



## **Memorandum of Cooperation**

**between**

**The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity**

**and**

**The Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services**

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (hereinafter referred to as the “Secretariat of the Convention”) and the Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (hereinafter referred to as the “Secretariat of the Platform”),

Collectively referred to hereinafter as “the Parties”,

*Recalling that*

1. The Convention on Biological Diversity (hereinafter “the Convention”) has as objectives the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.
2. The Conference of the Parties of the Convention adopted decision X/2 on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, which provides an overarching framework on biodiversity for the entire United Nations system and all other partners engaged in biodiversity management and policy development.
3. The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (hereinafter “the Intergovernmental Platform”) has as objective to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human wellbeing and sustainable development, and that its functions are
  - a. To identify and prioritize key scientific information needed for policymakers on appropriate scales and to catalyse efforts to generate new knowledge;
  - b. To perform regular and timely assessments of knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystem services and their interlinkages;
  - c. To support policy formulation and implementation by identifying policy-relevant tools and methodologies to enable decision makers to gain access to those tools and methodologies and, where necessary, to promote and catalyse their further development;

- d. To prioritize key capacity-building needs to improve the science-policy interface at appropriate levels.

*Recalling* also that

4. The Conference of the Parties of the Convention adopted decision XI/13 C, in which it requested the Executive Secretary to explore options for formalizing collaboration with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting.

*Have agreed* as follows:

#### **Article 1. Purpose**

The purpose of this Memorandum of Cooperation is to promote cooperation in relevant aspects of the activities conducted in the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols, and the Intergovernmental Platform, with a view to promoting synergy, avoiding overlaps and unnecessary duplication, and ensuring effective cooperation.

#### **Article 2. Cooperation**

The Secretariats of the Convention and the Platform will, in particular:

- a. Promote cooperation through regular exchange of information on relevant activities, participation of concerned respective officers in relevant meetings, as required; and consultation in the preparation of official documents by making available drafts of relevant documents and providing comments, where appropriate and feasible;
- b. Encourage cooperation and information exchange between the respective focal points of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols, and of the Intergovernmental Platform, with a view to promoting cooperation at national and international levels;
- c. Facilitate and encourage mutual technical support, inter alia, to promote technical and scientific cooperation and capacity building at national and regional levels;
- d. Facilitate, where appropriate, the participation of technical experts on issues covered respectively by the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols, and of the Intergovernmental Platform, in relevant aspects of the programmes of work of each other;
- e. Facilitate synergy between the activities of the governing bodies of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols, and the Intergovernmental Platform in relevant matters.

#### **Article 3. Work plans**

With a view to implementing this Memorandum of Cooperation, the Secretariats of the Convention and the Intergovernmental Platform may agree on work plans concerning joint activities. Such work plans, once agreed, will constitute an integral part of this Memorandum of Cooperation.

#### **Article 4. Financial aspects**

Activities implemented under the Memorandum of Cooperation are subject to availability of funding for this purpose.

#### **Article 5. Reporting and further guidance**

The Secretariats of the Convention and the Intergovernmental Platform will report to their respective governing bodies and subsidiary bodies, as appropriate, on progress made in the implementation of the Memorandum of Cooperation and seek further guidance regarding new areas of cooperation.

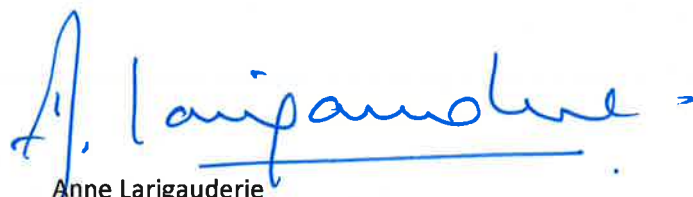
#### **Article 6. Review, amendment and termination**

- a. This Memorandum of Cooperation may be reviewed to assess its effectiveness and may be amended at any time by mutual agreement of the parties.
- b. This Memorandum of Cooperation will enter into force upon signature by both parties, and may be terminated by either party giving notice in writing to the other not less than six months in advance of the intended date of termination.

Signed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of October 2014, in PyeongChang, Republic of Korea,



Bráulio Ferreira de Souza Dias  
Executive Secretary  
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)



Anne Larigauderie  
Executive Secretary  
Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity  
and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)