

19 May 2005

“Biodiversity - Life Insurance for our Changing World”

an event marking

the International Day for Biological Diversity

and the launch of the

Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Biodiversity Synthesis Report

Faculty Club, McGill University,  
3450 McTavish Street,  
Montreal, Canada

10:30am to 4:30pm

This conference has taken place thanks to the generous support of:  
*Office of the Vice Principal of Research, McGill University,*  
*McGill Faculties of Arts and Science, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences,*  
*Engineering, and the McGill School of the Environment ,*  
*the Secretariat of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment,*  
*the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity*

## Programme of Activities

### 10:30am - Greetings

*Arthur Nogueira, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity*

### 10:35am - Welcome from McGill

*Jacques Hurtubise, VP Research, McGill University*

### 10:40am - "The Millennium Assessment - significance and action,"

*Walter Reid, Secretariat of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment*

### 10:45am - "The Biodiversity Synthesis Report - findings,"

*Anantha Duraipappah, co-chair Biodiversity Synthesis, Millennium Ecosystem Assessment*

### 10:50am - "Biodiversity: Life Insurance for our Changing World"

*Hamdallah Zedan, Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity*

### 11:00am - Remarks by the Government of Canada

*Robert MacLean, Conservation Strategies, Environment Canada*

### 11:05am- Remarks by the City of Montreal

*Alan DeSousa, City of Montreal*

### 11:10am - Remarks by the Government of Quebec

*Thomas J. Mulcair, Minister of Sustainable Development, Parks and Environment, Quebec*

### 11:15am - Questions

### 12:00 noon - Closing of the Ceremonies

### 12:05pm - Buffet lunch reception (onsite), provided by McGill University

### 1:30pm - Seminar: The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and research on sustainable development: impact and future directions

### 1:30pm - Panel One - Ecosystems, Sustainable Development and Resilience

*Chairperson: Kalemani Jo Mulongoy, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity*

*- Walter Reid, Director, Millennium Ecosystem Assessment*

#### **Trends in Biodiversity and the Provision of Ecosystem Services**

*- Anantha Duraipappah, Director Economic Policy, IISD, and co-author of the Biodiversity Synthesis*

#### **Biodiversity and Human Well-being**

*- David Cooper, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity*

#### **The Millennium Assessment: Implications for the CBD**

*- Olivier Coomes, Department of Geography, McGill University*

#### **Biodiversity and Poverty Alleviation**

### 2:45pm - coffee break

### 3:15 pm - Panel Two - The MA and Biodiversity Research - future directions.

*- Andy Gonzalez, Department of Biology*

#### **Understanding the impacts of extinction: the next step for biodiversity research**

*- Catherine Potvin, Department of Biology*

#### **Could the CDM of the Kyoto protocol be an ally to meet the 2010 biodiversity target?**

*- Colin Chapman, Department of Anthropology and the McGill School of the Environment*

#### **Nature versus Agriculture - the future of African ecosystems**

*- Brian Leung, Department of Biology and the McGill School of the Environment*

#### **Invasive species and the Millennium Assessment: bioeconomics and uncertainty**

### 4:30pm - Closing