



# Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

## COMMUNIQUÉ

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Biodiversity and Climate Change

### THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS DISCUSS ENHANCED COLLABORATION

*Montreal – 5 November 2007.* In order to discuss ways and means to enhance collaboration between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Executive Secretary of the Convention, Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, met with Mr. Jacques Diouf, FAO Director-General, while attending the second session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, in Rome from 29 October to 2 November 2007.

Issues discussed included preparations for the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas, to be hosted by FAO in Rome from 11 to 15 February 2008, as well as the thirteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), also hosted by FAO, from 18 to 22 February 2008, and which will include major issues of relevance to FAO.

“The fact that this is the first time that FAO is hosting CBD meetings is testimony to FAO’s commitment to play its critical role at this time of enhanced phase of implementation of the Convention. This is also evidenced by the joint organization of the 2008 International Day for Biological Diversity, under the theme ‘Biodiversity and Agriculture’.”

In addition, Mr. Diouf confirmed the secondment of an FAO staff member to the CBD Secretariat, to act as a liaison officer and be responsible for the implementation of the CBD work programme on agriculture

“I am very grateful to the Director-General for seconding a staff member to the Secretariat to act as liaison officer with FAO. This decision is yet another commitment by the FAO to play its role as a partner at a time of unprecedented challenges facing the food and agriculture sector, and compounded by the unprecedented loss of biodiversity and the negative impact of climate change,” said Mr. Djoghlaif.

#### **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](mailto:marie.khan@cbd.int)

