



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
ENVIRONMENT
Directorate E - International affairs
ENV.E.2 - Environmental Agreements and Trade

Brussels, 14 07 2006
D(2006) 13910

Subject: CBD Notification 2006-038 - The International Day for Biological Diversity

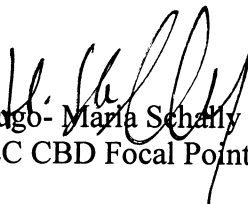
Dear Mr. Djoghlaf,

In response to your notification 2006-38, in which you asked inter alia CBD parties to report back on activities undertaken on the International Biodiversity Day (22 May 2006), please note that the European Commission chose 22 May 2006 to adopt and publish a new Communication "Halting the loss of Biodiversity by 2010 – and Beyond; sustaining ecosystem services for human well-being". Building upon the EC Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans, it sets out an ambitious policy approach to achieve the EU target to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010 and contribute to the CBD and WSSD target to significantly reduce the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010. It also provides an EU Action Plan which proposes concrete measures and outlines the respective responsibilities of EU institutions and Member States. It also specifies indicators to monitor progress (based on the CBD framework), and a timetable for evaluations. I take this opportunity to formally transmit to you this Communication and its Annexes. The 22 May Press release and the Communication can also be downloaded at

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/current_biodiversity_policy/biodiversity_com_2006/index_en.htm.

I would also in this context like to refer to the Green Week 2006 organised by the European Commission a week after the International Biodiversity Day, and which you so kindly attended. This year's Green Week had as its title "Biodiversity is Life" and was a major Communication and Public Awareness event promoting biodiversity and the 2010 target. It was a big success with over 3600 participants, 22 sessions, and more than 70 exhibitors. You will find information on this event, including the 'Green Week Daily' issues, all of the presentations given, small video clips summarising each day, and important links to EU policies at <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/greenweek/newslist.html>.

Yours sincerely,


Hugo-Maria Schally
(EC CBD Focal Point)

CC. P. Murphy, N. Hanley, S. Leiner, DG ENV.

Annex: Commission Communication COM(2006) 216 final and annexes