



Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



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3 March 2009

NOTIFICATION International Year of Biodiversity

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to draw your attention to decision 25/3 adopted by the Governing Council / Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme at its 25th session held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 16-20 February 2009.

In its decision, the Governing Council *invites Governments and relevant organizations to plan and undertake appropriate activities to commemorate and celebrate the International Year of Biodiversity 2010 spirit and to contribute to the success of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in 2010.*

Furthermore, the Governing Council *requests the Executive director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, to provide the active and full support of the UNEP in the preparations and organization of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, consistent with the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme in this regard.*

Lastly, the Governing Council also *requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to collaborate with the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to promote cooperation between and coordination of international organizations and non-governmental organizations, and thereby to maximize effectively contributions to the biodiversity agenda.*

In light of the above, I will kindly invite you to keep the Secretariat informed of any activity that your government intends to undertake to celebrate this important event, which will also coincide with the convening of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to be held in Nagoya, Japan, on 18-29 October 2010.

Mr. David Ainsworth is the designated focal point at the Secretariat. He can be contacted at IYB2010@cbd.int.

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

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary

To: CBD National Focal Points



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