



## COMMUNIQUÉ

### **Arabic version of CBD website inaugurated as a contribution to achieving the objectives of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity**

*Montreal, 6 June 2011* – The Arabic version of the website of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was launched today at the occasion of the opening of the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization. The Arabic version was launched as a contribution to achieving the objectives of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity and achieving the new Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, also known as the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

The launch of the Arabic version of the CBD website was made possible thanks to the generous contribution of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Thanks to the financial support of the French Government and the Government of Spain, the website is also available in French and Spanish.

On this occasion, His Highness Prince Bandar Bin Saud Bin Mohammad Al-Saud, the Secretary General of the Saudi Wildlife Commission (SWC), stated that “the Saudi Government’s contribution, which enables the Arab community to use this valuable website, comes from the aspiration, pivotal role and pioneering position of the Kingdom at all fields and activities of the United Nations.”

Prince Bandar also stated that “the inauguration of the Arabic version of the CBD website is an important step that enhances cooperation and capacity-building of the Arab countries to implement the CBD. It is a real contribution to achieve the United Nations Decade for Biodiversity and the new Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.”

Prince Bandar also emphasized that, “the availability of the website in Arabic language should assist scientists, professionals and all interested people in the conservation of biodiversity by providing information and data and updating them on current issues around the world.”

Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, said: “I wish to pay tribute to the Government and people of Saudi Arabia. This contribution brings us a step closer to achieving the goal of providing the Convention website in all United Nations languages. I urge Governments to provide additional financial support to continue this work in all United Nations languages so as to bring the message of the Convention to the people of the world in their mother languages.”

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