversity and ecosystem services;
- f) to recognize the strong linkages between biodiversity and livelihoods addressing the common root causes of poverty, hunger and environmental degradation; and
- g) to extend technical support to existing platforms and institutional arrangements in development cooperation on biodiversity by making them more effective.

As a result of constructive and high-spirited discussion, the Forum adopted the “Nagoya Declaration on Biodiversity in Development Cooperation” by consensus.