



CBD

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

COMMUNIQUÉ

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Biodiversity and Climate Change

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EXECUTIVE HAS AUDIENCE WITH THE FRENCH MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING, PARIS 5 JULY 2007

Paris, 6 July 2007. Mr. Jean-Louis Borloo, French Minister of State for Environment and Sustainable Development and Planning granted an audience to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaoui on the margins of the twelfth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, which took place in Paris from 2 to 6 July 2007. The meeting was also attended by two members of the French delegation and focused on the work of the scientific body of the Convention and the preparations for the meeting of the Open-ended Working on Review of Implementation of the Convention, which will be held at UNESCO in Paris from 9 to 13 July.

The audience also provided an opportunity to review the preparations for the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, which will be held in Bonn, Germany, with the ministerial segment taking place on 29-30 May 2008, and the role of France as President of the European Union. Also reviewed were the challenges involved in achieving the Johannesburg target of a significant reduction in the loss of biodiversity by 2010 in the light of the commitments in the Heiligendamm Déclaration adopted by the recent Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the G-8. France's contribution to the celebration of the International Year of Biological Diversity was also addressed. The Minister of State said that: "There is a need to raise public awareness through the media and modern means of communication if the challenges of global biodiversity loss are to be addressed. It is therefore essential to mobilize all partners, including through the establishment of a Friends of Biodiversity Club that would also include representatives of the private sector."

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;

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