VIDEO MESSAGE ON THE TENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES FOR THE WEBSITE OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Welcome to the official website of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be held in Aichi-Nagoya from 19 to 29 October 2010. Welcome also to the Aichi-Nagoya Biodiversity Summit to be held on from 27 to 29 October 2010.

The Aichi-Nagoya meetings on biodiversity will be a landmark event in the life of the Convention on Biological Diversity. It will be held during the celebration of the International Year on Biodiversity. It will be preceded by a high-level meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly exclusively devoted to biodiversity and with the participation of Heads of State and Government.

At its tenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties will assess progress achieved for the implementation of the 2010 biodiversity target of achieving a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss. The participants will have before them the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook prepared on the basis of national reports submitted by Parties. The Parties are also expected to adopt a 2050 biodiversity vision as well as 2010 biodiversity target together with sub-targets. The new biodiversity strategy will be integrated in the new Strategic Plan of the Convention for 2011-2020. A multi year plan of action on South-South cooperation on biodiversity for development is also expected to be adopted at the first G-77 Forum on Biodiversity, to be held in Nagoya on 18 October 2010.

The Parties will also adopt an international regime on access and benefit-sharing, which will make a major contribution to achieving the Millennium Development Goals by operationalizing the third objective of the Convention.

The meeting will be held with the active engagements of all stakeholders. A Summit on Cities and Biodiversity will be held on 26-27 October with a view of adopting a plan of action on cities and biodiversity as well as an Urban Biodiversity Index. A meeting on parliamentarians and biodiversity will be also convened in partnership with GLOBE International. A dialogue between the chief executive officers of companies and ministers will be convened in the context of the Business and Biodiversity Initiative, which will include Messe Nagoya, an international technological fair on biodiversity. Youth, NGOs and women will also make their voice heard in Nagoya. The voice of the people of the word will also be heard through the Aichi-Nagoya e-conference on biodiversity.
Our common future is at stake as a family of nations, and people we need to rise up individually and collectively to meet the unprecedented challenges of the loss of biodiversity compounded by climate change that we and our children are confronted with. I therefore sincerely hope that Aichi-Nagoya Summit will be the beginning of a new era for mankind “living in harmony with nature, into the Future”. It will therefore be historically associated with biodiversity in the same way as Kyoto is with climate change.

Thank you.