



**STATEMENT BY BRAULIO FERREIRA DE SOUZA DIAS
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL
DIVERSITY**

on the occasion of the

**SECOND SESSION OF THE IPBES PLENARY
24 April 2012**

I warmly welcome the resolution to establish the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) adopted by countries meeting in Panama City on 21 April 2012. By providing information, analysis, policy-relevant scenarios and related capacity-building, the Platform will contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of global biodiversity and to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the other biodiversity-related conventions¹. The Platform will assist countries and the international community in identifying the policies and actions needed to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets adopted by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD in October 2010 in Nagoya, Japan.

I would also like to congratulate Germany on the decision to host the IPBES Secretariat in Bonn. My congratulations, and gratitude for the successful outcome of the session, also go to the Chair and Bureau of the session, my colleagues from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), as well as the many other organizations and partners who have prepared and contributed to this meeting.

¹ The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Convention on Migratory Species, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, and the World Heritage Convention.

Working closely with the other biodiversity-related conventions, I look forward to contributing to the work that lies ahead for making IPBES fully operational. In particular, the Secretariat of the CBD is committed to contributing to the catalogue of assessments and to participating in the elaboration of a conceptual framework for IPBES. We are also ready to share our thoughts on ways in which requests from various multilateral environmental agreements and specialized organizations for scientific assessments to be considered by IPBES might be prioritized so as to maximize the benefits for the global community and for biodiversity. The sixteenth meeting of the CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), which convenes next week in Montreal, will provide advice on this matter as it considers its relationship with this new and independent intergovernmental body with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of its own work, ensuring synergies with IPBES and avoiding duplication of efforts.

Following the successful outcome of the Panama meeting, I look forward to the work of the Platform getting underway as soon as possible so that it can contribute to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary
Convention on Biological Diversity