



MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION



Between

Agencies to Support the Achievement of the 2010 Biodiversity Target

Recalling that the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, at their sixth meeting in The Hague, in 2002 adopted a Strategic Plan for the Convention, committing themselves to a more effective and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention “to achieve a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at global, regional and national levels as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on earth” (the 2010 Biodiversity Target),

Recalling also that, in adopting the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation the Heads of State and Government attending the World Summit on Sustainable Development, in Johannesburg, 2002, endorsed the 2010 biodiversity target,

Recalling further that the Heads of State and Government, in adopting the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in New York on 16th September 2005, called on all States Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to support the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol as well as other biodiversity related agreements and the Johannesburg commitment for a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010,

Noting the finding of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment that over the past 50 years, humans have changed biodiversity more rapidly and extensively than in any comparable period of time in human history and this has resulted in a substantial and potentially irreversible loss in the diversity of life on Earth, which may prejudice efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting also that the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment concludes that an unprecedented effort will be required to attain the 2010 biodiversity target,

Recognizing that the biodiversity-related conventions share common objectives including the achievement of the 2010 biodiversity target and that the secretariats have established a liaison group of biodiversity-related conventions to enhance cooperation among them,

Recognizing also that the programmes and agencies of the United Nations and other international agencies contribute, within their respective mandates, to sustainable development, and the implementation of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.

59516

We, the Heads of Agencies, signatories to this Memorandum, have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Objective

1. The overall aim of this Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter “Memorandum”) is to contribute to the achievement, by 2010, of *a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss at global, regional and national levels as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on earth which we recognize as a critical milestone towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.*
2. To this end, a task force of heads of agencies will be established to promote complementarity among, and, where appropriate to coordinate, the activities of the respective agencies in order to support the efforts of our member nations and our other constituencies in achieving the 2010 biodiversity target, and to enhance our collective efforts for the achievement of the target.

Article 2

Areas of Cooperation

Through the task force, the parties to this Memorandum will:

1. Exchange information on activities carried out by the respective agencies on all issues of relevance to the 2010 biodiversity target.
2. Identify and promote activities that, within the mandates of the respective organizations, could make an enhanced contribution to the achievement of the 2010 biodiversity target.
3. Coordinate activities, where appropriate, or identify and implement joint activities.
4. Provide technical support to member nations, upon request, to support activities aimed at the achievement of the 2010 target.
5. Cooperate to provide technical expertise or other support to Governments.

Article 3

Modalities of Cooperation

1. The task force will meet at least once a year at the level of the heads of agencies.
2. The task force may establish a working group to assist it in the fulfilment of its mandate.
3. A focal point on the 2010 biodiversity target will be designated by each agency as soon as possible and in any case no later than the first meeting of the task force.
4. The Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity will provide secretariat functions to the task force.
5. The task force may invite additional heads of agencies of other relevant international organizations willing to join forces for the achievement of its terms of reference to join the task force.

Article 4

Financial Aspects

1. Joint activities under this Memorandum are subject to the availability of funding for that purpose.
2. The parties will undertake fundraising initiatives for the implementation of activities under this Memorandum.

Article 5

Reporting

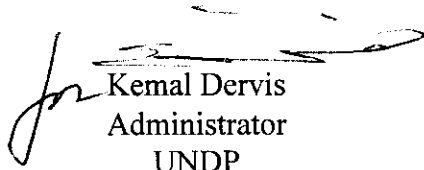
Each Party may provide reports to its governing body on the implementation of this Memorandum.

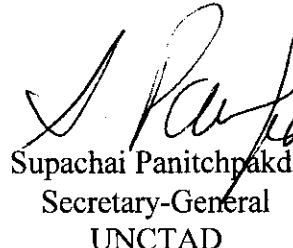
Article 6

Entry into Force, Review and Termination

1. This Memorandum will enter into force upon signature by the Heads of Agencies.
2. The parties may, by mutual agreement, review and amend this Memorandum.
3. This Memorandum may be terminated by any party giving a six-month written notice.

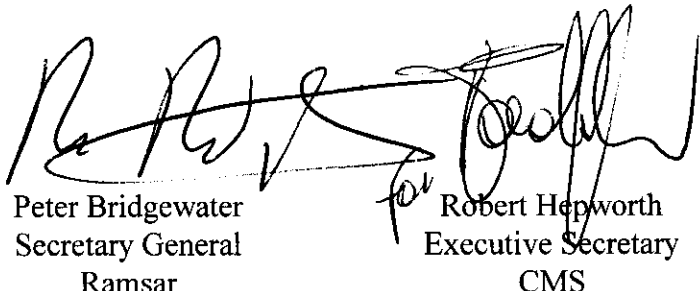
Signed this 27th day of March 2006 at Curitiba

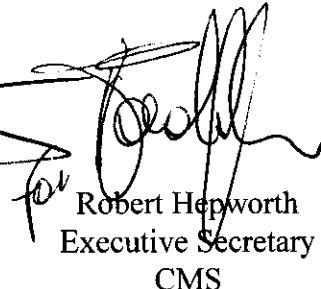

Kemal Dervis
Administrator
UNDP

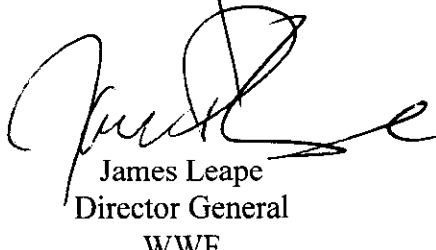

Supachai Panitchpakdi
Secretary-General
UNCTAD

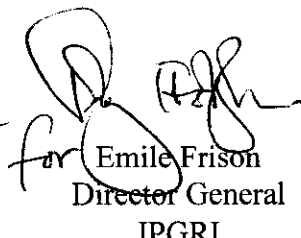

Klaus Töpfer
Executive Director
UNEP

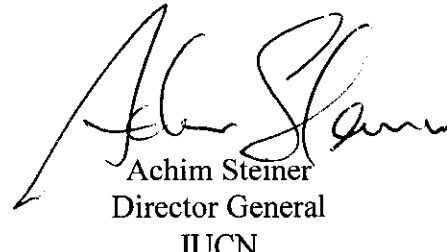

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary
CBD


Peter Bridgewater
Secretary General
Ramsar

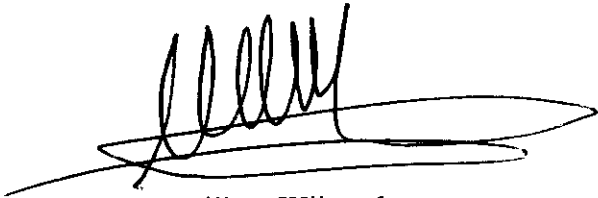

for Robert Hepworth
Executive Secretary
CMS


James Leape
Director General
WWF

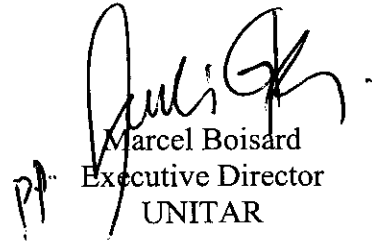

for Emile Frison
Director General
IPGRI


Achim Steiner
Director General
IUCN

Signed this 15th day of September 2006 at Gland.....



Willem Wijnstekers
Secretary-General
CITES



PP
Marcel Boisard
Executive Director
UNITAR