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4 February 2010

NOTIFICATION

City Biodiversity Summit 2010 Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture, Japan, from 24 to 26 October 2010

Dear Madam/Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that, at the invitation of Aichi Prefecture, City of Nagoya and Aichi-Nagoya COP-10 CBD Promotion Committee, the City Biodiversity Summit 2010 will be held in conjunction with the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), from 24 to 26 October 2010 at Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture, Japan.

The summit is a milestone in a process that started in March 2007 with the Curitiba meeting on Cities and Biodiversity, to improve coordination of activities between national and local governments in the implementation of the Convention. This was followed by the Mayor's Conference held in Bonn, in May 2008, at the margins of COP 9. At COP-9, the Minister of National Development of Singapore, Mr. Mah Bow Tan, launched an initiative to develop an index on cities' biodiversity as a self-assessment tool on local governance of biodiversity. These initiatives were welcomed at COP 9 through decision IX/28, on cities and local authorities, inviting Parties to the Convention to recognize the roles of cities and local authorities in national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), and to promote the engagement of cities and local authorities in the implementation of the Convention.

At the invitation of the Government of Brazil and the City of Curitiba, the Second Curitiba Meeting on Cities and Biodiversity, held in Curitiba, Brazil, on 6-7 January 2010, prepared a draft Plan of Action on Cities, Local Authorities and Biodiversity and adopted the Second Curitiba Declaration on Local Authorities and Biodiversity, available at <http://www.cbd.int/authorities/partners.shtml>. A final draft of the Plan will be made available by March 31, 2010 at the website <http://www.cbd.int/authorities>, and a notification will be sent to all Parties by request of the Government of Brazil.

To: CBD National Focal Points

The City Biodiversity Summit 2010 will reiterate the importance of engaging cities and local authorities in the post-2010 implementation phase of the Convention. The Summit is planned to gather about 500 participants, including local authorities, interested Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, United Nations and NGO representatives and experts involved in urban biodiversity. It will be organized in close collaboration with the CBD Secretariat and ICLEI, and in partnership with relevant ministries of the Government of Japan, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD), the Global Partnership on Cities & Biodiversity and URBIO. The specific aims of the Summit are to provide cities and local authorities' representatives with an occasion to share experience and promote best practices, review and support the Plan of Action on Cities, Local Authorities and Biodiversity (2011-2020), and review the application of the Singapore Index on Cities' Biodiversity (CBI).

The pre-session documentation for the City Biodiversity Summit 2010 will be made available by 31 July 2010 on the Aichi-Nagoya COP-10 CBD Promotion Committee web page <http://www.cop10.jp/aichi-nagoya/english>, as well as on the CBD website: <http://www.cbd.int>. The User's Manual for the Singapore Index on Cities' Biodiversity is available at the following address: <http://www.cbd.int/authorities>, and the report of the Second Curitiba Meeting on Cities and Biodiversity will soon be posted at the same address.

In view of the importance of the subject and its relevance to the work of the Convention, **I invite you to nominate Mayors and local authorities as part of your COP-10 delegation.** I would be grateful if your Government could submit those nominations to the Secretariat, as soon as possible and no later than **30 September 2010**. In parallel, the Governor of Aichi Prefecture and the Mayor of the city of Nagoya, as the hosts of the meeting, will send special invitations to Mayors and heads of relevant local authorities.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ahmed Djoghla
Executive Secretary