



# **CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

Distr.  
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/Cities/1/3  
3 April 2007

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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**CITIES AND BIODIVERSITY: ACHIEVING THE 2010 BIODIVERSITY TARGET**  
Mayors' Meeting on the Contribution of Cities to the Achievement of the 2010 Biodiversity Target  
Curitiba, Brazil, 26-28 March 2007

## **REPORT OF THE CITIES AND BIODIVERSITY: ACHIEVING THE 2010 BIODIVERSITY TARGET**

*Mayors' Meeting on the Contribution of Cities to the Achievement of the 2010 Biodiversity Target*

### **INTRODUCTION**

1. At the initiative of the Mayor of Curitiba, H.E. Carlos Alberto Richa, a meeting on "Cities and Biodiversity: Achieving the 2010 Biodiversity Target" was held on 26-28 March 2007, on the first anniversary of the historic high-level segment of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-8) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Curitiba, Brazil. Mayors of cities that hosted or will host a meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, mayors of host cities of United Nations headquarters, and mayors of cities with specific strategies on biodiversity were invited to share their experiences and express their intention to contribute to the Convention's 2010 target of significantly reducing the rate of loss of biodiversity. To assist in the preparation and servicing of this important event, an inter-agency task force, composed of the representatives of the Brazilian Government, the Curitiba City Government, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), and the World Conservation Union (IUCN), was established. The task force met six times via teleconference: on 23 October 2006, 10 November 2006, 7 December 2006, 12 February 2007, 5 March 2007, and 9 March 2007. The terms of reference of this task force are attached to this document as annex I below.

2. The objectives of the meeting were to:

(a) Allow mayors and top city officials to exchange their experiences with regard to the protection and sustainable use of biological diversity, thus acquiring a rich collection of experiences and case studies;

(b) Engage mayors and top city officials in an initial discussion on potential areas of collaboration;

(c) Produce a document summarizing the points of view and commitments of participants;

(d) Negotiate the creation of a Steering Committee to manage the outcomes of this meeting, with a view to reporting to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its ninth.

3. The meeting took place at the Barigüi Park Complex in Curitiba and was attended by 70 participants from 21 cities in seven countries in four continents; eight mayors and 26 first-line city

officials (secretaries of environment and international relations, councillors, directors), four representatives from two Parties to the Convention (Brazil and Japan), international experts on urban biodiversity, non-governmental organizations and international organizations (Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, UNEP, UNITAR, UN-HABITAT, ICLEI, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), IUCN), as well as representatives of cities networks. The complete list of participants is attached to this document as annex II.

#### **ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

4. The meeting was opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 26 March 2007. Participants watched three video messages from, respectively, Mr. Konrad Otto-Zimmermann, Secretary General of ICLEI, Ms. Baerbel Dieckmann, Mayor of Bonn, the host of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, to be held in May 2008, and Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP.

5. Mr. Otto-Zimmermann reminded participants that since local decisions are critical for environmental management, local authorities move the world. He spoke of the pilot project Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB), initiated by ICLEI. Underlining that habitat loss resulting from human development occurs mainly in cities, he welcomed the current meeting in Curitiba and stressed that it needed to send a strong and inclusive message.

6. Ms. Dieckmann stated that cities should pay as much attention to biodiversity as climate change. The Mayor of Bonn declared that the World Mayors Council on Climate Change (WMCCC), hosted by ICLEI, had given them a political voice. She underscored the new appointment of Mr. Gérald Tremblay, Mayor of Montreal and host of the SCBD, as the Vice-Chair responsible for biodiversity within WMCCC, and invited the Mayor of Curitiba and the Mayor of Nagoya to join the Council. She also mentioned the organization, through ICLEI, of a Municipal pre-conference to COP 9 on cities and biodiversity to be held on 26-27 May 2008 in Bonn, Germany, where the results of the current meeting should be presented.

7. Mr. Steiner indicated that, in addition to addressing urban biodiversity issues, the global community needs to consider the relationship between cities and their surrounding ecosystems, as the impacts arising out of cities' resource consumption are often felt hundreds if not thousands of miles away. Mr. Steiner stated that there was enough purchasing power in cities to contribute to good practices and achieve goals in relation to sustainable development. Underlining the major role of cities in conservation of biodiversity, the Executive Director of UNEP mentioned the several initiatives that are being undertaken by United Nations agencies and other partners such as IUCN and ICLEI and stressed that a global alliance aiming to connect people, explore and create networks, as well as share knowledge, would contribute to strengthening the Convention on Biological Diversity.

8. After the projection of the videos, statements were made by: Mr. Eduardo Jorge Martins Alves Sobrinho, member of the Executive member of ICLEI; Mr. Takehisa Matsubara, Mayor of Nagoya, Japan, and host candidate of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to be held in 2010; Mr. Gérald Tremblay, Mayor of Montreal, Canada, and host city of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity; Dr. Ahmed Djoghla, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity; Ms. Cecilia Kinuthia-Njenga, on behalf of Ms. Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director of UN-HABITAT; and Mr. Beto Richa, Mayor of Curitiba, Brazil.

9. Mr. Eduardo Jorge Martins Alves Sobrinho reinforced the statement of the Secretary General of ICLEI by stressing that sustainability is implemented at the local level, while reminding participants that cities concentrate the majority of the world's population, production and consumption. Mr. Sobrinho invited the Mayor of Curitiba to join the Local Action Biodiversity project and expressed his wish that more cities joined this network.

10. Mayor Matsubara acknowledged the importance of the collaboration between Nagoya and Aichi prefecture to make this meeting a success, as a preparatory strategy to reach the 2010 biodiversity target. Nagoya went through a revolutionary phase in 1999 when the Mayor decreed a state of emergency as a result of the need to address waste management. Nagoya established a project that allowed the city to cut

waste production by half, which changed the city inhabitants' way of life. Nagoya demonstrates the coexistence between nature and society as an inheritance to future generations. Aichi and Nagoya are candidates to host the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, notably because of their willingness to take on this commitment.

11. Mayor Tremblay expressed his concern with environmental degradation, and highlighted the importance of local authorities in addressing these issues. The mayor is involved in many organizations related to local authorities. He spoke of the Montreal Biosphere, a museum dedicated to the environment built for the International event Expo 67, and which illustrates environmental balance: all structural items support the same weight, and all pieces are interrelated. The structure was intended to last merely for the duration of the event. 40 years later, it sends to all a clear message – levels of jurisdiction must complement each other. Cities are the level of government closest to citizens. Mayors concerned about biodiversity need to speak in one voice and build a common, clear and inclusive message that will show how they intend to reduce the loss of biodiversity. Mayor Tremblay introduced five components of his approach: leadership, useful tension between different stakeholders, moral purpose, knowledge basis, and receptivity to new ideas. He congratulated Mayor Richa for his city's 314 anniversary, stressing that Curitiba's government was instrumental in offering a good example to the world, which should be carried on to Bonn and Nagoya.

12. Ms. Njenga stated that the theme of the conference was very dear to Ms. Tibaijuka's heart and close to UN-HABITAT's mandate. This conference will have an important role in an increasingly urbanized world. Cities and towns are already responsible for 70% of all waste produced globally, generating major impacts, especially on coastal areas and oceans. As urbanization has a direct impact on biodiversity, UN-HABITAT works to ensure that effective solutions and sustainable practices are widely disseminated, shared and implemented. UNEP and UN-HABITAT have embarked on a program promoting sustainable cities and look forward to the results of the Curitiba deliberations. Ms. Njenga invited representatives of the meeting to present its results in the next World Urban Forum to be held in Nanjing, China, in 2008.

13. Dr. Djoghlaif said that most of the urban growth that will occur in the coming years will be absorbed by developing countries. If not managed adequately, growth of urban population may accelerate the unprecedented loss of biodiversity on the planet. The extinction of animal and plant species is now between 100 and 1,000 times higher than the natural rate. Large populations living in megacities consume massive amounts of energy, thus contributing to climate change which has been identified as one of the main drivers of loss of biodiversity. However, unsound urban management is not the unavoidable destiny of cities. In this regard, Mr. Djoghlaif congratulated the City of Curitiba for their achievements as one of the most innovative cities in the world. He also congratulated Mayor Tremblay as the new Vice-President of the WMCCC in charge of biodiversity. He extended his gratitude to the Mayor of Bonn for her active engagement in the preparation for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and thanked the Mayor of Nagoya for his offer to host COP 10. He added that the massive participation of mayors and cities in the current meeting demonstrates their commitment to the biodiversity agenda. Currently, cities occupy 2% of the planet's surface but their residents use up to 75% of the Earth's natural resources. Therefore, the battle for life on Earth is to be won or lost in cities.

14. Mayor Richa thanked the Secretariat of the Convention for trusting Curitiba, for the second time, to organize an international event of this importance for the world and thanked all participants. Curitiba's first urban plans emerged around 1940. In the seventies, Curitiba started to implement urban policies with new legislation and preservation of green areas. A new concept was launched, with Curitiba's support, at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development: that local urban action can help save this planet. In June 2005, Mayor Richa signed the San Francisco Declaration on green cities, which sets commitments and actions for sustainable development. Starting next Wednesday, 28 March 2007, Curitiba will host the 10<sup>th</sup> CIFAL meeting. In addition, Curitiba will make a new contribution with the launch of the Biocity initiative. Mayor Richa said that Curitiba would learn a lot during the next three days, and welcomed discussions to make this city not only a place to survive but to build better lives.

## **ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES**

15. The Curitiba Secretary for International Relations, Mr. Eduardo Guimaraes, explained the procedure for the afternoon's work, and shared several important notices regarding the meeting's objectives outlined above and its outcomes.

16. By suggestion of Mayor Richa of Curitiba, Councillor for Environment Prema Naidoo of Johannesburg was elected as Chair of Working Group 1, and Dr. Ahmed Djoghla, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, was elected as Chair of Working Group 2. Mr. Hélio Neves, Chief of Staff, Secretariat for the Environment of Sao Paulo, acted as Chair of the plenary session on Tuesday, 27 March.

17. Participants adopted the provisional agenda and programme prepared by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (see annex III below).

## **ITEM 3. BIODIVERSITY CHALLENGES**

18. The Secretary of Environment of Curitiba, Brazil, Mr. Jose Andreguetto, presented the Curitiba Biocity Initiative. This plan of action involves all stakeholders, including citizens, and is composed of simple actions aiming to reduce the loss of biodiversity. Among others, this approach includes the creation of private reserves and privately owned protected areas at the municipal level through tax exemptions and exchange of construction potential. This allows the city to create and maintain a protected areas system without spending any of the public funds. In addition, Curitiba has invested massively in building public housing, which includes a relocation programme for people living in environmentally critical areas that will be restored. This initiative will make a significant contribution to the recovery of biodiversity at the local and international levels.

19. Dr. Jaime Lerner, former Mayor of Curitiba, and former Governor of Parana State, Brazil, made a keynote technical presentation on urban planning. Dr. Lerner underlined the importance of green buildings, renewable sources of energy and recycling, among others, to achieve sustainability. He noted that 75 percent of the emissions of carbon dioxide occur in cities and therefore, solutions to this and other environmental problems can be found through the effective management of cities. Dr. Lerner stated that cities, regardless of size or wealth, can become more sustainable in just a few years through political will, a strong sense of solidarity and sharing of responsibilities. The design of a city can be very specific to each context and is the result of its evolution and resources. As a critical resource, biodiversity, within and beyond the city limits, has to be integrated adequately into every urban development plan. Furthermore, Dr. Lerner stated that sustainability is closely linked to mobility in cities. Dr. Lerner highlighted the need to avoid traveling in cars, to manage waste efficiently, to reside closer to the workplace, and to understand that sustainability is the balance between what is spared and what is wasted. He also underscored the tremendous importance of education with regard to these issues. In closing, Dr. Lerner stated that one significant indicator of sustainability is the rate of positive change in urban environment per time. In this regard, Curitiba was and continues to be a source of inspiration for other cities.

20. Mr. Andre Misi from the Ministry of External Relations of Brazil made a presentation on the negotiations towards an international regime on the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources (access and benefit sharing, ABS). He specified that this is being discussed in the context of the implementation of the third goal of the CBD and highlighted the importance of Article 15, which establishes that biological resources are subject to national sovereignty, and access to genetic resources must be subject to prior informed consent by the provider and be based on contract. Mr. Misi indicated that the 2010 biodiversity target and the establishment of this international regime were interrelated and that efforts must be made to move forward in the next few years so that the regime can be negotiated by 2010.

#### ITEM 4. PRESENTATIONS ON CITIES' RESPONSES TO BIODIVERSITY CHALLENGES

21. Under this item, a total of 18 presentations on case studies were made. Participants were divided into two working groups, which were facilitated by Ms. Julia Crause (Programme Officer, Cities Alliance and UN-HABITAT Liaison, Urban Environment Unit, DEPI, UNEP) and Mr. Stephen Granger (Strategic Alliances, Environmental Resource Management, City of Cape Town, and ICLEI-Local Action for Biodiversity project).
22. Working Group 1, facilitated by Ms. Julia Crause and chaired by Councillor Naidoo of Johannesburg, discussed the themes of integrating biodiversity into urban planning, promoting biodiversity-friendly urban development, and ensuring that business practices enhance biodiversity.
23. Ms. Julia Crause made a presentation on the relationship of cities with their surroundings, on a regional and global scale. She underlined that ecosystems are assets for cities and that there are strong linkages between the reduction of poverty and the preservation of biodiversity. She presented examples of cities in Africa, such as Accra, Ghana, that has adopted policies notably related to wetlands, which perform a wide range of functions that are of great value to cities and citizens. She also mentioned, among others, the City of Cape Town which hosts a park that is a major tourism site generating income for the municipality. She highlighted the importance of public participation.
24. Ms. Maria Hohn-Berghorn presented the experience of Bonn, Germany. She highlighted the city's focus on spatial planning, education and raising public awareness regarding biodiversity issues. Bonn also made commitments on the global levels within ICLEI and the WMCCC. In addition, she mentioned projects partnerships with cities in the developing countries, such as La Paz in Bolivia.
25. Prof. Norbert Mueller made a presentation on the distinctive characteristics of urban biodiversity. He highlighted that population and biodiversity are often concentrated in the same areas. He presented several cases of urban sites such as brownfield sites and other industrial areas that host particular biodiversity resources. He emphasized the need to integrate urban biodiversity into urban development as a contribution to the quality of life in an increasing global society.
26. Ms. Debra Roberts, representing the Durban – Ethekewini municipality presented on the city's 25-years experience with regard to biodiversity and open space planning. She underlined the fact that the city has a very high level of poverty and that many of the poor depend directly on biodiversity resources. Among other numbers presented, she indicated that environmental goods and services were valued in 2003 at 3.1 billion rands (R) (1US\$ = 8 rands) per annum (excluding the contribution of the tourism section, which is R3.5 billion per annum). Ms. Roberts mentioned several initiatives undertaken by the city, such as the creation of an integrated development plan, and indicated several challenges to implementation of biodiversity-related initiatives, such as private ownership of land, interaction with traditional leadership, and costs of implementation.
27. Ms. Dayse Cristina Senna, Director of Research and Monitoring, Department of Environment, Curitiba City Government, made a presentation on a strategic planning tool developed recently, *Viva Barigui!*, which aims to restore the Barigui river basin through legal, institutional, educational, and participatory actions. This plan to decontaminate the river and bring it back to life focuses notably on environmental and social aspects while encouraging the active participation of the population.
28. Ms. Julia Crause summarized the presentation by highlighting some of the elements that were discussed during several presentations, notably pressures of urbanization and development, the need for good planning and governance, stakeholder involvement, education awareness, and cooperation between cities. A discussion followed on various themes such as the modalities of decontamination, the process leading to the development of efficient and inclusive spatial planning strategy, and how to involve the population and deal with opposition within the communities.
29. Working Group 2, on managing urban biodiversity and promoting awareness of biodiversity to urban communities, was facilitated by Mr. Stephen Granger and chaired by Dr. Ahmed Djoghla. Mr. Granger explained the Working Group paper prepared by the Task Force (see annex IV below).

30. Mayor Tremblay of Montreal described the city's long tradition in sustainable development and environment, explaining how Montreal increased its protected areas from 3.5% to 8% over the last eight years. He stated that these additional areas have increased property values by up to 15% and that due to partnerships, 60% of these areas have been added without any cost to the city. Out of the city's 675,000 trees, 9,000 have been added in 2006. He underlined that one tree produces oxygen for four people per day. He explained how Montreal has been able to trade new protected coastal shorelines for the development of public parking lots.

31. Mayor Matsubara of Nagoya explained the city's three policies on sustainable lifestyles, co-existence with nature and human resources development. Reduction of waste has allowed the city to protect additional mangroves. He also explained the city's policy of different forest uses for life (full protection), for peace (linked to cemeteries), for living (greener developments), for interaction (leisure use and zoos) and for revitalization (recovery of degraded areas). Carbon dioxide levels are monitored every day throughout the urban region. Hourly monitoring of temperature levels in urban areas allowed the city to prove that forest cover is essential for keeping lower temperatures – reforestation has been proven to reduce day temperatures by up to 4 degrees.

32. The Deputy Mayor of Belo Horizonte, Mr. Ronaldo Vasconcelos, highlighted some of the city's initiatives such as solar energy, planting of 250,000 trees, communal recycling of waste, and the creation of a Foundation to allow more flexible and efficient management of 53 urban parks totaling 7 million square meters.

33. Mr. Sebastian Winkler of the IUCN Countdown 2010 initiative stated that it now has more than 200 partners. In Europe, the partners agreed to take the 2010 biodiversity target further to halt the rate of loss of biodiversity on the planet. Countdown 2010 aims to create a system to measure ecosystem services and the value they bring to urban areas and cities. The initiative communicates commitments, engages with business, facilitates networks, measures progress, and creates momentum around the 2010 biodiversity target, climate change and poverty alleviation.

34. In conclusion, Mr. Stephen Granger summarized the afternoon's lessons, and proposed some questions for participants, such as how better to manage biodiversity areas, how best to exchange experiences and how to improve coordination between different associations and initiatives. Chair Dr. Djoghlaif concluded by thanking all presenters and saying that the session had achieved its goals and reminded participants of the three inter-related objectives of the Convention.

35. On Tuesday morning, in Working Group 1, Councillor Prema Naidoo of Johannesburg, South Africa, provided examples of how communities living in biodiverse areas can collaborate to the sustainable use of these resources. Klip Nature reserve offers environmental education, and nature experiences in urban setting. Kloofendal Nature Reserve has become a multi-purpose facility combining leisure opportunities with conservation activities. Urban biodiversity is protected through partnerships. Strategic partnerships with local communities facilitate management and help control invasive species. He also added that partnerships with private sector promote sustainable use of biodiversity, and partnerships with donor agencies and development agencies help achieve the 2010 biodiversity target.

36. Mr. Helio Neves, Assistant Secretary for Environment, Sao Paulo, explained how urbanization in the largest city in South America actually offers opportunities for protection of biodiversity. He highlighted the surprising biodiversity in a city of 18 million inhabitants: Sao Paulo counts 33 urban parks and a green belt around the city, classified as a Biosphere Reserve, housing 47 endemic species of mammals, as well as 31 species of reptiles and 40 species of amphibians. One urban park, the Ibirapuera, has no less than 135 species of birds. A municipal Environmental Police Force was created to avoid invasions and protect biodiversity. Linear parks on the margins of rivers and creeks, as well as new roads, constitute new opportunities for protected areas – there are projects for 20 new areas. Builders of new roads and concessionaires are being asked to create natural parks – in one example, a park 300 meters wide and 24 kilometers long will be created along roads in degraded areas. In addition, Sao Paulo has measured up to 8 degrees Celsius difference between forested and non forested areas. The city also offers veterinarian assistance to wild animals and reintroduction of native species - 25,000 animals were treated

or relocated over the last five years. Six thousand community health agents have now been trained to work with families to promote environmental health. As Sao Paulo is the largest consumer of timber from the Amazon and since 47% of wood is illegally extracted, the City Government signed an agreement with Greenpeace (Friends of the Amazon Cities) to stop importing illegal wood.

37. Mr. Kiyohiko Hayashi, Director General of Department of Environment, Aichi Prefecture, demonstrated how the technologies developed for the groundbreaking Expo 2005, under the theme “Wisdom of Nature”, which received 22 million visitors from 134 countries, were applied to government operations and consumers. The Bio-Lung, a wall 150 meters long and 12 meters high, where grasses and trees were planted, has been replicated throughout the city. Solar panels, fuel cells, and special low-consumption transportation modules are now widely used. Improved waste management and recycling allowed the protection of the Fujimae Tidal flats, where 60 species of migratory birds are protected by government. Vehicular traffic has been prohibited over 47 km of beach, protecting the loggerhead turtles. Basic rules for handling endangered species are being applied. The success of these experiences encouraged Nagoya to apply as a candidate to host the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

38. Clarismino Luiz Pereira Junior, Environment Secretary of Goiania, Brazil, provided examples of the application of Brazilian environmental legislation, which now proposes a collaborative approach instead of just enforcement. Laws now require developers to take actions such as avoiding the use of invasive species, retaining percentages of forested areas, and managing waste. Mr. Pereira Junior explained that the actual use by citizens of its 150 protected areas is essential as it raises awareness and allows landscape management for improvements, from biodiversity to environmental health and security. Monitoring and enforcement is essential for effectiveness, particularly for the 76 water sources. Often, urban management involves the restoration of previously degraded areas using native species, such as the natural lagoon in Joao Braz, which was drained. The Ecomovel bus is a mobile environmental education tool reaching public schools, with a library and experience centre. Native trees are distributed with a commitment to care for them - since 2005, 350,000 trees were distributed. Goiania has a green phone line, available 24 hours, to inform and receive suggestions and environmental complaints.

39. In Working Group 2, Mr. Gilles Vincent, Director of the Montreal Botanical Garden, made a presentation on the four institutions that make up the Museums Nature of Montreal. The Montreal Botanical Garden, one of the biggest in the world, is very well integrated into the landscape and also within the community. The other three institutions are the Insectarium, the Biodome, and the Planetarium. All four institutions have a common mission, which is to contribute to the study and conservation of species, increase public knowledge and promote responsible environmental behavior. He emphasized on the educational activities of the institutions, which have been developed more thoroughly in the recent years. He also discussed specific initiatives and green tools, such as the use of the willow, which acts as a living noise barrier along highways and has a capacity to absorb 8 tonnes of carbon dioxide during its first growing season.

40. Mr. Benjamin Njenga, Deputy Director of Environment, Nairobi, made a presentation on the theme “Managing urban biodiversity”. The presentation focused mainly on Nairobi’s national park, home to over 400 species of birds as well as various animal species. This park attracts one million visitors per year, generating significant income for the city. Mr. Njenga also discussed the challenges faced by the city such as lack of funds, increase of human population, pollution, habitat degradation, human-wildlife conflicts, and inadequate enforcement of laws. He indicated the importance of encouraging private sector involvement as well as working with other partners.

41. Mr. Beto Moesch, Secretary of Environment, Porto Alegre, presented several on-going initiatives undertaken by the city. Among the actions taken by the city, the environmental department is monitoring the issuing of licenses for development projects, and many officials and specialists are involved. In 2005, the city has planted 2000 native trees. Furthermore, Porto Alegre has involved the community in an effort to save the trees within the city. Citizens were invited to adopt a tree, and several people adopted the tree

in front of their house resulting in a reduction of tree mortality. There are 1.4 million trees in the city, which amounts to one tree per resident.

42. Councillor Brian Watkins and Dalton Gibbs from the City of Cape Town made a presentation on the unique habitats found in Cape Town and the city's initiatives and difficulties with regard to the protection and sustainable use of biodiversity. Cape Town is part of the Cape flora kingdom, the smallest and the richest of the six flora kingdoms. The sense of urgency was expressed throughout the presentation which showed many species that are endangered but also many actions taken by the city to respond to this crisis, such as an integrated metropolitan environmental policy and strategic objectives with regard to biodiversity that include notably conservation and educational aspects. Cape Town has identified challenges such as rapid urbanization and migration into the city, poverty and unemployment, water shortages, and invasive alien species.

43. After these presentations in working groups, the Biocity Initiative was launched at the Curitiba Botanical Gardens from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The participants were invited to attend the formal launch of this innovative initiative of the City of Curitiba and the inauguration of a new greenhouse with endemic and threatened flora. Participants were then taken back to the Barigui Park Complex.

#### **ITEM 5. IDENTIFICATION OF AREAS OF COLLABORATION**

44. On Tuesday afternoon, discussions were held in plenary. Mr. Helio Neves, Chief of Staff of the Secretariat of Environment, Sao Paulo, acted as Chair, and asked each of the facilitators in the working groups to present their outcomes.

45. Mr. Stephen Granger made a presentation on Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB), a collaborative action project. He specified that 19 cities are currently participating in LAB and that several other partners were involved, such as UNEP and Countdown 2010. The overarching goals are to, among others, support local biodiversity project, develop implementation tools and enhance global networks. The project's core principles are, notably, raising the profile of biodiversity at local level, raising global awareness, and develop a toolkit of methodologies and approaches. Mr. Granger added that the LAB project implied a commitment to concrete results and that it can provide several benefits to cities, such as governance benefits, ecological goods and services, and economic and social benefits. He also summarized the main issues raised in Working Group 2, and presented the summary of potential areas for collaboration kindly produced by the facilitators during lunchtime (see annex V below).

46. Ms. Julia Crause summarized the experience of Working Group 1. She mentioned that political leadership, planning of urban biodiversity management, participatory approach, enforcement of legislation, compensating mechanism, strategic partnerships, benefits for poor communities, awareness raising and education, and training and capacity building were among the issues that were discussed.

47. The Chair opened the floor for discussion. Comments were received from Ms. Hohn-Berghorn of Bonn, Councillor Prema Naidoo of Johannesburg, Mr. Benjamin Njenga of Nairobi, Mr. Beto Moesch of Porto Alegre, Mr. Dalton Gibbs of Cape Town, Mr. Sebastian Winkler of IUCN's Countdown 2010, Mr. Julio del Rio of Santiago, Mayor Gérald Tremblay, Mr. Stephen Granger of Cape Town, Ms. Julia Crause of UNEP, Mr. Eduardo Magalhaes of Curitiba, Ms. Cecilia Njenga of UN-HABITAT, and Dr. Ahmed Djoghla, Executive Secretary of the CBD.

#### **ITEM 6. OTHER MATTERS**

48. Under this item, Prof. Norbert Mueller of Erfurt, Germany, announced the upcoming International Conference on Urban Biodiversity and Design, on 21-24 May 2008 in Erfurt, Germany, and Mr. Nicolas Frizon de Lamotte of UNITAR advised participants that, on this afternoon, an activity would begin with Curitiba, on the International Training Centres for Local Authorities and Actors (CIFAL).



**ITEM 7. ADOPTION OF THE CURITIBA DECLARATION ON CITIES AND BIODIVERSITY**

49. The Curitiba Declaration on Cities and Biodiversity was discussed and adopted on Wednesday, 28 March 2007. The declaration is attached as annex VI below.

**ITEM 8. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

50. Representatives of 400 children from Curitiba's school system delivered a letter to Mayor Richa and Executive Secretary Djoghlaif saying: "We are one of the elements of biodiversity and as responsible citizens, we need to find solutions to social environmental issues. Dear participants, please do your part, we will do ours."

51. This meeting constituted an opportunity for the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the representative of UNITAR to sign a Memorandum of Cooperation aiming to enhance cooperation between the Convention Secretariat and UNITAR with a view of assisting Parties to the Convention to respond to their capacity-building needs within the framework of their efforts towards achieving the 2010 biodiversity target. The document mentions the organization of training workshops for officials of local authorities on issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, including best practices and lessons-learned.

52. Addresses were made by Ms. Eleonora Fruet, Secretary of Education, Curitiba, Mr. Nicolas Frizon de Lamotte of UNITAR, Dr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and Mayor Beto Richa of Curitiba.

*Annex I*

**TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE ON CITIES AND BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

1. An Inter-Agency Task Force on Cities and Biodiversity (the Task Force) is hereby established to provide advice on and support for the contribution of Cities to the achievement of the 2010 biodiversity target to reduce significantly the rate of loss of biological diversity by 2010.
2. The Task Force is composed of representatives from the following partner agencies:
  - Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
  - United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
    - Division of Environmental Law and Conventions
    - Division of Environmental Policy Implementation
  - UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre
  - United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)
  - United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
  - IUCN-The World Conservation Union
    - Countdown 2010 initiative
  - ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability
    - Local Action for Biodiversity project
3. *Ex officio* members of the Task Force consist of the representative of the City of Curitiba, Brazil, host of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and possibly another city. This will be discussed after responses to invitations are received.
4. The mandate of the Task Force is to assist the Convention Secretariat in:
  - (a) The preparation of the agenda and background documents for the meeting on “Cities and Biodiversity: Achieving the 2010 Biodiversity Target”, to be held in Curitiba from 26 to 28 March 2007;
  - (b) The servicing of this meeting;
  - (c) Ensuring the follow-up regarding the outcomes of the above-mentioned meeting;
  - (d) The process of drafting the declaration to be considered by the meeting in Curitiba and to be conveyed to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its ninth meeting;
  - (e) Providing advice on the preparation of the possible panel discussion on cities and biodiversity to be held at the High-Level Segment of ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in May 2008 in Germany; and
  - (f) Linking with other initiatives / programmes on the topic of cities and biodiversity in order to ensure synergy of purpose and common agendas, and avoid unnecessary duplication.
5. During one of its meetings, the Task Force shall discuss issues related to resource mobilization for financing participation of mayors that may not have the means to attend the Curitiba meeting and the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention.
6. The Inter-Agency Task Force will meet by teleconference as needed, in person whenever resources are available and during the above-mentioned meetings. Informal meetings will also be considered on the margins of other meetings whenever some members can be present.

*Annex II***LIST OF PARTICIPANTS****Curitiba, 26-28 March 2007**

- 001 Adalberto Felicio Maluf Filho, International Advisor, São Paulo City Government, Brazil
- 002 Ahmed Djoghla, Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity
- 003 Alberto Moesch, Secretary for the Environment, Porto Alegre City Government, Brazil
- 004 André Misi, Division of Environment, Ministry of External Relations, Brazil
- 005 Antônio Tarcísio Correa de Mello, Secretary for the Environment, Vitória City Government, Brazil
- 006 Benjamin Kathura Njenga, Deputy Director of Environment, Nairobi City Government, Kenya
- 007 Brian Watkyns, Councillor, Cape Town City Government, South Africa
- 008 Carlos Alberto Richa, Mayor, Curitiba City Government, Brazil
- 009 Cecilia Kinuthia-Njenga, Human Settlements Officer, UN-HABITAT
- 010 Clarismino Luiz Pereira Junior, Secretary for the Environment, Goiania City Government, Brazil
- 011 Dalton Gibbs, Cape Town City Government, South Africa
- 012 Dayse Cristina Senna, Curitiba City Government, Brazil
- 013 Debra Roberts, Deputy Head, Environmental Management, EtheKwini-Durban City Government, South Africa
- 014 Eduardo Jorge, Secretary for the Environment, São Paulo City Government, Brazil
- 015 Eduardo Pereira Guimarães, Secretary for International Relations, Curitiba City Government, Brazil
- 016 Frank Martin, Councillor, Planning and Environment, City of Cape Town, South Africa
- 017 Kiyohiko Hayashi, Director-General, Department of Environment, Aichi Prefecture Government, Japan
- 018 Kiyotaka Matsuba, Department of Environment, Aichi Prefecture Government, Japan
- 019 Geoffrey Cooke, Managing Director, Johannesburg City Parks, Johannesburg City Government, South Africa
- 020 Gérald Tremblay, Mayor, Montreal City Government, Canada
- 021 Gilles Vincent, Director, Montreal Botanical Gardens, Montreal City Government, Canada
- 022 Giovana Alcantara Foerster, UNITAR
- 023 Gloria Lara Avila, Councillor, Municipalidad de Callao / Lima, Peru
- 024 Hélio Neves, Chief of Staff, Secretariat for the Environment, São Paulo City Government, Brazil
- 025 Henry Marin Vicente, Manager, Environment Protection, Municipalidad de Callao / Lima, Peru
- 026 Ivan Moscoso Rodríguez, Secretary General, RED/PNUMA
- 027 Iván Rivadeneyra Medina, Councilman, Municipalidad de Callao / Lima, Peru
- 028 Jaime Lerner, Instituto Jaime Lerner, Brazil
- 029 Joëlle Roy LeFrançois, Focal Point for Local Authorities, SCBD
- 030 Jorge Augusto Allavo, Sewage Director, Hydric Resources Department, Paraná State Government, Brazil
- 031 José Antônio Andreghetto, Secretary for the Environment, Curitiba City Government, Brazil
- 032 Julia Crause, UNEP
- 033 Juliana Quadros, Coordinator, Biology Department, Tuiuti University, Brazil
- 034 Julio del Rio, Independent Consultant, CONAMA, Santiago, Chile
- 035 Kayo Nomura, Nagoya City Government, Japan
- 036 Kazuo Horiba, Nagoya City Government, Japan
- 037 Lara de Lacerda Rodrigues, Head of the Department of International Relations, Curitiba City Government, Brazil
- 038 Lídio Coradim, Ministry of the Environment, Brazil

- 039 Luiz Eduardo Pizzotti, Advisor, Secretariat for the Environment, Rio de Janeiro City Government, Brazil
- 040 Lunelle Serobatse, Assistant Director, Johannesburg City Government, South Africa
- 041 Maria Hohn-Berghorn, Head of Department of International Relations and Protocol, City of Bonn, Germany
- 042 Marie-Claude Roy, Montreal City Government, Canada
- 043 Masanao Kubota, Nagoya City Government, Japan
- 044 Miki Oguchi, Nagoya City Government, Japan
- 045 Nicolas Frizon de Lamotte, UNITAR
- 046 Nilce Mary Turcatti Folle, Coordinator, Biology Department, FIE, Brazil
- 047 Norbert Müller, Prof. Dr., Conturec, University Erfurt, Germany
- 048 Noriko Moriwake, Ministry of the Environment, Japan
- 049 Núbia Cristina da Silva, Ministry of the Environment, Brazil
- 050 Oliver Hillel, Programme Officer, SCBD
- 051 Oscar Araujo, Councilman, Municipalidad de Callao / Lima, Peru
- 052 Paula Arantes, ABDL / LEAD
- 053 Paulo Roberto Castella, Executive Secretary, Environment State Council, Paraná State Government, Brazil
- 054 Prema Naidoo, Councillor, Johannesburg City Government, South Africa
- 055 Raimundo Angelim, Mayor, Rio Branco City Government, Brazil
- 056 Ronaldo Vasconcellos, Deputy Mayor, Belo Horizonte City Government, Brazil
- 057 Rosa Maria Fernandes da Silva, Secretary for the Environment, Rio de Janeiro City Government, Brazil
- 058 Satoshi Utsuki, Assistant Manager, Department of the Environment, Aichi Prefecture Government, Japan
- 059 Sebastian Winkler, Head of the Countdown 2010, IUCN
- 060 Seiichi Kawada, Nagoya City Government, Japan
- 061 Seiji Suzuki, Nagoya City Government, Japan
- 062 Shoni Munzhedzi, General Manager, Environmental Conservation, Johannesburg City Parks , Johannesburg City Government, South Africa
- 063 Stephen Granger, Manager, Strategic Programmes, ICLEI / City of Cape Town, South Africa
- 064 Sylvia Christina de Oliveira Santos, Secretary for the Environment, Belém City Government, Brazil
- 065 Takehisa Matsubara, Mayor, Nagoya City Government, Japan
- 066 Thais Losso, PUC-SP, Brazil
- 067 Tony Gross, Adjunct Senior Fellow, United Nations University, Institute of Advanced Studies
- 068 Visvin Reddy, Councillor, Ethekwini Durban City Government, South Africa
- 069 Yutaka Kamishita, Nagoya City Government, Japan
- 070 Wolvenar Camargo Filho, Secretary for Urban Development, Rio Branco City Government, Brazil

*Annex III***AGENDA AND PROGRAMME OF WORK**

<b>Monday, 26 March 2007</b> <b>9.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.</b>          <b>11 to 11:30 a.m.</b>  <b>11:30-noon</b>   <b>Noon-12:30 a.m.</b>	<p>Item 1: Opening of the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Video Message of Mr. Konrad Otto-Zimmermann, Secretary General of ICLEI</li> <li>• Video message of Mrs. Baerbel Dieckmann, Mayor of Bonn, Germany, host of COP9 to be held in May 2008</li> <li>• Video Message of Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP</li> <li>• Mr. Eduardo Jorge Martins Alves Sobrinho, Member of the Executive Committee of ICLEI</li> <li>• Mr. Takehisa Matsubara, Mayor of Nagoya, Japan, host candidate of COP10 to be held in 2010</li> <li>• Mr. Gérald Tremblay, Mayor of Montreal, Canada</li> <li>• Dr. Ahmed Djoghla, Executive Secretary, CBD</li> <li>• Statement by Ms. Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, read by Ms. Cecilia Kinuthia-Njenga</li> <li>• Mr. Beto Richa, Mayor of Curitiba, Brazil</li> </ul> <p>Coffee break</p> <p>Item 2: Organizational issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Election of two chairs and a rapporteur</li> <li>• Adoption of agenda and programme</li> </ul> <p>Item 3: Biodiversity challenges</p> <p>Presentation on the Biocity initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sec. Jose Andreguetto, Municipal Secretary for Environment, Curitiba</li> </ul>
<b>Monday, 26 March 2007</b> <b>2-2:30 p.m.</b>   <b>2:30-4 p.m.</b>	<p>Keynote technical presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Jaime Lerner, ex-Governor of Parana State and ex-Mayor of Curitiba, Brazil</li> </ul> <p>Item 4: Presentations on cities responses to biodiversity challenges</p> <p><b>WORKING GROUP 1 (facilitator: Julia Crause)</b>  <b>Former items A (Integrating biodiversity into urban planning), B (Promoting biodiversity-friendly urban development), and D (Ensuring that business practices enhance biodiversity)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Julia Crause (UNEP-DEPI)</li> <li>• Sec. Jose Andreguetto (Municipal Secretary for Environment,</li> </ul>

<p>Curitiba, Brazil)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Maria Hohn-Berghorn (Director for International Relations, Bonn, Germany)</li> <li>• Ms. Debra Roberts (Durban, South Africa &amp; LAB)</li> <li>• Prof. Norbert Müller (CONTUREC, University of Applied Sciences, Germany)</li> </ul> <p><b>WORKING GROUP 2 (facilitator: Stephen Granger)</b>  <i>Former items C (Managing urban biodiversity) and E (Promoting awareness of biodiversity to urban communities)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Stephen Granger (Cape Town, South Africa &amp; LAB)</li> <li>• Mr. Takehisa Matsubara (Mayor of Nagoya, Japan)</li> <li>• Mr. Gérald Tremblay (Mayor of Montreal, Canada)</li> <li>• Mr. Ronaldo Vasconcellos Novais (Vice-Mayor of Belo Horizonte, Brazil)</li> <li>• Mr. Sebastian Winkler (Head of Countdown 2010, IUCN)</li> </ul> <p><b>4-4:30 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>4:30-5:30 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>5:30-6 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>6-9 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>9 p.m.</b></p>	<p>Coffee break</p> <p>Feedback and discussion in working groups</p> <p>Technical presentation on the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources (ABS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Andre Misi, Ministry of External Relations, Brazil</li> </ul> <p>Break</p> <p>Dinner (courtesy of the Curitiba City Government)</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, 27 March 2007</b>  <b>8:30 – 11:00 a.m.</b></p>	<p>Breakout sessions in working groups</p> <p><b>WORKING GROUP 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor Naidoo (Political head responsible for Biodiversity and Conservation, Johannesburg, South Africa)</li> <li>• Mr. Helio Neves (Chief of Staff of the Secretariat of Environment, Sao Paulo, Brazil)</li> <li>• Mr. Kiyohiko Hayashi (Director-General of the Department of Environment, Aichi Prefecture, Nagoya, Japan, host candidate of COP10 to be held in 2010)</li> <li>• Adv. Clarismino Luiz Pereira Junior (Secretary for Environment, Goiania City Government, Brazil)</li> </ul> <p><b>WORKING GROUP 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor Waititu (Deputy Mayor of Nairobi, Kenya)</li> <li>• Mr. Beto Moesch (Secretary of Environment, Porto Alegre, Brazil)</li> <li>• Mr. Gilles Vincent (Director of the Montreal Botanical Garden, Montreal, Canada)</li> <li>• Councillor Brian Watkyns (Councillor and Chairperson of</li> </ul>

<b>11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.</b>	<p>Planning and Environment Committee, Cape Town, South Africa)</p> <p>Formal launch of the Biocity Initiative at the Curitiba Botanical Gardens and inauguration of a new greenhouse with endemic and threatened flora. Participants will be taken back to the Barigüi Park Complex.</p>
<b>Tuesday, 27 March 2007 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.</b>	<p>Item 5: Identification of areas of collaboration in working groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Briefing by facilitators on last days' results and outline of procedure</li> <li>• Plenary session for integration</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, 28 March 2007 9:30 a.m. – 1p.m.</b>	<p>Co-Chairs take up the plenary</p> <p>Item 6: Other matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An introduction to the International Training Centres for Local Authorities/Actors (CIFAL) by Mr. Nicolas Frizon de Lamotte</li> <li>• Announcement on the upcoming "International Conference Urban Biodiversity and Design - Implementing the Convention of Biological Diversity in towns and cities" by Prof. Norbert Müller</li> </ul> <p>Item 7: Adoption of the Curitiba Declaration on Cities and Biodiversity</p> <p>Item 8: Closure of the meeting, signature of a Memorandum of Cooperation between the Secretariat of the CBD and UNITAR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary, CBD</li> <li>• Mr. Beto Richa, Mayor of Curitiba, Brazil</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, 28 March 2007 2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.</b>	<p>Visit to Barigüi Park and biodiversity-friendly public facilities. Options to visit technical facilities.</p>

*Annex IV***CITIES AND BIODIVERSITY: ACHIEVING THE 2010 BIODIVERSITY TARGET*****Background Document for Working Group 1 and Working Group 2: Managing Urban Biodiversity and Promoting Awareness through Communities*****The Challenge**

As of 2007, the Earth's population will be mostly urban. At the same time, one of the world's most critical resources, biodiversity, is threatened as never before, with serious consequences for climate change, availability of water, nutrition and food, health and many other ecosystem services. A significant part of the activities leading to the achievement of Goal 7 of the Millennium Development Goals (environmental sustainability) will be played out in cities and urban environment, involving local governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society as a whole. Cities are also places of hope, of remarkable cultural, social and political productivity and provide economies of scale. It is here that knowledge of our future environment is shaped and decisions made.

The sustainable use of our natural resources is an essential condition for the reduction of poverty, the achievement of sustainable development and the improvement of the conditions of life on Earth. It is also a moral obligation as future generations cannot survive without functioning ecosystems. Several biodiversity challenges that are specific to cities, including habitat loss through urban sprawl, incorporating biodiversity design principles in infrastructural development, and the need to substantially increase public awareness of biodiversity issues, are becoming some of the most urgent issues on a local, national, regional and international scale, as the ecological footprint of cities is growing. Urbanization has several implications on ecosystems and biodiversity. First, knowledge about and contact with nature diminishes as the number of rural dwellers decreases. Second, cities become managers and users of biodiversity as they depend on it for the provision of natural resources and ecosystem services. Third, the urban poor who depend even more than the rich on these services for food, water, fuel and building materials, are both a cause for and a victim of the depletion of these resources. Fourth, with urban growth, ecosystems are affected and their services to cities are diminished. Relations with the hinterland become more important as cities have to go further and further away to find vital resources.

**Role of Cities**

Local authorities represent the level of government closest to people. Thus, their involvement in the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the achievement of the 2010 target is of crucial importance. Actions at the local level can have direct and obvious results that can convince others of the need to get involved. Local governments also need to convince national governments of the importance of involving them in national and other higher-level biodiversity strategies.

Integration of biodiversity concerns into development planning can be cost-efficient while ensuring that urban centers grow in a sustainable manner. Adequate planning allows cities to reduce consumption of natural resources and production of waste, and can also provide incentives for investing in renewable energy. Intact urban ecosystems such as wetlands act as water catchment areas, buffer zones against flooding, purify soil, water and air or act as carbon sinks. It is especially the urban poor who depend on ecosystems since they cannot afford to purchase services. Some parts of a city are biological deserts (e.g. paved surfaces, manicured lawns) while others can be rich in wildlife (e.g. urban wetlands, abandoned industrial sites). With the creation of urban parks and green median strips, residents can enjoy beautiful surroundings that also provide areas more suitable for wildlife.

Cities have the power to establish local environmental policies and regulations, such as landscaping guidelines and pollution/emissions standards. They can also integrate biodiversity considerations into other local policies, land-use planning, and the development and operation of



infrastructure, such as transportation and water management systems. One obstacle to the achievement of the 2010 target is the lack of capacity within city administrations, especially in some developing countries.

### **Engagement with stakeholders**

Cities have the ability to bring together stakeholders such as business, education, citizens, and non-governmental organizations to participate in the efforts to preserve and use biodiversity in a sustainable manner. *A primary objective is to create an awareness of biodiversity and its importance for human well-being.* By integrating outreach, education and communication strategies into the plans and budgets for parks, nature reserves, natural history museums and zoos, cities can help raise awareness of the importance of biodiversity. *A secondary objective is to create an awareness of impacts of individual consumption patterns and other behaviour on biodiversity* and the ability of ecosystems to provide services. Through modifying behaviour around issues such as waste disposal and recycling, pest management and chemicals, water usage, and organic food and decorative gardening, significant benefits to biodiversity can accrue.

### **What is happening out there?**

Several initiatives have been developed regarding the involvement of local authorities in the global efforts to achieve sustainable development and to reduce the loss of biodiversity.

- IUCN's Countdown 2010 programme is broadening its European scope to include other parts of the world.
- International Council for Local Environment Initiatives (ICLEI) in conjunction with IUCN and other partners, including 20 cities, is engaged in a new project called Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB), which recognizes the importance of local authorities halting the loss of biodiversity in urban areas and of integrating such strategies into overall city planning.
- UNEP, working closely with ICLEI, is exploring the viability of a Global Alliance to take forward the issues of biodiversity in an urban context.

### **The Response in Curitiba: Identifying areas of collaboration**

Participants in the breakout sessions (Working Groups 1 and 2) are being asked to identify elements of a plan of action on Cities and Biodiversity towards the 2010 target. In building these elements, participants are encouraged to look at areas of greatest concern, best practices that are transferable, elements for joint projects and exchanges with suggested fundraising mechanisms, and on building and strengthening partnerships. Plenary key note inputs, city presentations within the breakout sessions plus formal and informal discussion should be used in building the plan of action.

## **Working Group 1**

Participants of Working Group 1 will discuss how to integrate biodiversity into urban planning and how to promote biodiversity-friendly infrastructure and development.

### ***1. Integrating biodiversity into urban planning:***

Under this theme, participants will discuss policy options for integrating biodiversity into city planning, such as different policy approaches, planning and decision-making tools, legislation, and incentives. Items for discussion may include:

- Urban biodiversity action plans and strategies based on Local Agenda 21 processes: social inclusion and community development
- Applying the ecosystem approach to urban environments: connections beyond the suburbs
- Climate change, biodiversity and cities: adaptation measures, microclimates and biodiversity: avoiding the heat island effect, planning for reduced emissions
- Policy tools, legislation and regulations, operational licensing/permit guidelines, emission and pollution standards and norms, incentives for biodiversity-friendly developments

- Payment for ecosystem services of green urban areas (water, temperature regulation, recreation, soil fertility, gene banks)
- Work with private sector, trade associations, and business and investment promotion agencies to enhance market benefits of biodiversity to business in urban areas through corporate social responsibility, benchmark programs and incentives

Some issues to be considered:

- How can ecosystems help with development and poverty reduction in the city?
- What decision-making tools can be developed to ensure that biodiversity principles / parameters are placed on an equal footing with hard economic arguments in decision-making involving tough trade-offs in urban development.

## ***2. Promoting biodiversity-friendly urban development***

Participants will have an opportunity to exchange experience on technical solutions for biodiversity-friendly infrastructure. Such solutions need to be low-cost and replicable in different social, economic and cultural contexts. The discussion can focus on the following points:

- Urban design, architecture and land-use planning considering biodiversity (development plans and participatory planning strategies, cluster arrangements, corridors and protected areas)
- Urban development and building, housing and construction/development
- Biodiversity-friendly public infrastructure and utilities (waste, water, energy, industrial parks) and transportation (roads, airports, railways and urban trains)
- Provide technical assistance and support to private developers, building and construction companies, and design/architecture firms and professional associations for biodiversity-friendly design and developments

Some issues to be considered:

- Can cities in developing countries afford biodiversity friendly infrastructure? Are there low-cost, effective solutions that have been successful?
- How can building and planning regulations be enforced?
- What would it take to really turn around biodiversity loss and degradation within an urban context? What incentives and penalties could make a difference?

## **Working Group 2**

Participants in Working Group 2 will focus on managing urban biodiversity (with an emphasis on specific elements within urban areas, such as nature reserves, city parks, recreational open space and urban agriculture projects, which have the potential either to promote or detract from biodiversity) and promoting awareness of biodiversity to urban communities. Some of these issues are summarized below:

### ***1. Managing urban biodiversity:***

It is important to look at specific elements of biodiversity within cities, which provide both opportunities and threats. The Working Group will identify some ways of enhancing these opportunities (for example restoring riparian wetlands along river corridors) and also strategize on how to deal with specific threats (for example, dealing with invasive systems). The following are applicable:

- Managing protected areas/urban parks and use conflicts, research centres, conservation corridors in green belts around cities through systems such as biosphere reserves; also areas which offer biodiversity habitat even though not created for this purpose – e.g. rail / road corridors, industrial sites and quarries, golf courses etc
- Conservation of urban riparian, aquatic and wetland ecosystems, watershed basins (including restoration of such facilities)
- Promoting and supporting biodiversity facilities such as botanical gardens, zoos, aquaria, theme parks, museums
- Management of invasive alien species in urban environments

- Information and monitoring systems on urban biodiversity

Some issues to be considered:

- Issues / challenges around managing ecosystems within an urban context in order to provide services to cities
- Identifying what adds value and what detracts from broadening biological diversity within cities (and how to enhance the former and negate the latter)
- How can existing world programmes and initiatives promote the management of urban biodiversity?

## **2. Promoting awareness of biodiversity to urban communities:**

Success in implementing successful models to conserve and sustain biodiversity within an urban context cannot be attained through the actions of a few. It is vital that all sectors of society catch and respond to the vision of the importance of sustaining and enhancing biodiversity within an urban context. Local Government's role may primarily be to facilitate the awareness-raising of broad stakeholders and to offer guidelines. The following will be considered within this Working Group:

- Sustainable (and biodiversity-friendly) consumption guidelines, consumer education for life cycle analysis and biodiversity implications of consumption
- Encouraging social participation through urban beautification projects, tree planting and landscaping, community and home/roof gardens and green roofs
- Ensuring that public and private executives and decision makers take account of the contribution of biodiversity to quality of life, social justice and health
- Promoting environmental education through recreation and awareness campaigns

Some issues to be considered:

- Differences in cultural understanding of biodiversity requires differences in approach to involve communities in promotion of biodiversity in cities
- How can citizens see value in urban parks and other biodiversity areas within cities and what communication tools could be used to attract them?
- Benefit of biodiversity to the urban poor
- Building stewardship programmes to enhance environmental and social wellbeing

## **Modalities**

Participants are invited to make presentations under these themes. We would like to give as many speakers the floor and leave as much room for discussion and interaction as possible. We would therefore request presentations to take no longer than 10-15 min.

*Annex V*

**AREAS OF COLLABORATION – OUTPUTS OF ITEM 5**

**Challenges**

- Pressures: Urbanization, encroachment, illegal settlements, urban economic development, loss of habitat;
- Socio-economic challenges: poverty, lack of human and financial resources, illegal deforestation and hunting, lack of knowledge, protected areas are without economic value;
- Local challenges: Standardized landscaping, aged and outdated infrastructure, waste discharge, pollution of water bodies;
- Global environmental threats: Climate change, invasive species.

**Lessons learned and solutions**

- Solutions lie within cities themselves;
- You cannot have a healthy society without protection of biodiversity;
- Communities directly depend on ecosystems;
- It's much cheaper to preserve ecosystems than paying for end-of-pipe technologies or recreating habitats and ecosystems later;
- Every city can change within 3 years – financial resources or level of development are no impediment;
- Correlation between ecological integrity and viability.

<b>What we need:</b>	<b>How we can get there:</b>
Political leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify champions in cities for each term of office;</li> <li>▪ Perseverance.</li> </ul>
Vision for the city	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Public participation;</li> <li>▪ Sustainable use of natural resources.</li> </ul>
Sensitive spacial planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Planning in favour of undeveloped areas;</li> <li>▪ Integration of biodiversity into urban plans;</li> <li>▪ Biodiversity treated as a platform infrastructure just like transport etc.;</li> <li>▪ Increase green spaces, forests and protected areas in a way that is compatible with city development and growth;</li> <li>▪ Create green corridors or systems of city-wide interconnected green spaces to promote species migration.</li> </ul>
Implementation tools for management of urban biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environmental impact assessments of development projects;</li> <li>▪ Monitoring: by involving local communities (river pollution assessment kits distributed to schools);</li> <li>▪ Communication with land owners;</li> <li>▪ Establish the economic value of open space system;</li> <li>▪ Land acquisition by municipality;</li> <li>▪ Breeding programmes for endangered species;</li> <li>▪ Bring biodiversity closer to people and people into biodiversity;</li> <li>▪ Build living places through introduction of biodiversity;</li> <li>▪ Urban legal reserve which limits human interventions such as tree felling;</li> <li>▪ Tree planting: establish a target per inhabitant (trees have shown to provide oxygen for 4 persons and an 8°C</li> </ul>

What we need:	How we can get there:
	<p>difference has been recorded between green areas and “concrete” areas);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No cutting of branches allowed in birds’ nesting season;</li> <li>▪ List of invasive species and monitoring of alien species.</li> </ul>
Create strategic partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ With local communities;</li> <li>▪ National and provincial governments;</li> <li>▪ With other cities (nationally and globally), e.g. City Friends of the the Amazon;</li> <li>▪ Private sector (“What is good for communities is also good for business”);</li> <li>▪ NGOs;</li> <li>▪ Donor agencies;</li> <li>▪ Other departments of the same city.</li> </ul>
Fundraising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Local authorities develop a project and propose it to private sector for implementation.</li> </ul>
Participatory approach and community involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Early negotiation with communities supported by assessments;</li> <li>▪ Clear goals that can be met;</li> <li>▪ Manage rehabilitated areas with communities that formerly occupied them;</li> <li>▪ Constant contact with communities through social and health workers;</li> <li>▪ Give people viable alternatives and meet local needs (provide new housing, nursery for medicinal plants used by traditional healers);</li> <li>▪ Getting land owners to “adopt a tree” outside their porperty - can reduce vandalism by 80%.</li> </ul>
Create benefits for poor communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Job creation in biodiversity management;</li> <li>▪ Make fruits of policies visible to citizens, planning needs to contribute to well-being.</li> </ul>
Awareness raising and education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Consumer awareness and campaigns on products from far-away ecosystems, promoting fair trade (e.g. Amazon);</li> <li>▪ Campaigns on local organic farming;</li> <li>▪ Promoting sustainable lifestyles;</li> <li>▪ Botanical gardens have evolved to become interactive: it is no longer sufficient to simply see/observe;</li> <li>▪ Public fairs, lectures, excursions, free environmental university, eco-bus, eco-library, environmental village;</li> <li>▪ Educate children to change future consumption habits;</li> <li>▪ Establish a target for environmental education: 10% of children population = number of environmental education days;</li> <li>▪ Environment and health programmes;</li> <li>▪ Children fish invasive fish species;</li> <li>▪ River pollution assessment kits distributed to schools, visualization of results;</li> <li>▪ “Plant Life” (tree planting of indigenous species for citizens who sign an agreement of responsibility).</li> </ul>
Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Integrated environmental management policies;</li> <li>▪ Integrated programmes across city boundaries (e.g. with provinial governments);</li> </ul>

What we need:	How we can get there:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Green by-laws;</li> <li>▪ Enforcement mechanisms through decentralization of power, giving legislative authority to municipalities;</li> <li>▪ Energy adaptation policies and strategies in favour of biodiversity, e.g. 2% mix of biofuels as city by-law.</li> <li>▪ Green procurement.</li> </ul>
Compliance through incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Get developers to cooperate with sustainable policies by giving tax incentives: no tax/rates payable where land is used for biodiversity;</li> <li>▪ Incentives for land owners to protect biodiversity: “servitudes”;</li> <li>▪ “Offsetting policy” or “no net loss policy” where developers are given development rights on inner city sites instead of biodiversity-sensitive sites.</li> </ul>
Compliance through penalties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Municipal environmental police;</li> <li>▪ 24 hour green telephone where citizens can report environmental aggressions;</li> <li>▪ Developers have to “off-set” environmental impact by financing green strips/parks along highways or paying compensation, replacing felled trees;</li> <li>▪ Monitoring systems.</li> </ul>
Locally adapted technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ “Bio Lung” (green wall that absorbs CO2 emissions and avoids heat island effect);</li> <li>▪ Integrated horticulture programmes to reduce use of pesticides;</li> <li>▪ Use of species as “green tools”, e.g. as noise barriers, erosion control, decontamination and carbon sinks.</li> </ul>
Sector examples:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Transform waste into economic assets, food for waste programmes;</li> <li>▪ Engage in carbon trading around land fills for methane reduction;</li> <li>▪ Bus Rapid Transport Systems: quicker, cheaper, easier to implement. Future lies in integration of transport systems, systems must not compete. Five compromises: 1. Less use of cars; 2. Separate waste; 3. Mixed use (bring living and working closer together); 4. Sustainability equation is spending – savings; 5. Reoccupy city centres.</li> </ul>

## Areas of Collaboration

- a) Information exchange and dialogue: Use positive success stories and share experiences nationally (through city associations) and globally (through partnerships).
- b) Promoting cooperation: City-to-city cooperation; project partnerships between cities; partnership of global research centers linked together to share info; rally multiple parties around 2010 target.
- c) Strengthening of local-national dialogue: Use institutionalized mechanisms with legislative and normative power.
- d) Support to local action: Development of tools to integrate biodiversity into city planning.
- e) Promotion of research and development of up-to-date data in cooperation with universities.
- f) Training and capacity building of stakeholders and environmental education.
- g) Commit to global environmental goals and action.
- h) Create political capital at local level through a global partnership and global visibility.

*Annex VI***CURITIBA DECLARATION ON CITIES AND BIODIVERSITY**

*We the Mayors and other high-level officials participating in the meeting on Cities and Biodiversity held in Curitiba, Brazil, from 26 to 28 March 2007,*

*Recalling* the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity and its three objectives aimed at 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,

*Deeply concerned* by the unprecedented rate of loss of biodiversity of our planet and its far-reaching environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts, exacerbated by the effects of climate change,

*Deeply concerned also* that the consequences of biodiversity loss and ecosystem disruption are harshest for the poor and that biodiversity loss poses a significant barrier to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, especially Goal 7, to ensure environmental sustainability,

*Reaffirming* that healthy ecosystems provide social, economic and ecological benefits to urban areas, as well as goods and services that underpin various industries, and, thereby, the well-being of the residents of cities,

*Recalling* the adoption of the 2010 biodiversity target during the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, aiming to significantly reduce the rate of biodiversity loss at the local, national and global levels, as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on Earth,

*Recalling* the commitment by Heads of State in the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development and reflected in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to negotiate an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources (ABS),

*Recalling also* that, at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Curitiba, Brazil, in 2006, the Convention on Biological Diversity entered a new phase of enhanced implementation of its three objectives, and the Parties agreed to accelerate the efforts to achieve the 2010 biodiversity target and to negotiate an international regime on access and benefit sharing (ABS) at the earliest possible time before the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in 2010,

*Considering* that in 2007 the majority of the Earth's population will live in cities, and that much of this growth will occur in developing countries,

*Recognizing* the crucial importance of the involvement of local authorities in the global efforts towards the protection and sustainable use of biodiversity, as it is through local actions that biodiversity issues are addressed most efficiently,

*Recognizing* that particularly in the developing countries, communities are directly dependent on ecosystems goods and services provided by biodiversity,

*Considering* that urbanization can contribute positively to human development as cities offer many social and economic opportunities,

*Underlining* that urban experiences in ecosystem conservation and biodiversity protection can contribute to strengthening national policies, regional strategies, and global agendas that respond to urban needs,

*Recalling* that the role of local authorities was acknowledged during the 1992 Earth Summit: in adopting chapter 28 of Agenda 21, 101 Heads of State and Government recognized local authorities as key actors in sustainable development and called for the establishment of Local Agenda 21 campaigns,

*Recognizing* the important support provided by the inter-agency task force constituted to support this event with the participation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), and IUCN—the World Conservation Union, in particular through its Countdown 2010 initiative,

*Recognizing* the contribution to the task force of ICLEI—Local Governments for Sustainability, and noting the important contribution of ICLEI's Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB) Project in mobilizing key cities and promoting the exchange of experience on urban biodiversity best practices to foster the international cooperation of municipal leaders on achieving 2010 biodiversity target,

*Underlining* the importance of institutions such as United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), as well as the World Mayors' Council on Climate Change (WMCCC) and its biodiversity component, in the cooperation between local governments,

*Recognizing* the importance of the cooperation between key cities for the Convention on Biological Diversity, which also stand as global references for their initiatives on urban biodiversity, such as Curitiba, as host of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Bonn, as host of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Nagoya, as representative of the candidate cities for the hosting of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and Montreal as host of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

*Considering* the value and importance of the case-studies, best practices and experiences presented during this conference, which are contributions to address the issue of environmental degradation,

1. *Reaffirm* our commitment to contribute actively to the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and to the achievement of the 2010 biodiversity target aimed at reducing substantially the rate of loss of the biodiversity of our planet, as well as the establishment of an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources (ABS);

2. *Reaffirm also* our resolve to integrate biodiversity concerns into urban planning and development, with a view to improving the lives of urban residents, in particular those affected by poverty, securing the livelihood base of cities and developing appropriate regulatory, implementation and decision-making mechanisms to ensure effective implementation of biodiversity plans,

3. *Further reaffirm* the urgency to act on the 2010 biodiversity target and the Millennium Development Goals to secure livelihoods for present and future generations in a sustainable way. To this end, we welcome the coming together of existing initiatives, such as Countdown 2010, Local Action for Biodiversity, and the UNEP Campaign on Cities and Biodiversity to form a global partnership of cities, national Governments, development agencies, private sector partners, non-governmental organizations, knowledge and research institutions, and multilateral organizations to address the challenges of meeting the 2010 biodiversity target and create political momentum at local level;

4. *Stress the need* to raise public awareness and change biodiversity depleting behaviour of all sectors of society through means such as dissemination of urban success stories, city-to-city cooperation, community education programmes and by celebrating International Biodiversity Day on 22 May every year as well as actively contributing to marking the 2010 International Year for Biodiversity as proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations, in ways which directly and indirectly enhance the lives of communities;

5. *Invite* the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to make available to larger public the case studies presented at the meeting, with a view of establishing with the support of the task force and advise of the Curitiba Steering Committee, a clearing-house mechanism for local authorities and to provide access, via its website, to information related to urban biodiversity;



6. *Encourage* UNEP to assemble a publication of case studies from around the world, on cities, ecosystems and biodiversity, in collaboration with UN-HABITAT and ICLEI;

7. *Invite* the Mayor of Montreal, as the official representative of UCLG to this event, to present the report of this meeting on cities and biodiversity to its World Congress in Jeju, South Korea, in October 2007;

8. *Invite* the Mayor of Curitiba to present the report of this meeting on cities and biodiversity to the Municipal Conference to be held from 26 to 27 May 2008 in Bonn, Germany, prior to the high-level segment of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and *invite* representatives of the Curitiba meeting to present its report to the next World Urban Forum, to be held in Nanjing, China, in 2008, and to other related events;

9. *Mandate* the Mayor of Curitiba, as the host city of the eight meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and the Mayor of Montreal, as the host city of the Secretariat of the Convention, as well as the Mayor of Bonn, as the host city of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the Mayor of Nagoya, Japan, as the city offering to host the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to act as a Steering Committee in order to develop synergies between existing associations, such as ICLEI (WMCCC) and UCLG, and the task force established for the current meeting, to carry a strong common message, and to follow up through concrete projects, awareness campaigns and exchange of best practices;

10. *Invite* the four mayors of the Steering Committee and the Mayor of Johannesburg to work together to present the results of the Curitiba and the Bonn meetings on cities and biodiversity to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be held from 19 to 31 May 2008 in Bonn, Germany;

11. *Express our deep gratitude* to the city government of Curitiba, through its Mayor, city officials, and population, for the warm welcome granted to all participants in the meeting on Cities and Biodiversity, and *congratulate* the city government for its unique and innovative Biocity initiative.

Curitiba, Brazil, 28 March 2007

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