



## STATEMENT

BY MR. AHMED DJOGHLAF

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE  
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

ON THE OCCASION OF THE

RESUMED PLENARY MEETING OF THE SIXTY-FOURTH  
SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

*United Nations Headquarters, New York, 15 April 2010*

*Please check against delivery*



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Mr. President,

It is for me a unique privilege and honour to address this Assembly at this historic moment. Indeed, the adoption of draft resolution A/64/L.49, concerning the date of the high level meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on biodiversity is historic. In fact, it will be the first time in the history of the United Nations that a meeting on biodiversity at the level of Heads of State and governments will be convened.

This meeting will be historical as it will assess the progress achieved in the implementation of the decision of Heads of State and Government at the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development to reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010.

This meeting is historic as it will shape and design the post-2010 biodiversity strategy, which will include a 2050 biodiversity vision, as well as a 2020 biodiversity target, together with means of implementation, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

This meeting will be historic as it will coincide and contribute to the ten-year review of the Millennium Development Goals which include, since 2006, the 2010 biodiversity target.

This meeting is historical as it also coincides with the celebration of the 2010 International Year of Biodiversity and will take place one month before the Nagoya Biodiversity Summit.

I have no doubt that 2010 will enter history as the year where a new chapter in the relation between man and nature and opening a new era of mankind living in harmony with nature.

History will recall that the journey has started today, 15 April 2010, with your decision to fix 22 September 2010 as the date of this historic meeting, which will take place just prior to the general debate of the United Nations General Assembly.

For all those who contributed to this achievement, I would like to convey my deepest gratitude and sincere appreciation.

Thank you for your kind attention.

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