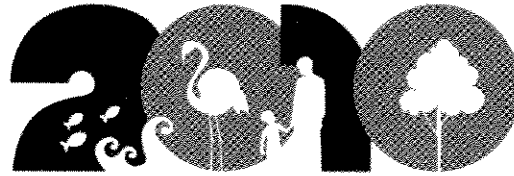




Convention on
Biological Diversity



2010 International Year of Biodiversity

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

and the

Canadian Environmental Network

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (“the SCBD”) and the Canadian Environmental Network (“the RCEN”), collectively referred to as “the signatories”,

Recalling the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, namely the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources;

Recalling also the target to significantly reduce the current rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010 adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting in The Hague (2002) and reiterated by the 154 Heads of State and Government attending the World Review Summit of the United Nations General Assembly (2005);

Recognising that the RCEN is an initiative comprising a network of Canada-based civil society organisations dedicated to improving environment quality including the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;

Considering that the signatories mutually recognise the need to enhance civil society’s awareness of the Convention which will ultimately support the Convention’s implementation;

Have reached the following understanding:

Article 1: Objective

The objective of this Memorandum is to establish a collaborative framework between the SCBD and the RCEN with a view to promoting greater awareness of the Convention amongst civil society organisations in Canada and abroad to support the Convention’s implementation.

Article 2: Areas of Cooperation

The signatories will cooperate in the following areas:

- a. RCEN's acting as the host of the Canadian "Friends of the CBD" association for non governmental organisations (NGOs)
- b. The RCEN will support the SCBD in encouraging the establishment of similar organisations and promoting twinning arrangements;
- c. Communication and outreach on biodiversity including the International Year of Biodiversity, International Day for Biological Diversity and Green Wave;
- d. RCEN's mobilisation of its Biodiversity Caucus to work with Canadians in reaching the objectives of the Convention within the context of current domestic needs and priorities;
- e. Ensure the RCEN's participation as an observer in relevant CBD meetings including the meetings of the Conference of the Parties;
- f. The SCBD will facilitate the RCEN's networking on biodiversity-related issues with civil society networks (e.g. youth, health, business and municipalities) and organisations located in other countries;
- g. Collaboration of SCBD and RCEN's Biodiversity Caucus through knowledge and capacity building activities; and
- h. Any other matters of mutual interest.

Article 3: Focal Points and Steering Committee

The Steering Committee comprising the Executive Director of the RCEN and the Executive Secretary of the SCBD will meet as often as possible and at least once a year. The Steering Committee will be responsible for preparing a yearly plan of action taking into account Canada's priorities and the cycle of the Conference of the Parties. Both organizations will also nominate a focal point.

Article 4: Financial Aspects

Activities under this Memorandum of Understanding are subject to the availability of funding. The RCEN will manage the funds raised for the Canadian "Friends of the CBD" association. The SCBD will help the RCEN to identify funding opportunities. Wherever possible, the SCBD will provide in-kind support for Friends of the CBD activities.

Article 5: Dispute Settlement

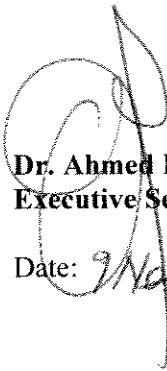
Any dispute between the SCBD and the RCEN arising out of the interpretation or execution of this Memorandum shall be settled in good faith through consultation or negotiation.

Article 6: Entry into Effect, Amendment and Termination

- a. This Memorandum will enter into effect upon signature by the signatories.
- b. Any amendment or modification of this Memorandum shall only be made upon agreement between the signatories by means of an amending or supplemental agreement.
- c. This Memorandum may be terminated by either signatory subject to a prior written notice of six months and the completion of any project already underway.

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

**For the Canadian
Environmental Network**



**Dr. Ahmed Djoghlaf
Executive Secretary**

Date: *9 November 2009*



**Ms. Susan Tanner
Executive Director**

Date: *9 November 2009*