



**Convention on
Biological Diversity**



2010 International Year of Biodiversity

STATEMENT

by

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

at the

SPECIAL EAS PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

EAST ASIAN SEAS CONGRESS 2009

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

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COP 10 / MOP 5

Honourable Excellencies,
Distinguished Representatives,

I would like to first extend my sincere appreciation to PEMSEA and its participating countries in East Asian Seas region for inviting CBD Secretariat to join this Special EAS Partnership Council Meeting at the EAS Congress 2009.

Sharing a common vision and goals toward the marine biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, CBD Secretariat has been closely collaborating with PEMSEA in past years. It is therefore my great pleasure to formalize our existing cooperation with PEMSEA through the signing of the MOU. In view of PEMSEA's remarkable contribution to the implementation of integrated marine and coastal management, I believe our strengthened cooperation will further enhance the implementation of Jakarta Mandates and the programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity.

As part of our collaboration efforts, I am very happy to inform you that CBD has successfully concluded last week an Expert Workshop on Scientific and Technical Aspects Relevant to Environmental Impact Assessment in Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, which was kindly hosted by the Government of Philippines and PEMSEA. CBD Secretariat will also collaborate with PEMSEA in coming months in compiling case-studies on integrated coastal management, developing on-line data base through CBD clearinghouse mechanism to share ICM experiences, and synthesizing lessons learned. Such efforts will become valuable inputs to the in-depth review of progress made in the implementation of programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity, which will be undertaken by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in its 10th meeting (COP 10) to be held in October 2010 in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan.

The meeting in Nagoya will be preceded by a high level event of the 65th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York exclusively devoted to biodiversity. The Aichi Nagoya Biodiversity Summit will coincide with the celebration of the 2010 International Year on Biodiversity. I therefore wish to encourage you to celebrate this unique event and join forces with the Secretariat to bring the challenges of marine biodiversity conservation to the attention of high-level policy makers at the highest level and to engage all relevant stakeholders including mayors and local authorities. Therefore I also wish to invite coastal cities in the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development (PNLG) to join the CBD network of Cities and Biodiversity and to attend the Aichi Nagoya City Summit on Biodiversity to be held on 25-26 October 2010. This unique event in the life of the Convention will adopt a plan of action on cities and biodiversity as well as an urban biodiversity index. The plan of action will be submitted to the high level segment of COP10.

2010 will be a major opportunity for the biodiversity family that cannot be missed. We look therefore forward to the enhanced collaboration with PEMSEA and its partners to seize this moment.

Thank you for your attention.