MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION BETWEEN INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES, ORGANISATIONS AND CONVENTIONS AND THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY


Recalling the findings of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook,

Recalling also the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 welcomed by the sixty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly as the overarching ten-year global framework to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity,

Recalling also the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (2010),

The Parties to this Memorandum have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1
Objective
The overall aim of this Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter “Memorandum”) is to contribute to the successful and timely implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 adopted by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity and welcomed by the sixty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly as the overarching ten-year global framework to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity. More specifically, it aims to provide a platform to exchange information and coordinate activities amongst the Parties in support of the efforts of their member nations and relevant stakeholders in achieving the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

ARTICLE 2
Areas of Cooperation
The Parties to this Memorandum will cooperate to:

1. Exchange information on activities carried out by the respective institutions on all issues of relevance to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

2. Identify and promote activities that, within the mandates of the respective institutions, could make an enhanced contribution to the achievement of the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
3. Coordinate activities, where appropriate, or identify and implement joint activities;
4. Support the early entry into force and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (2010);
5. Contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity.

ARTICLE 3
Modalities of Cooperation

1. The Aichi Biodiversity Targets Task Force is established to promote information exchange and, where appropriate, to coordinate the activities of the respective institutions to achieve the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
2. The Task Force will build upon and complement the work being carried out by the Environment Management Group of the United Nations through its Issue Management Group on Biodiversity, and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, on issues related to the implementation of the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
3. The Task Force will meet prior to the High-Level Segment of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as in conjunction with high-level events of its members’ institutions.
4. The membership of the Task Force is limited to Heads or Deputy Heads of the Parties to this Memorandum.
5. The Task Force will be chaired by the member whose institution is convening the respective high-level event the Task Force will meet in conjunction with.
6. The Task Force will establish a permanent working group on the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Equitable Benefit Arising from their Utilization open to interested members.
7. A focal point on the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets will be designated by each Party upon signature of the Memorandum.
8. The Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity will provide secretariat functions to the Task Force.

ARTICLE 4
Financial Aspects

Joint activities under this Memorandum are subject to the availability of funding for that purpose.

ARTICLE 5
Reporting

Each Party may report to its governing body on the implementation of this Memorandum.
ARTICLE 6
Use of Logos
The Parties will not use the name, acronym or official logo of the other Parties unless authorized in writing in accordance with each Party’s rules and regulations.

ARTICLE 7
Entry into Effect, Review and Termination
1. This Memorandum will enter into effect for an international agency, organisation or convention upon signature by its representative.
2. The Parties may, by mutual agreement, review and amend this Memorandum.
3. The participation of any Party in this Memorandum may be terminated by giving three months written notice to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

New York, 20 September 2011

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Alliance for Zero Extinction

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United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Tatsushi Terada  
Vice Minister  
Global Environment Affairs  
Ministry of Environment, Japan representing the President of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 10)
Signed this 4th day of Nov, 2011 at Montreal.

Steven Broad
Executive Director
TRAFFIC

Ahmed Djaghlaf
Executive Secretary
Convention on Biological Diversity