



CBD

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

COMMUNIQUÉ

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Biodiversity and Climate Change

MEETING TO REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY CONCLUDES ITS SECOND SESSION

Paris – 13 July 2007. The second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (WGRI-2), held with 360 participants at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris from 9 to 13 July 2007, concluded successfully today.

The meeting was preceded by training sessions on national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) that were organized with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The training, hosted by the Natural History Museum in Paris, was attended by more than 60 participants.

Since the Convention entered into force in 1993, 147 countries have prepared their NBSAP, but this was the first meeting of the CBD that directly addressed national implementation of the Convention and provided a fruitful exchange of experiences in preparation and implementation of NBSAPs. The meeting also addressed the crucial issue of sources of funding needed to achieve the objectives of the Convention and the 2010 biodiversity target to significantly reduce the rate of biodiversity loss.

For the first time also, a dialogue was held between the Bureau of the Convention and the Chief Executive Officer of the GEF. The WGRI meeting recommended a multi-year framework of collaboration with the GEF for the Facility's next phase from 2010 to 2014.

The meeting adopted recommendations on the following issues:

- Implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan – which covers:
 - The status of NBSAPs;
 - Guidance for the development and implementation of NBSAPs;
 - Priority areas for capacity building, access to and transfer of technology and technology cooperation;
 - Mechanism for implementation of the Convention; and
 - Inputs to the process of revising the strategic plan beyond 2010
- Options and a draft strategy for resource mobilization
- Status of national reporting and proposals on the scope and format of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook
- Streamlining the guidance provided to the Global Environment Facility as the Convention's financial mechanism



- Process for the retirement of decisions of the Conference of the Parties
- Procedures for the admission of organizations to meetings under the Convention.

These recommendations will be taken up by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention when it meets in Bonn in May next year.

The meeting was the second of two back-to-back meetings held at UNESCO that has also kindly offered to host the fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-15) in January 2010 – the start of the International Year on Biodiversity.

The meeting was attended by representatives from 104 countries and the European Community, 15 United Nations bodies and many other intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and representatives of indigenous and local communities.

The full report of the meeting will be available on the CBD website www.cbd.int shortly. In the meantime, an advance unedited version of the recommendations in English is available at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/wgri/wgri-02/official/wgri-02-xx-en.doc>, and an unofficial summary of the main outcomes of the meeting is available at <http://iisd.ca/biodiv/wgri2>.

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

The Convention on Biological Diversity is one of the most broadly subscribed international environmental treaties in 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