

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

COMMUNIQUÉ

For media only, not an official document

22 May 2007
International Day for Biological Diversity



Biodiversity and Climate Change

Strengthening National Implementation of the Convention on Life on Earth, Paris, 9-13 July 2007

Montreal 29 June 2007. Over 500 delegates representing 190 Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) will meet in Paris at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) from 9 to 13 July 2007 to look at ways to enhance tools for implementing the Convention and to integrate biodiversity concerns across all economic sectors through national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs).

The delegates will discuss the integration and mainstreaming of biodiversity concerns into national development and planning processes. Such national plans include poverty reduction strategies, strategies to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, sustainable development strategies, strategies to adapt to climate change and to combat desertification, and sectoral strategies.

“The achievement of the objectives of the Convention requires the integration of biodiversity considerations into the development sector, as conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is essential for sustainable development and the success of the Millennium Development Goals,” said Ahmed Djoghla, Executive Secretary of the Convention.

The Working Group on the Review of Implementation of the Convention will meet to discuss this and other key priority actions essential to the effective implementation of the Convention at national and global levels, including:

- review experience gained by the 140 countries that have prepared national biodiversity strategies and action plans and look at the need to adjust these to integrate emerging priorities, including the biodiversity target adopted at the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development aimed at reducing substantially the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010;
- resource mobilization for the implementation of NBSAPs;
- strengthened national institutional arrangements to ensure implementation;
- the relevance and value of biodiversity for social and economic development; and
- the contribution of biodiversity to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

“Biodiversity is a unique asset for promoting ‘sustainable development’, which today is the new name for international peace and security. This important meeting will benefit from the Paris Message on integrating biodiversity into European development cooperation held last year in Paris and will make a major

contribution to the next global biodiversity meeting, to be held in Bonn, Germany in May 2008,” concluded Ahmed Djoghlaif

The agenda and documents are available at: <http://www.cbd.int/WGRI2>

Working Group on the Review of Implementation of the Convention (WGRI)

The Parties to the Convention under the Strategic Plan, adopted in 2002, committed themselves to more effective and coherent implementation of the objectives of the Convention to achieve, by 2010, a significant reduction in the current rate of biodiversity loss. Following the adoption of the Strategic Plan and the endorsement of the 2010 target by the World Summit on Sustainable Development in its [Plan of Implementation](#) (paragraph 44), the Parties recognizing that, to achieve this target, more effective processes for evaluation, reporting and reviewing implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan were needed, established the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention (WGRI) at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2004.

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

The Convention on Biological Diversity is one of the most broadly subscribed international environmental treaties on the world. Opened for signature at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, it currently has 190 Parties—189 States and the European Community—who have committed themselves to its three main goals: the conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources. The headquarters of the Secretariat of the Convention is located in Montreal

For additional information, please contact Marie Aminata Khan at +1 514 287 8701; e-mail: marie.khan@cbd.int