



Convention on
Biological Diversity



INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

**STATEMENT DELIVERED ON BEHALF OF THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

at the

THIRTIETH MEETING

of the

**SUBSIDIARY BODY FOR SCIENTIFIC AND
TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE**

of the

**UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON
CLIMATE CHANGE**

under

**AGENDA ITEM 3: NAIROBI WORK PROGRAMME ON
IMPACTS, VULNERABILITY AND ADAPTATION TO
CLIMATE CHANGE**

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ONE NATURE · ONE WORLD · OUR FUTURE
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Thank you, Chair,

I am pleased to speak on behalf of the Convention on Biological Diversity in my capacity as Co-Chair of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change.

In particular, I am taking this opportunity to report on the findings of the Expert Group meeting hosted by the Government of Finland this past April, in so far as they relate to the Nairobi work programme.

The Group concluded that consideration of biodiversity and ecosystems has a vital role to play in adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change. It was the strong opinion of the group that adaptation activities that make use of biodiversity and associated ecosystem services, when integrated into an overall adaptation strategy, may contribute to cost-effective climate-change adaptation and generate additional environmental and societal benefits.

The Group noted the emerging concept of ecosystem-based adaptation in discussions under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and suggested that ecosystem-based adaptation may be further described as the use of sustainable ecosystem management activities to support adaptation. Importantly, ecosystem-based adaptation can be applied at a range of spatial scales, can yield benefits over short- and longer-time scales, and may be more cost-effective and more accessible to rural or poor communities than measures based on hard infrastructure or engineering. It was found that there are many ecosystem-based adaptation approaches that deliver significant value for adaptation, including the use of coastal ecosystems to reduce risk of flooding from storm surges, and the maintenance of diverse agricultural landscapes to support productivity under changing climate conditions, amongst others.

The Group noted that adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change can have both positive and negative consequences for biodiversity and ecosystem services, but that in most cases there is potential to reduce negative impacts and increase positive impacts, thus reducing the risk of maladaptation.

The Group suggested that adaptation activities should aim to maintain or enhance and take advantage of the natural adaptive capacity of species and ecosystems so as to increase the effectiveness of adaptation and reduce risks to biodiversity from climate change.

The full compilation of main messages will be made available to delegates in their pigeonholes. The messages are also available on the website of the Convention on Biological Diversity and will be circulated during a side-event tomorrow (2 June) at lunch time in room Metro.

Thank you once again.