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7 August 2014

NOTIFICATION

High-Level Segment of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity 15-16 October 2014 – Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea

Madam/Sir,

The Secretariat is pleased to forward to you the invitation sent from the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea, His Excellency Mr. Yoon Seongkyu, addressed to the Ministers responsible for the Convention on Biological Diversity, to attend the High-level Segment (HLS) of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 12) to the Convention on Biological Diversity. The HLS will be held from 15 to 16 October 2014 in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea. The draft programme for the two-day event and the registration form for the HLS are attached herewith, together with the draft text of the “Gangwon Declaration on Biodiversity for Sustainable Development”, which the HLS may wish to adopt. Confirmation of attendance HLS should be sent to Ms. Hyunjoo Lee in the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea at: HLS@cbdcop12.kr.

Furthermore, I would like to draw to your attention on an important High-level event on the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI), scheduled to be held on 16 October 2014 in parallel with a session of the HLS on Biodiversity, Climate Change and the Creative Economy. Please find attached the invitation letter sent by the Minister of Oceans and Fisheries which provides more details. In the event that the Minister intends to attend this session, confirmation of attendance should be sent to Ms. Seulgi Lee in the Korea Maritime Institute at: soireg2014@gmail.com.

Please be informed that a Press Centre will be made available to all Heads of States and Governments who may wish to launch initiatives or to give press interviews. All requests should be submitted directly to Mr. David Ainsworth, Information Officer, at david.ainsworth@cbd.int, who will be responsible for scheduling all press events. In addition, building on the success of our previous COPs, a series of parallel events and side events will, once again, be taking place for the duration of the up-coming meeting. A brief description of these events is attached herewith, for ease of reference.

Although the Government of the Republic of Korea has disseminated the invitation to the HLS through its diplomatic channels, we would greatly appreciate if you could also ensure that the enclosed invitations are brought to the kind attention of your respective Ministers.

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

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary

Enclosure

To: CBD National Focal Points



Convention on
Biological Diversity

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31 July, 2014

Excellency,

I would like to cordially remind you of the 12th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 12), the 7th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol (COP-MOP 7), and the 1st Meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol (COP-MOP 1), which will be held at the Alpensia Convention Center, Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, from 29 September to 17 October 2014, as introduced in the earlier invitation sent on 26 March 2014.

As previously announced, the COP 12 will undertake the mid-term review of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, on the basis of preparatory work carried out under the Convention as well as the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, which will be launched on the opening day of the COP 12.

I also would like to invite you to the High-Level Segment (HLS), which will be held from 15 to 16 October 2014, under the theme of “Biodiversity for Sustainable Development.” During the HLS, a press center will be available in order to accommodate the invited participants in case of interview or initiative launching. For your information, Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) High-level Meeting will be held as a parallel session of the HLS on 16 October 2014. More information is available in the draft programme of the HLS enclosed to this letter.

During the HLS, “Gangwon Declaration on Biodiversity for Sustainable Development” is expected to be adopted to support “Pyeongchang Roadmap 2020” for the enhanced implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity targets. It will be an important message from CBD to the UN General Assembly as it works to finalize the post-2015 UN development agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For your information, after the review by the Parties, the draft of the Declaration has been finalized, and the name has been changed from “Pyeongchang Declaration” accordingly. The final draft of the Declaration is enclosed to this letter.

Upon acceptance of this invitation, please complete the attached Delegation Request Form and return it to Ms. Hyunjoo LEE via email (HLS@cbdcop12.kr) **no later than 25 August 2014**. Your confirmation would be highly appreciated, and more detailed information will be provided after the registration.

I wish to take this opportunity to encourage your participation in the High-Level Segment (HLS) of the 12th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 12) as your leadership is necessary in addressing the global issues in biodiversity for sustainable development, and I look forward to greeting you in Pyeongchang.

Yours sincerely,

Yoon Seongkyu
Minister of Environment
Republic of Korea



Government Complex Sejong Bldg.#5
94, Dasom2-Ro, Sejong City, 339-012
The Republic of Korea

July 21th, 2014

Your Excellency,

I would like to take this opportunity to cordially invite you to the Sustainable Ocean Initiative High-level Meeting, to be held on 16 October 2014 in Pyeongchang, the Republic of Korea, in conjunction with the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 12) to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its tenth meeting (COP 10) in 2010, laid out an ambitious agenda to reverse the trends of biodiversity loss, in particular in marine and coastal areas.

The Sustainable Ocean Initiative was developed at COP 10 as a mechanism for greater collaboration between relevant international and regional organizations and for systematic capacity building of developing countries in order to facilitate achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets related to marine and coastal biodiversity, which has not been as much discussed as terrestrial biodiversity.

These particular targets will require strategic, coordinated, and targeted efforts by a range of stakeholders across all sectors to make tangible progress. To this end, the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) has been pursuing a variety of measures to strengthen global partnership and build capacity.

The Government of the Republic of Korea hosted the International Exposition Yeosu Korea 2012 under the theme of conservation of the marine environment and sustainable development. As a result, the Yeosu Declaration was adopted. The declaration embodies principles such as ecosystem-based management of marine resources and capacity-building support for developing countries to address ocean-related concerns.

Mindful of the principles of the declaration, the Government of the Republic of Korea, supports the vision and mission of the Sustainable Ocean Initiative and will be hosting the above-mentioned meeting at the venue of COP 12 in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat.



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The Republic of Korea, as a country with a separate government body, the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries, dedicated to systematic development and implementation of comprehensive policies regarding the marine sector, including conservation of the marine environment, marine science and technology, marine spatial management, fisheries resources management, and support for the marine industry, hopes to contribute to making further progress in international collaboration and operation with a view to meeting the Aichi Biodiversity Targets related to marine and coastal biodiversity by hosting the Sustainable Ocean Initiative High-level Meeting.

In line with the mid-term review of the implementation of the Strategic Plan, and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets to be undertaken by COP 12, this Sustainable Ocean Initiative High-level Meeting aims at developing action plans of the SOI. This meeting is also expected to serve as an opportunity to mobilize a broad range of technical and scientific cooperation and build greater capacity to accelerate current efforts by countries toward achieving the Global Biodiversity Targets, particularly in marine and coastal areas.

In view of your commitments to marine biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, I am very confident that your presence at this meeting would significantly contribute to constructive discussions and conclusion.

I look forward to greeting you in Pyeongchang and I sincerely hope to cooperate more closely with you in this great endeavor.

Lee Ju -young
Minister
The Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries
The Republic of Korea



GANGWON DECLARATION ON BIODIVERSITY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

We, the Ministers and other heads of delegation, having met in Pyeongchang, Gangwon Province, Republic of Korea, on 15 to 16 October 2014, on the occasion of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

Recalling the three main objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity: the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, and their crucial importance to sustainable development;

Recalling the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its tenth meeting, held in Nagoya, in October 2010, and its 2050 Vision: "Living in Harmony with Nature" where "By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet, and delivering benefits essential for all people";

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development ("Rio+20", Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 20-22 June 2012), entitled "The future we want" which, inter alia, (1) reaffirmed the intrinsic value of biological diversity, as well as the ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational, and aesthetic values of biological diversity and its critical role in maintaining ecosystems that provide essential services, which are critical foundations for sustainable development and human well-being; (2) recognized the severity of the global loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystems; (3) emphasized that these undermine global development, affecting food security and nutrition, the provision of and access to water and the health of the rural poor and of people worldwide, including present and future generations; and (4) affirmed the importance of implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

Acknowledging that biodiversity, the variety of life on Earth, contributes directly to human well-being in many ways, and is also a critical foundation of the Earth's life support system on which the welfare of present and future generations depends;

Recognizing that many economic sectors depend on biodiversity and ecosystem services, including the water supply, agriculture, fishery, forestry, health, education, nutrition, energy, transport and tourism sectors, and that biodiversity is the basis for sustainable livelihoods and traditional knowledge, which are especially important to poor and vulnerable groups;

Noting that the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the restoration of ecosystems can improve ecosystem functioning and resilience and thereby contribute to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, guarantee the provision of clean and secure supplies of water, protect coasts and watersheds, and reduce vulnerability to disasters;

Further noting that the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the restoration of ecosystems can support livelihoods, create new jobs, and provide important contribution to a creative economy;

Recognizing that mainstreaming biodiversity into wider sectoral policies, through the integration of conservation and the sustainable use of biodiversity into various sectors, is critical to the advancement of sustainable development;

Aware of and wishing to contribute to the ongoing discussions within the United Nations on a post-2015 development agenda and the elaboration of sustainable development goals;



1. *Welcome* the progress made by Parties to the Convention and governments in developing national biodiversity strategies and action plans for implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
2. *Note*, however, the conclusions of the fourth Global Biodiversity Outlook that current progress is not sufficient to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and that biodiversity loss is continuing with adverse impacts on human well-being;
3. *Reaffirm* our commitment and determination to fully implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, recognizing that this requires a range of measures and policy coherence across government departments and sectors of society and the economy;
4. *Reaffirm* our commitment to provide financial resources and incentives in accordance with our respective obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity, taking into account Article 20 of the Convention, in order to expedite implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan at the national or sub-national level;
5. *Welcome* the Pyeongchang Roadmap 2020 for the enhanced implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity targets (hereinafter Pyeongchang Roadmap 2020);
6. *Recognize* the need for enhanced technical and scientific cooperation among countries to implement the objectives of the Convention;
7. *Welcome* the initiatives of the Republic of Korea in support of the Pyeongchang Roadmap 2020 - the BioBridge Initiative to enhance technical and scientific cooperation, the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative as well as the support for the ocean capacity building program and *support* these and other initiatives and partnerships for the accelerated implementation of the Pyeongchang Roadmap 2020;
8. *Emphasize* the relevance and key contribution of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 with its Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Vision for 2050 to the post-2015 development agenda and *invite* the United Nations General Assembly to consider appropriately integrating elements of the objectives of the Convention, the Strategic Plan and the Aichi Targets in the post-2015 development agenda, and in particular, to consider:
 - a. Including in the final outcomes a goal focussed on the conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystems, and a goal on the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal ecosystems;
 - b. Further integrating biodiversity considerations into goals relating to poverty eradication, food security and nutrition, water, and health, energy, sustainable economic growth, infrastructure, cities and other relevant goals, including through the use of relevant indicators;
 - c. Adopting an agreed, transparent, and inclusive mechanism to translate the universal goals into national-level actions, taking into account the different circumstances and needs of different countries; and
 - d. Linking the outcomes into other processes relevant to implementation, such as the UN Development Assistance Framework process, and the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans;
9. *Call on* all Parties to integrate implementation of the Strategic Plan and Aichi Biodiversity Targets with the implementation of the SDGs and post-2015 agenda and other relevant policy and planning measures;
10. *Recognize* the role of access and benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of genetic resources in contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, poverty eradication, and environmental sustainability and, in this connection, *welcome* the entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity as an



important instrument to pursue implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and *invite* Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Protocol;

11. *Further note* the creative economy approach which prioritizes economies that value the sensible use of natural resources for development and recognizes that creative ideas and technology evolved through observation of natural environment and traditional knowledge can safeguard biodiversity and forge a more sustainable and creative path for economic growth and development; and
12. *Recognize* the importance of transboundary and international cooperation to ensure the conservation of biodiversity and also to symbolize peace among nations in the Transboundary Protected Areas, and *welcome* efforts by the Republic of Korea to promote the peace and conservation of biodiversity in Korea's Demilitarized Zone. /End/

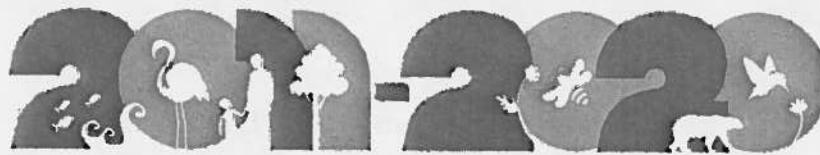
Draft PROGRAMME

(As of 31 July, 2014)

Time	15 October (Wed.)	16 October (Thur.)	
Morning Session (10:00 ~ 13:00)	Opening Ceremony <i>(10:00-11:00)</i> - Opening Remarks - Congratulatory Remarks	Panel Discussion Session II* Theme: Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Creative Economy [Panel Discussion 3] Nature based solutions for global challenges [Panel Discussion 4] Biodiversity and creative economy	SOI (Sustainable Ocean Initiative) High-level Meeting**
	Plenary Session <i>(11:00-13:00)</i> - Introduction of the Gangwon Declaration - Future landscape for the post-2015 development agenda - Introduction of GBO4 - Perspectives from partners and stakeholders		
Luncheon (13:00 ~ 15:00)	Luncheon	Luncheon Session* Theme: Peace and Biodiversity	
Afternoon Session (15:00 ~ 18:00)	Panel Discussion Session I* Theme: Integrating biodiversity into the sustainable development agenda at national and international levels [Panel Discussion 1] Integrating biodiversity into the Sustainable Development Goals and post-2015 agenda [Panel Discussion 2] Integrating NBSAPs into national and local development and poverty eradication strategies and planning processes	Closing Session <i>(15:00-16:30)</i> - Statements by regional groups - Adoption of the Gangwon Declaration - Adoption of Chair Summary by the president of COP12	
		Press Briefing <i>(16:30-18:00)</i>	
Dinner	Hosted by Ministry of Environment of Korea	Hosted by COP13 Host Country	

* More information on Panel Discussion Session and Luncheon Session will be provided after the submission of the delegation request form.

** SOI High-level Meeting will be held as a parallel session



United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Description of parallel events and side events to be held in the margins of COP 12

1. Biodiversity Summit: Cities and Subnational Governments for Sustainable Development *Proposed for Monday 13 October and Tuesday 14 October 2014*

Organizers: ICLEI (ICLEI Cities Biodiversity Center and ICLEI Korea Office) and Gangwon Province, facilitated by the CBD Secretariat and the Host Government.

The meeting will discuss ways of improving the implementation of the CBD at the subnational level through cooperative governance. It will provide suggestions to Parties on how to mobilize and coordinate local actions on biodiversity, to take CBD issues to urban residents, and to bring national strategies and plans into the urban context. The event supports the CBD Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities on Biodiversity (COP Decision X/22). This will be the fourth "cities summit" held at consecutive COPs, where it has been the largest parallel event (attracting about 600 participants at COP 11 in Hyderabad).

2. Forum on Business and Biodiversity

Proposed for 12 to 14 October 2014

Organizers: Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity, Biotrade Initiative, facilitated by the CBD Secretariat.

This will be a 3 day series of business engagement events, including a High Level Segment, a business and biodiversity workshop, a meeting of the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity, and several media/launch events. The overall theme of the business forum will be "Mainstreaming Biodiversity: Innovative Opportunities for Business" which will look at practical methods for businesses to play a role in the overall objectives of the Convention and the Strategic Plan 2011-2020. Day 1 will be dedicated to several parallel events aimed at different business stakeholder groups (i.e. biotrade, tourism, commodities, the Global Partnership). Day 2 and 3 will focus on an exchange of creative practices aimed at showing how businesses can contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi targets, including through mainstreaming biodiversity into business practices.

3. Communication, Education and Public Awareness - "The CEPA Fair"

Parallel forum that will run each day from 6 to 17 October 2014

Organizers: Secretariat of the CBD

The CEPA Fair provides a unique opportunity for Parties and organizations to highlight their work related to Communication, Education and Public Awareness that contributes to the implementation of the three objectives of the CBD, and the Strategic Plan on Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, particularly Target 1. The CEPA Fair will provide an important opportunity for sharing information and experiences and exploring future work in support of these efforts.



Convention on
Biological Diversity

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4. World Indigenous and Local Community Land and Sea Managers Network – WIN/ Equator Initiative (UNDP and SCBD)

Weekend Events 11 & 12 October 2014

Organizers: UNESCO, WIN, UNDP and the Secretariat of the CBD

Together with partners, including the Governments of Italy and Slovakia, and FAO's Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS), the Secretariat and UNESCO are planning a programme of activities to celebrate, draw attention to and consider the possible contributions of biological and cultural diversity to the Strategic Plan and the Aichi targets starting on Saturday, 11 October 2014, referred to as Diversity Day. To complement Diversity Day, the World Indigenous and Local Community Land and Sea Managers Network (WIN, Equator Initiative, UNDP), the GEF Small Grants Programme, together with the ICCA Consortium and the Government of Germany, will host on Sunday 12 October activities focusing on indigenous and local community conservation areas (ICCAs) and customary sustainable use of biodiversity.

5. Islands and Biodiversity "Island Summit"

Proposed for 15 October 2014

Organizers: the Global Islands Partnership (GLISPA)

The event will comprise two components. The first will focus on best practices and lessons learned in regional implementation of the Programme of Work on Island Biodiversity and progress on the various island Challenge Initiatives. The second component will be an "Island Celebration" organized in the early evening. It will include a report on progress and will provide a venue for significant announcements and commitments. Island Parties and Parties with islands, as well as UN agencies, major NGOs, private sector delegates and experts will be invited to contribute cases and will be invited for partnership development. This will be the third time similar events have been held in the margins of the COP (the first being held at COP8).

6. Rio Conventions Pavilion

Panel discussions/events take place from Monday 6 October to Thursday 18 October 2014

Organizers: Secretariats of the CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC along with GEF

The Rio Conventions Pavilion is a platform for raising awareness and sharing information about the latest practices and scientific findings on the co-benefits that can be realized through implementation of the three Rio Conventions. The Pavilion is a collaborative effort between the Secretariats of the three Rio Conventions and the Global Environment Facility, in addition to a growing list of other global and local partners. For COP 12, the panel sessions will focus on themes related to the COP agenda items.

7. Programme of Side Events

Side events taking place each day from 6 October to 17 October 2014

Organizers: Various but facilitated by the Secretariat of the CBD

Held against the back drop of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties, side events organized by the Secretariat, governments, other agencies and the Convention's partners and stakeholders, have, over the years become sources of valuable information and a unique mechanism for the exchange of experiences and best practices.



Delegation Request Form

(All information on this form is mandatory before any request is considered)

All delegates attending the High-Level Segment must submit the complete delegation request form to Ms. Hyunjoo LEE via e-mail (HLS@cbdcop12.kr) or fax (+82-2-77-7607) **no later than 25 August 2014.**

Please note that the number of delegates who can attend the HLS meeting is limited to **two only** including the Head of Delegation.

1. Information on Head of Delegation

Title	<input type="checkbox"/> H.E. <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Other:			
First Name		Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	
Last Name		Job Title		
Department		Organization		
Country		Tel.		
E-mail		Fax		

2. Information on Delegate (who attends the HLS meeting with the Head of Delegation above.)

Title	<input type="checkbox"/> Dr. <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Other:			
First Name		Gender	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	
Last Name		Job Title		
Department		Organization		
Country		Tel.		
E-mail		Fax		

3. Point of Contact (With whom the Korean Organizing Committee should contact regarding logistics and protocol issues.)

Title	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms.		Job Title	
First Name			Last Name	
Tel. (direct)			Mobile	
E-mail			Fax	

Should you need any assistance in completing this form or have any question about participating in the HLS, please do not hesitate to contact:

Ms. Hyunjoo LEE (Deputy Director)

The Korean Official of CBD COP12

Ministry of Environment of Korea

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