



# Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

## MESSAGE FROM DR. AHMED DJOGLAF, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY ON THE OCCASION OF THE UNITED NATIONS DAY FOR SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

19 December 2006



Achieving the  
2010  
Biodiversity  
Target



*“With greater cooperation, I believe our new partnerships among the countries of the South supported by the North can help unlock the economic potential of an underdeveloped world, for the world community as a whole.” Kofi Annan, 1998*

South-South cooperation has emerged as a powerful tool to enhance international cooperation for achieving sustainable development. The celebration by the international community of a United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation is recognition of the importance of such cooperation aimed at complementing the necessary North-South cooperation.

Today we have many examples illustrating the potential of South-South cooperation. A farmer in Asia increases his income from growing rattan with the help of a network of researchers, inventors, marketing and other experts spread across 50 developing countries. Thousands of agricultural experts from Asia work in African countries to help increase food production and improve food security.

Biodiversity is key to development, and achievements in the sphere of South-South cooperation and biodiversity will further enable developing countries to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. To this end, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity is honoured to enter into partnership with the Group of 77 to prepare a multi-year plan of action on South-South cooperation for the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention which can serve as a model for other multilateral environment agreements (MEAs). A brainstorming session was convened at the Secretariat which provided an opportunity for exchange of experiences among the secretariats of the world's three major hydrological and forest basins.

On this United Nations Day for South-South Cooperation, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity reaffirms its firm commitment to spare no effort to promote South-South cooperation for the effective implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the convention for life on Earth.

