



# Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



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25 September 2008

## NOTIFICATION

### Online Dialogue on Biodiversity and Climate Change

Dear Sir/Madam,

The ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) convened an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on biodiversity and climate change through its decision IX/16.

Further, the Conference of the Parties, through paragraph 7(b) of annex III to decision IX/16, requested that the Executive Secretary, in preparing documentation for the AHTEG, especially noting the need to ensure scientific credibility and timely information, convenes an ad hoc internet-based discussion group so as to identify major issues related to the items included in the AHTEG agenda.

The first meeting of the AHTEG will address scientific and technical matters concerning the links between biodiversity and climate change with regards to (i) identifying risks and vulnerabilities and (ii) impacts and opportunities from climate change mitigation.

Accordingly, I am pleased to invite you to join the internet-based discussion group available from 6 October, 2008 at: [www.cbd.int/climate/forums/public/](http://www.cbd.int/climate/forums/public/).

This discussion group will seek views from Parties, other governments and relevant organizations on the following:

- Tools or methodologies that can be employed to assess the vulnerability of biodiversity to climate change;
- Steps taken to mobilize components of biodiversity to reduce risk and damage associated with climate change impacts;
- Steps taken to realize multiple benefits for carbon sequestration, and biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in a range of ecosystems;
- Tools or methodologies that can be employed in order to ensure that actions for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation support the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; and

**To :** National Focal Points



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- Information on assessing and addressing possible negative impacts on biodiversity and / or livelihoods of indigenous and local communities that may arise from reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.

The discussion group will run in two parts. Views on the issues above will be collected from the 6 to 10 October 2008. A summary of views will then be compiled and the dialogue will reopen with an additional set of questions from 13 to 17 October 2008. The online dialogue is open to all and does not require the submission of information on participants to the Secretariat.

In addition to the discussion group, Parties are invited to submit views on ways to integrate biodiversity considerations into climate-change related activities as per paragraph B.13 of decision IX/16. This online forum is accessible at: [www.cbd.int/climate/forums/party/](http://www.cbd.int/climate/forums/party/) and will be open from the 6 to 17 October 2008. The submission of views by Parties requires prior registration therefore, please send the name and email address of the participant from your country to the Secretariat via Ms. Jaime Webbe (jaime.webbe@cbd.int).

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif  
Executive Secretary