



**SECRETARIAT
OF THE CONVENTION
ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

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**Seventh Conference of the Parties to the
Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-7)**

LAUNCH OF THE COP-7 ELECTRONIC PRESS ROOM

MONTREAL— From February 9 to 20, 2004, some 2,000 world experts on biodiversity and sustainable development will converge on Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-7)

To help journalists and the public stay abreast of all the developments surrounding this important global biodiversity meeting, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity has set-up an electronic press room on its Web site, at <http://www.biodiv.org/meetings/cop-07/press>.

This innovative Web venue offers extensive background information on the Conference and, for its duration, will present daily briefings, a schedule of the day's events, as well as key speeches and presentations. All information regarding press accreditation can also be found at this address.

About the Convention on Biological Diversity

The Convention on Biological Diversity is one of the key agreements adopted at the Earth Summit, in Rio de Janeiro, in 1992. It has been ratified by 187 countries and the European Community who, together, constitute the Conference of the Parties. The Convention is unique among the legal frameworks arrived at in Rio because it seeks a comprehensive approach to sustainable development through three main goals: the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the use of genetic resources.

The Conference of the Parties is the governing body of the Convention. It is a comprehensive forum for debate and action on sustainable strategies designed to preserve our ecosystems and improve human quality of life.

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