

**Minutes of the  
GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ON CITIES AND BIODIVERSITY  
TELECONFERENCE CALL**

**16 March 2009 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (Montreal Time)**

**Chair:** Oliver Hillel (CBD Secretariat)

**Attendees:** Christine Alfsen-Norodom (UNESCO); Eduardo P. Guimaraes, Lara de Lacerda Santos Rodrigues, Jose Antonio Andreguetto (City of Curitiba); Susanne Nolden (for Maria Hohn-Berghorn) (City of Bonn); Michèle Picard (City of Montreal); Monika Zimmermann (ICLEI/LAB); Sebastian Winkler, Elisa Calcaterra (IUCN); Seiichi Kawada, Toshitaka Takagi, Tsuyoshi Ito (City of Nagoya); Stephen Granger, Andre Mader (City of Cap Town/LAB), Maike Christiansen (for Soraya Smaoun) (UNEP-(UEU)); Karin Buhren (UN-HABITAT); Lena Chan (National Biodiversity Centre); Peter Herkenrath (UNEP-WCMC); Peter Werner (Institute of Housing and Environment); Thomas Elmqvist (Stockholm Resilience Centre); David Knight (Natural England); Sonia Gautreau, Jo Mulonguy, Chikara Hombo (CBD Secretariat).

**Regrets:** Kobie Brand (City of Cape Town/LAB); Ryo Kohsaka (City of Nagoya)

**Actions highlighted**

**NOTES**

**I. Opening – Introduction of Chikara Hombo**

**II. News on United Kingdom and local authorities**

*In the UK, implementation of the NBSAPs is facilitated by 174 Local Biodiversity Action Plans. Additionally, a “biodiversity duty”, which has been enacted by parliament, requires all local authorities to integrate biodiversity considerations into all relevant service areas.*

- UK government developed indicators to evaluate performance of local governments on biodiversity issues at the local level
- Number of municipalities with improvements in biodiversity management are reported yearly and added to a national database
- David to circulate report on biodiversity indicators and UK's experience, which can be a benchmark/reference for how federal authorities support local governments in implementing the CBD at a site level

**III. Report on the Singapore City Biodiversity Index**

Report on the Singapore CBI

- Peer reviewed report finalized
- Report will focus on guidelines on how to calculate indicators and how/where to find data for the index
- Lena will circulate the draft CBI guidelines in a few weeks time for peer-review
- Singapore will host 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop around June 2010
- Cities are asked to share any relevant experiences regarding the quantification of the agreed indicators of the CBI, to Lena
- Interest in applying the CBI in cities from the developing world

- CBI is designed to be user-friendly and it is hoped that more cities will engage once the manual is finished
- Lena will invite the Chair of the ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGESC) to engage the ASEAN cities of the AWGESC in the testing of the CBI
- More candidate cities for the CBI can be proposed. Karin will circulate potential former Sustainable Cities Programme candidate cities to add developing country cities in the testing phase

#### Mistra Proposal

- Still working on proposal, if accepted, will secure funding for the next 10 years
- Funds will be used to develop a center which will support testing the CBI in selected cities
- Looking to obtain letters of support
- Suggested to look for contributions from other donors

#### News from IUCN/Countdown 2010 on “Monitoring of biodiversity in European Cities” project

- Elisa to include the CBI in IUCN project to assure initiatives are not duplicated
- The CBI will be tested in big European cities and in the future adapted for smaller municipalities

### IV. Cities publication

#### Cities publication

- Publication of technical report – Karin will explore funding opportunities by UN-HABITAT
- Alternate sources of funding need to be identified
- Report should focus on case-studies and lessons learned, so build from ICLEI/LAB experience and COP9 reports. But it should go beyond the existing cities and networks
- Group should build on existing materials from ICLEI/LAB and others, to produce a reference report

#### Case studies in GBO3

- Want to highlight cities and biodiversity case studies for GBO3
- Contributions to be submitted to CBD Secretariat following guidelines available on CBD website - relevant reports can also be sent and CBD will format to GBO3 template
- Cities can use a template to submit their case studies to be on GBO3

### V. ICLEI

#### ICLEI World Congress, 14-18 June 2009 Edmonton

- Biodiversity is on the agenda on 15 June
- Draft programme with list of organizers to appear on website in next few days – comments are welcome
- Plenary on CBI planned (1 hour)
- The Global Partnership to organize a side-event with potential theme: How can federal governments collaborate with local governments to conserve biodiversity at the local level?
- Potential date and time: morning of 14 June – 10:00-12:00
- UNESCO has funds to organize a luncheon for 50 people (side-event to Urban Nature Forum) – Christine to consider agenda and suggest a time slot to hold the event
- SCBD to survey number of mayors linked to the Global Partnership, participating in Urban Nature – this may influence how the event is structured

Canadian Cities and Montreal's involvement, Urban Nature Forum (co-event, 11-13 June)

- Montreal working with federal government to assure involvement of more cities – its objective is to support local strategies and action plans

#### VI. Curitiba meeting

- Curitiba will suggest 2-3 dates for consideration
- Curitiba has activities planned for International Biodiversity Day (and Green Wave) on 22 May 2009.
- Stephen suggested holding the Curitiba meeting on November to enable LAB to hold its workshop back-to-back with it. Stephen and Curitiba to follow up on feasibility of this suggestion.

#### VII. Nagoya Biodiversity City Summit

- Nagoya to hold summit on Cities and Biodiversity from 25-27 October 2010 and input the results to high level segment at COP10 on 28 October 2010
- City of Nagoya and Aichi Prefecture will establish an organizing committee to make preparations for Nagoya Biodiversity City Summit, as of this April

#### VIII. Strategic role of cities in global governance

Post 2010 targets and Strategic Plan

- UNEP-WCMC, in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat launched the post-2010 Biodiversity Indicator Framework survey (complementary to CBD e-forum on the Post 2010 Strategic Plan), Group invited to participate  
[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=J3TWJYEIRjot6G8UIZctkQ\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=J3TWJYEIRjot6G8UIZctkQ_3d_3d)
- Group also invited to contribute to CBD e-forum on the Post 2010 Strategic Plan, which is open until 31 March  
<http://www.cbd.int/sp/post2010forum/>

An update on URBIS planned events leading up to Shanghai World Expo 2010, and cities' participation in the Expo

- A few Chinese cities to participate, including Shanghai
- Montreal to highlight the "Complexe environnemental de St-Michel"
- Bonn will be represented in the German booth and will showcase ways to have more sustainable urban lifestyles
- One auditorium will be available for side-events
- UNESCO in partnership with the Office of the UN Secretary General and the Chinese authorities in Shanghai, is planning to organize an exhibit and Workshop/Conference on urban ecosystems and sustainable urbanization.
- Cities are asked to contribute material for World Expo (poster, pictures etc) – important to build from what was presented at COP9

#### IX. Varia

- The next teleconference will be held in mid-April

#### x. Closing of the teleconference