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Delegates concluded agreements on early Saturday 30, October on access to Genetic Resources, preserving biodiversity over the next decade and strategies to mobilize financial resources to meet these goals.

Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits (ABS) was COP10’s keystone agreements, to which all other issues were linked.

The Convention also adopted a decision to declare 2011-2020 as UN Decade of Biodiversity.

Environment Minister Ryu Matsumoto raises the hammer to end the COP-10 conference in Nagoya on Saturday (Photo by: Yoichi Kawatsu)

About COP-10 (18-29 November) at Nagoya –Japan

The Conference of Parties (COP) is decision making body of the Convention on Biological Diversity CBD. It includes all the Parties to the Convention and meets every two years or as need arises. COP’s domain review as follows:

- To Assess the progress towards in the implementation of the convention,
- To consider amendments and the adoption of Protocols to the Convention,
- To adopt programme to achieve its objectives.

The beginning of an end of 2010-IYB would lead to steep in forthcoming decade of Biodiversity. The debates, deliberation, discussion, side events, high level segments meeting, plenary talks, noisy laughers over cup of coffee, mediation over mobile wireless net, display of literature in tones, exhibition of art, culture, education, conservation and science were the ingredients of diversity of mankind in COP10 Nagoya. Moreover the media was the actual vehicle to take all those to the world what COP10 has been doing every day.

Thousands of delegates (some 18000 representing 193 to the CBD) from all over the world mark this event as “Display of Mega Diversity of Mankind” (DMDM) at the Nagoya Congress Center. The thing in common amongst all was the Safe & Secure FUTURE OF THE FUTURE GENERATION.

Isn’t one of the common attributes of human being to Say One Thing and to Do An Other Thing (SOT & DOT)? Let’s hope to minimize the practice of Sot & Dot.

COP11

India is going to be the host for COP-11 in October 2012. It will also commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the Rio Earth Summit, held in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro.

Let’s hope for the best. Surely, the big delegation of India in COP 10 had been keeping their vigilant eye on the arrangements during the conference. India, must not worry about an intellectual scholarship of participants for COP-11. So Good Luck for COP-11.
ISFA delegation from Indonesia attended COP10

International Forestry Students’ Association (IFSA) is an nonpolitical and not profit organization of tertiary level forestry students around the world. IFSA is dedicated to global cooperation amongst students of forest science in order to broaden knowledge and understanding to prepare a sustainable future for the world’s forest. The membership of IFSA spread in 76 universities of 48 Countries.

(Group photo) with Dr. Raza Bhatti director, CBC. “Today’s spirit of youth will lead them to be leaders of tomorrow expressed by Dr Raza while discussing the scope of IFSA with Indonesian delegation.”

Participation of Pakistan in Conference of the Parties (COP)

Delegation from Pakistan participated in COP10. Delegation includes Mr Abdul Munaf Kaimkhani, DIG Forest, Ministry of Environment, Government of Pakistan (National Focal Person for International Year of Biodiversity IYB-2010), Mr. Rizwan Irshad, Technical Officer, Biodiversity Division Ministry of Environment, Government of Pakistan. Dr Raza Bhatti, Director, Centre for Biodiversity & Conservation, Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur (Mir’s) Sindh, (Focal Person for IYB 2010 from Higher Education Commission (HEC), Islamabad.

Mr. Hameedullah Jan Afridi Federal Minister for Environment attended High Level Segment at COP10.

HEC worth to be appreciated

Mr. Hameed Ullah Jan Afridi attended high Level Segment at COP10, Nagoya, Japan. Mr. Afridi appreciated the HEC role in IYB celebrations while nominating Dr. Raza Bhatti, as Focal Person for universities in Pakistan. Dr Bhatti’s participation in COP10 as one of the members of Pakistan delegation, was also sponsored by the Higher Education Commission, Islamabad.
Three days HLS meeting in COP -10 was attended by the Ministers of different Countries. Mr. Hameedullah Jan Afridi, Federal Minister for Environment, Government of Pakistan delivered speech. It is reproduced as under:

“I want to reiterate the commitment of the Government of Pakistan on its obligations under the CBD and the efforts and initiatives being taken by the Government of Pakistan and the challenges it faces towards protection and conservation of biodiversity. Pakistan as a Party to the CBD has taken a number of measures to fulfill its obligations under the Convention. Amongst the steps taken are the preparation of the Biodiversity Action Plan and submission of National Reports to the CBD. Pakistan’s Biosafety Rules and Guidelines are also notified and operational. In order to meet the reporting and coordination requirements a Biodiversity Secretariat and National Bio-safety Center are established in the Ministry of Environment and are fully operational. In order to give effect to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) commitments at the national level the Ministry of Environment has also finalized the Trade Control of Fauna and Flora Act (CITES Act ) that stands approved by the cabinet and standing committee for Environment.

Pakistan also fully supports the IPBS (Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services) and supports its early establishment. We hope, the IPBES emerges as an effective mechanism to further strengthen the science policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Pakistan accords high priority to the protection and management of Environment and in this pursuit and at present our National Biodiversity Law and Wetlands Policy are framed and are in process of consultation. Pakistan has recently taken a number of steps to join the world community and play its role in the fast moving REDD process under Climate change negotiations.

As part of Global community conservation partners, in Pakistan we made different efforts on observing this year International year on Biodiversity. The events were arranged by academia, Museums, forestry and wildlife institutions to enhance the level of awareness among youth. An international conference on “Biodiversity is our life “ will complete the celebrations on 31 Dec, 2010.”

Furthermore, Mr. Afridi said “Pakistan is committed to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and provide for the equitable sharing of benefits for the well being of its people.”
A Feather in the Cap of Pakistan: Torghar Conservation Program received Markhor Conservation Award

Torghar Conservation Program awarded the Prestigious Markhor (Pakistan’s threatened mountain goat species) Conservation Award of 2010 by the CIC international (International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation) through a highly competitive process. The award ceremony took place on October 20, 2010 in Nagoya, Japan during the 10th Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Markhor Award was instigate to honour outstanding conservation performances that link biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods through sustainable use of natural resources. Torghar is considered one of the most important wildlife areas of Qilla Saifullah district of Balochistan, Pakistan. In 1985, Torghar Conservation Program (TCP) was launched with the involvement of the local communities in order to achieve the conservation goals through sustainable use model. It has emerged as a successful model of biodiversity conservation through sustainable use. There were estimated 200 Urial and less than 100 Markhor in the area when the program started in 1985. According to the most recent survey, estimated Markhor population is about 2540 animals and that of the Urial to be about 3145 animals. Torghar is now home to the largest population of these animals in the world. The conservation and sustainable use has not only resulted in recovery of populations of Markhor and Urial, but also of the other species of fauna and flora.

A delegation who represented Pakistan in the ceremony were Sardar Naseer A Tareen, Chairman, SUSGC-Asia & CEO Torghar Project, Abdul Manaf Qaimkhani, Deputy Inspector General of Forest Ministry of Environment, Habibullah Khan Secretary Forest & Wildlife Government of Balochistan, Dr Raza Bhatti, Director, Centre for Biodiversity & Conservation, Shah Abdul Latif University, Khirpur, Nawabzada Mahboob Khan Jogezai, Director Community Affairs STEP, Nadir Gul Bareech, CEO BRSP, Tahir Rasheed, National Program Manager SUSGC-Asia, Mohammad Anwar M&E Officer SUSGC-Asia and Abdul Wajid Khan from BRSP.
The Hindu Kush-Himalayan countries of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, and Pakistan called on the global community to pay attention to the vulnerability of the region as a hotspot for biodiversity and climate change.

In this regard, an event was organised by The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, ICIMOD in partnership with the Hindu Kush-Himalayan countries on 25 October 2010, during the tenth Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

The panel delegates included the Hon’ble Minister Mr. Deepak Bohara, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation, Nepal; Mr. Vijay Sharma, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, India; Ms Hasnun Nahar, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, India; Dr Tashi Yangzom, Programme Director, National Biodiversity Commission, Bhutan; Mr. Abdul Munaf Qaimkhani, Deputy Inspector General Forests, Ministry of Environment, Pakistan; & Dr Raza Bhatti, Director Centre for Biodiversity & conservation Shah Abdul Latif University Khairpur, Pakistan.

Dr. Andreas Schild, Director General ICIMOD, in his introductory remarks highlighted the region’s vulnerability to climate change, and ICIMOD’s trans-Himalayan transects approach for regional biodiversity management.

Mr. Deepak Bohara, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation, emphasised the role of Himalayas in global climate regulation.

Mr. Abdul Munaf Qaimkhani drew attention to the need for improved understanding of regional climate change processes, and regional risk and vulnerability mapping. He desired ICIMOD’s support for knowledge generation and management of the vulnerable mountain region in Pakistan.

Mr. Vijay Sharma explained the policy of the Government of India, and the recognition of the mountain ecosystem in the national environment policy and national action plan for climate change.

Ms Hasnun Nahar of Bangladesh considered that an environmental knowledge base and open data exchange among countries was fundamental for defining and developing climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.

Presenting an analysis of the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity by the Hindu Kush-Himalayan countries, Dr Eklabya Sharma from ICIMOD said, “The analysis clearly sees the countries’ progressive development in policy and legal frameworks for conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing from biodiversity.”

The event served as an important platform for the countries in the region to share the initiatives they have taken to conserve and manage biodiversity, and strengthen cooperation for building resilient mountain ecosystems and communities.
Dr Raza Bhatti, Director for Center for Biodiversity & Conservation was attended side event with students of TOKAI UNIVERSITY OF BIOLOGY-MARINE BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

With Mr. Kazutoki Funahashi, Director, Higashiyama Botanical Gardens, Nagoya-Japan

Ms Franca d’amico from CBD Montreal at COP-10 Nagoya Japan
Exhibition @ COP-10
Cultural Diversity
Floriculture is a discipline of horticulture concerned with the cultivation of flowering and ornamental plants for gardens and for floristry, comprising the floral industry.

Flowers form a remarkably vital part of nature and our life. Humans and flowers are both products of nature, witness to the mystery of being. With their essential but fleeting beauty, flowers remind us of our own existence and the sequential quality of our human lives. Usually we send flowers to our loved ones for special occasions, like wedding, funerals, hospitals etc because flowers strengthen feelings of compassion, and decreases nervousness and worry. Flowers are sent through the mail to express thoughts of cheer, thankfulness, apologize, recognize and encourage.

The Japanese people have a deep respect for nature and flowers are important part of their art. Certain flowers have special meanings. Drawings or paintings of flowers are used to decorate clothing, furniture, and even family crests.

Flowers available in spring are daffodil, tulip, peony, hyacinth etc & summer flowers are rose, Sunflowers, Lily oriental, Hydrangea, Holly hock etc.

Flowers symbolize purity, beauty, peace, love and passion (emotion) to a flower arranger. Each flower expresses one or more meanings the aesthetic value of flowers in our daily life cannot be over emphasized.
Delivered talk about Biodiversity at Sindh Graduates Association (SGA)

Delivered talk in SGA gathering at Latif cultural hall, Islamabad regarding activities being under taken in celebrating international year of Biodiversity (IYB-2010) in Pakistan.

Seeds Orchid Established

Center for Biodiversity & Conservation has planned to get quality seeds of Native tree of Arid & Semi-Arid regions of Sindh. In this regard, seeds and cutting will be obtained from Indus Arboretum which is established with Botanical Garden where native tree are growing. This material will be supplied to farmers, research organizations, educational institutions and public parks in order to promote native tree plantations.

Visitors Gallery

Dr. Warren Mellor, Director Representative, UNESCO-Pakistan visited Botanical Garden on 7th October

Turkey National Medical Rescue Team visited Botanical Garden. They declared Botanical Garden as Pak-Turk Friendship Garden. Now a days Turk team busy to serve flood victims of Khairpur flood relief Camp

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