



COMMUNIQUÉ

ENHANCING PREPARATIONS FOR THE AICHI-NAGOYA BIODIVERSITY SUMMIT

Montreal, 19 November 2009 – A powerful delegation from Japan visited the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) in Montreal on 16-17 November to discuss substantive preparations for the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP 5) and the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 10) to be held in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan, from 11 to 15 October 2010 and from 18 to 29 October 2010, respectively.

The delegation comprised Mr. Masayoshi Mizuno, Director, Global Environment Division and Ms. Tokuko Nabeshima, Deputy Director, Global Environment Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Keiichi Nakazawa, Deputy Director, Global Biodiversity Strategy Office, Ministry of the Environment; Mr. Takao Asada, Deputy Executive Secretary, Mr. Seiichi Kawada, Director, Mr. Yoshimitsu Kawa, Assistant Director and Mr. Hiroyuki Iida, Assistant Director, Aichi-Nagoya COP10 CBD Promotion Committee.

The meeting offered the opportunity to discuss logistical arrangements, including the host Government agreement, as well as the preparation of major events to be organized in conjunction with the biodiversity and biosafety meetings, including the high-level segment of the Conference of the Parties, to be held from 27 to 29 October 2010. The celebration of the International Year of Biodiversity, including the high-level event during the sixty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2010, was also discussed, as was the closing ceremony for the International Year, to be held in Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture, Japan, in December.

Following the visit, Mr. Mizuno stated that: “The meeting reinforced the close collaboration and partnership between Japan and the Convention Secretariat regarding the ongoing preparatory work for the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the fifth meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol in Japan. The Japanese Government together with Aichi-Nagoya COP10 CBD Promotion Committee will make the utmost effort to ensure that this historic biodiversity meeting, which is only a year away, will be a great success.”

Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary of the Convention said that: “This visit of the representatives of the incoming presidency of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention is very timely and follows the outstanding success achieved during the last week’s meeting on the international regime on access and benefit-sharing, which is to be adopted in Nagoya.” He added that: “The success of last week’s meeting would not have been possible without the contribution Japan made at the closing session, demonstrating once again the full commitment of the Japanese people and authorities to elevate the Aichi-Nagoya biodiversity meetings to an historic event in the life of the Convention and in our common struggle for protecting life on Earth.”



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