



Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

COMMUNIQUÉ

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Biodiversity and Climate Change

New National Focal Point for Canada, Ms. Pat Dolan, visits Secretariat

Montreal - 22 June 2007

A delegation from the Government of Canada, including the new Primary National Focal Point to the Convention, Ms. Pat Dolan, and the SBSTTA focal point, Dr. Ole Hendrickson, paid a visit to the Secretariat today.

Ms. Dolan, who has a distinguished career with Environment Canada, brings over 15 years of experience in environmental and biodiversity issues to the post, including substantial expertise in communication, education and public awareness.

“Public education and outreach is perhaps the most cross-cutting issue of all” said Ms. Dolan. She emphasized that the goal of biodiversity education programmes for Canada would be to “help people to develop the values and skills they need to protect biodiversity now and in the future.”

In her remarks, she emphasized that the work of the Government of Canada is marked by its role as convener of collaboration amongst all levels of government, with provinces and territories, as well as with universities and other research centres.

Both Ms. Dolan and Dr. Hendrickson also indicated that Canada’s work would focus on outcomes and focus on results and was an “outcome-oriented approach to implementation.”

Dr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, the Executive Secretary to the Convention, welcomed Ms. Dolan to her new post and indicated that he looked forward to Canada playing a role in the implementation of the programme of work on Communication, Education and Public Awareness, including the participation of Canada in the informal advisory committee.

