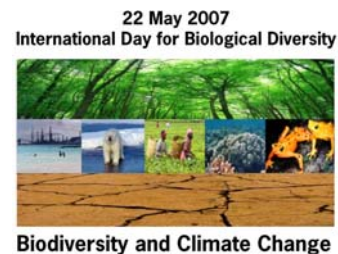




Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



Ref: SCBD/OES/AD/fd/57345

6 February 2007

Subject: International Day for Biological Diversity 2007

Dear Madam/Sir,

As you will recall the theme for the International Day for Biological Diversity (IBD) in 2007 is 'Biodiversity and Climate Change' which will be celebrated on 22 May. The expectations for a successful IBD this year are high, especially given the recent global attention on this topic, including the recently released report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

With this in mind, I invite all Parties to begin their preparations for celebrating IBD 2007. In order to help promote awareness, the Secretariat has produced a poster reflecting this year's theme along with a brochure entitled "*Biodiversity and Climate Change*" and a series of fact sheets. These will be sent by post to National Focal Points in the days to come. The Secretariat is also embarking in the preparation of a special issue of "*GINCANA*" devoted to Biodiversity and Climate Change. The magazine will be translated in the six official UN languages and distributed widely at the occasion of this year's celebration of the International Day for Biological Diversity.

All of these materials are available on the website of the Secretariat at: <http://www.biodiv.org/programmes/outreach/awareness/biodiv-day-2007.shtml>. I invite you to use these materials to enhance your own celebrations of IBD.

Lastly, the Secretariat will make available to all Parties its Press Release and messages marking the occasion from the United Nations Secretary-General and other dignitaries.

To: CBD National Focal Points



In keeping with the spirit of the IBD celebrations, and to build on last year's successful "Desert and Desertification" photo gallery, the Secretariat would like to invite all Parties to share their photographs depicting biodiversity and climate change. Please send your photos by email, to: secretariat@biodiv.org.

In closing, I would like to request Parties, that have already initiated national plans for activities to celebrate the International Day for Biological Diversity, to kindly keep the Secretariat informed of such plans and other noteworthy activities organized by Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and / or other organizations in order that these may be included on the special pages of the CBD web site devoted to the International Day for Biological Diversity 2007.

Please accept, Madam/ Sir the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary