

STATEMENT BY MEXICO AT THE OPENING PLENARY SESSION OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CBD

UNDERSECRETARY CUAUHTEMOC OCHOA

Mr. President, Professor Jae Choe,

Distinguished Members of the CBD,

- In 2002, the Ministers gathered at The Hague for the COP6 cautioned that unless biodiversity was fully mainstreamed across other sectors it would not be possible to meet the objectives of the Convention.
- Fourteen years on, we are still failing to heed this warning.
- In view of this situation, Mexico has made the mainstreaming of biodiversity for human well-being the central theme of the thirteenth Conference of the Parties.
- Such mainstreaming involves incorporating conservation and sustainable use of all components of biodiversity into the planning and implementation of activities in production sectors,
 - with the aim of preventing, reducing and mitigating the negative impacts of production and consumption;
 - thus maintaining healthy and resilient ecosystems;
 - and ensuring the provision of services that are essential to human well-being.
- In order to achieve that, we must conserve, restore and sustainably use the elements of biodiversity.
- But we must also quantify their value and develop indicators that will allow us to establish commitments and assess the implementation of such commitments.
- Otherwise, it will be difficult for us, as a global community, to attain the targets we have set for ourselves to
 - eradicate poverty,
 - address the impacts of climate change,**
 - and meet the rest of the objectives of the 2030 Development Agenda.
- Let us go to Cancun with the intention of undertaking to work within our governments to mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use
 - in development plans,
 - in sectoral and cross-sectoral public policies,
 - as well as in the framework of related production activities.
- The approach must be holistic and cross-cutting, promoting synergies; with the support of the private sector and civil society, as an essential condition for guaranteeing the

preservation of the natural heritage and wellbeing of humanity.

- We must strengthen the relevant legal framework for the mainstreaming of biodiversity in political, economic and social governance.
- We need to align our objectives in the field of biodiversity with the commitments undertaken by the United Nations to further the 2030 Development Agenda and to achieve its Sustainable Development Goals.

In particular for the protection and sustainable use of life below water and life on land, combating desertification,

climate action,

good health,

clean water and sanitation,

food security,

responsible production and consumption,

economic growth and decent work,

peace, justice and strong institutional development for the reduction of poverty and social inequalities.

- Let us take the opportunity that this SBI meeting gives us and start making a difference, toward the implementation of the Convention and its Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols, making sure that these instruments are always aligned and consistent with each other.
- Let us prepare the necessary elements to ensure the political will that is required at the highest level to effectively engage production sectors.
- In order to do that we must develop, review and update our national biodiversity strategies and action plans toward ensuring the engagement of production sectors so as to adopt integrated approaches, as well as joint implementation.
- It is for this reason that Mexico has invited both the Ministers of the Environment and the Ministers of Agriculture, Fishery, Forestry and Tourism to participate in the High Level Segment of the COP13 at Cancun.
- Lastly, Mexico invites you all to work at this First SBI Meeting toward achieving the strong outcome that is necessary for a successful COP13 meeting at Cancun.
- Thank you very much!