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Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

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International Day for Biological Diversity



Biodiversity and Climate Change

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MEETS WITH SECRETARY- GENERAL BAN KI-MOON AND UNDP ADMINISTRATOR

Montreal – 29 May 2007

Following the successful celebrations across the world of the International Day on Biological Diversity, the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, met with United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in New York on 25 May 2007.

Mr. Djoghlaif briefed the Secretary-General on the work of the Convention and the celebrations of the International Day for Biological Diversity, under the theme *Biodiversity and Climate Change*. Mr. Ban Ki-moon expressed his support to the enhanced phase of implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and highlighted the challenges facing the biodiversity agenda in the context of a warmer planet. He reiterated the need for an urgent global response at all levels to meet the challenges of the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity. The need of mainstreaming biodiversity at the highest level of the political agenda in the light of the Potsdam Initiative for achieving the 2010 biodiversity target was also discussed. The preparation of the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to be held in Bonn, Germany, from 19 to 30 May 2008 was also discussed.

The Executive Secretary also met with the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Mr. Kemal Derviş to discuss the collaboration between the two organizations and UNDP support for the enhanced phase of implementation of the Convention, in particular on issues of capacity-building and mainstreaming biodiversity in the development sector, as well as in the context of the “One UN” programme.

In addition, the Executive Secretary took the opportunity to meet with Ms. Helene-Marie Gosselin, the Director of the New York office of the United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (UNESCO), to discuss collaboration in the preparation of the International Year for Biological Diversity, which will be celebrated in 2010.