

MONTHLY BULLETIN OF ACTIVITIES OF THE  
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

NOVEMBER 2009

SIXTH MEETING OF THE AD HOC OPEN-ENDED WORKING  
GROUP ON ARTICLE 8(J) AND RELATED PROVISIONS,  
2-6 NOVEMBER



Charles Patton, Mohawk  
Nation.



Nicola Breier, on behalf of the  
COP President.

The good spirit and positive attitude that signified a sea change in the traditional-knowledge process during the sixth meeting of the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, paved the way for the successful negotiations of one of the most important meeting in the history of the working group. After seven years of negotiation, the 193 Parties to the Convention finalized a code of ethical conduct to ensure respect for the cultural and intellectual heritage of the world's indigenous and local communities and revised the work-plan for Article 8(j) to ensure that it remains central to achieving the goals of the Convention and that ILCs are provided opportunities to contribute to some of the grave issues being considered under the mandate of the Convention.

The WG8J 6 also made a substantive contribution to the negotiations at the WGABS 8 regarding considerations for traditional knowledge in the negotiation and eventual adoption of the IR ABS, as well as reaffirmed commitment to an ongoing multi-year capacity building efforts for ILCs, especially those in the LAC region, with a focus on women. The WG8J 6 affirmed the commitment of all Parties to the effective participation of ILCs in matters of relevance to them under the Convention.



John Scott, CBD, with ILC representatives.

A meeting of the COP Bureau was convened on 1 November to discuss organizational matters for the WG8J 6 meeting. Subsequent meetings of the COP Bureau took place daily throughout the week.



Meeting of the COP Bureau.

WEBSITES LAUNCHED  
IN NOVEMBER

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF  
BIODIVERSITY  
[www.cbd.int/2010](http://www.cbd.int/2010)



COP 10 / MOP 5  
[www.cbd.int/cop10](http://www.cbd.int/cop10)

COP 10 MOP 5

いのちの共生を、未来へ  
Life in Harmony, into the future



COP 10

COP-MOP 5

AICHI/NAGOYA E-CONFERENCE  
[www.cbd.int/aniec2010](http://www.cbd.int/aniec2010)

ANIEC 2010

Aichi/Nagoya  
E-Conference



## 64TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



H.E. Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki, President, UNGA-64th session with Ahmed Djoghlaf, CBD-ES.

The CBD Executive Secretary was in New York on 3 November to present the report on the Convention on Biological Diversity to the Second Committee of the 64<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly. While in New York, the CBD Executive had an opportunity to meet with the President of the 64<sup>th</sup> session of UNGA to discuss, among other issues, the UNGA high level event on biodiversity and a proposed UNCCD-CBD African event at the occasion of the World Desertification Day in 2010. Meetings were also held with the Ambassadors from Sudan, Senegal and Indonesia (in Nairobi), as well as spokespersons of all the Regional groups and EU support group, and head of the Secretariat of the Stakeholder Forum on Rio+20. A presentation was made on the IYB, *The Green Wave* initiative, IBD and the UNGA high level event on biodiversity in 2010 at the “Meet the Press” held that day. The UN Radio made an interview on IYB.

## CAPACITY BUILDING CONSULTATIONS HELD PRIOR TO THE WG8J-6 MEETING, 29-31 OCTOBER



John Scott, CBD.

Pursuant to the Convention rich history of involving indigenous and local communities in its process, and to decisions VII/16, Annex E, paragraph 26; IX/13, D; IX/13 E, paragraph 7 and VII/5 C, paragraph 6 c requesting capacity building for indigenous and local communities to ensure their effective participation in the Convention processes, the Secretariat organized a workshop for the Latin American and Caribbean indigenous and local community on the eve of the WG8J 6 meeting in Montreal, Canada. The Workshop took place in Montreal from 29 to 31 October 2009, in collaboration with the Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network (IWBN) for the LAC region and with the generous financial support of the Government of Spain.

communities could learn new approaches, which could potentially become best practices.

A total of 22 indigenous and local community representatives (19 women and 3 men) participated in the workshop. Participants were also funded to participate in the sixth meeting of the Working group on Article 8(j), to enable them to put their training to immediate use. Based on a survey completed by the participants at the end of the workshop, the major outputs of this workshop identified were awareness raising and capacity building, which directly assisted the participants in understanding the Convention processes.

The main objective was to enhance the capacity of the indigenous and local community representatives to effectively participate in the Convention processes with a focus on Article 8(j) and Article 15 (ABS), especially the WG8J 6 and WGABS 8 meetings. The WGABS 8 meeting was particularly important as it represented a major step in the negotiation of an International Regime on access and benefit sharing. In addition, the Workshop provided an opportunity to exchange relevant national and regional experiences within the Latin America and the Caribbean region. By seeing how others had addressed similar challenges, indigenous and local



Viviana Figueroa, CBD.



Participants at the meeting.

## RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA



## EIGHTH MEETING OF THE AD HOC OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING, 9-15 NOVEMBER



ABS Co-Chairs: Timothy Hodges and Fernando Casas.

The eighth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing (ABS) was held in Montreal, Canada from 9-15 November 2009, gathering over 500 participants. The meeting continued the negotiation of an international regime on ABS, with a focus on the components of the operational text on nature, traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, capacity-building, compliance, fair and equitable benefit-sharing, access.



Jochen Flasbarth, on behalf of the COP President.

The meeting adopted two annexes as part of the final report: the "Montreal Annex", a consolidated draft of the International Regime on Access and Benefit Sharing and the second Annex on proposals for operational texts left in abeyance for consideration at the next meeting of the Working Group.

The meeting also established an intersessional process leading up to ABS 9, including: a Friends of the Co-Chairs group to convene in late January 2010, and a Co-Chairs' inter-regional informal consultation scheduled to convene in March 2010. A series of regional and inter-regional consultations are also planned during the intersessional period before the ninth meeting of WGABS, which is schedule to be held from 22-28 March 2010, in Cartagena, Colombia.



Olivier Jalbert and Valerie Normand, CBD Secretariat.



"Like-Minded in Spirit Group of Women", the new informal cross-regional group to ensure women's voices are heard and their contribution is fully recognized in the ABS Working Group and other CBD processes. (Photo courtesy: IISD/ENB-Francis Dejon)

### RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, MONTREAL INTERNATIONAL AND CBD



### PARTNERSHIPS ESTABLISHED IN THE MARGINS OF THE WGABS-8 MEETING



Ahmed Djoghlaif, CBD, and Susan Tanner, RCEN.

*The Canadian Environmental Network (RCEN)*



Fatima Dia Touré, IEPF, and Ahmed Djoghlaif, CBD.

*Institute of Energy and Environment of La Francophonie (IEPF)*

# CBD MUSEUM OF NATURE ON CULTURE

The reception on 2 November provided an opportunity for the representative from Cambodia present to the CBD Executive Secretary a carved wooded vase for inclusion in the CBD Museum of Nature and Culture. The representative from Grenada also seized the occasion to present two artwork paintings to be added to the museum collection.



CAMBODIA



GRENADA

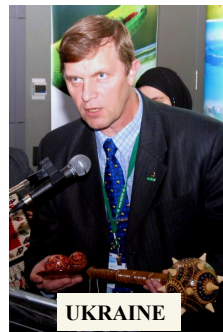
During the reception on 9 November, the Secretariat also received donations from the following:



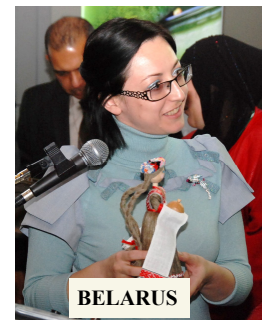
REP. OF MOLDOVA



SYRIA



UKRAINE



BELARUS



SERBIA



GEORGIA



UNITED NATIONS  
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

## Turkmenistan

During the SBSTTA Bureau meeting from 6-7 November in Montreal, the Bureau member from Turkmenistan presented a woven tapestry to the CBD Executive Secretary to be part of the museum collection.



## UNEP SENIOR MANAGERS RETREAT

The CBD Executive Secretary took part in the UNEP Senior Managers Retreat held on 18-20 November in Nairobi. A presentation was made on IYB, ABS, and the Nagoya roadmap and beyond. Bilateral meeting was held with the UNEP Executive Director to discuss the high level event on biodiversity during the UNGA in 2010, as well as with the UNEP Deputy Executive Director on strengthening UNEP-CBD relations. Meetings were also held with UNEP Regional Directors to discuss IYB, The Green Wave initiative, and the ANIEC 2010, among other issues. A briefing was made to representatives of the UNEP Committee of Permanent Representatives on COP10 and the International Year of Biodiversity, and was followed by bilateral meetings with some Permanent Representatives at the meeting.



UNEP Senior Managers Retreat in Nairobi.

## CELEBRATING 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF *ON THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES*

On 24 November, the CBD Executive Secretary was one of the distinguished guests invited to the 150th anniversary of the publication of Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species*, with the participation of the descendants of Charles Darwin and his publisher. The celebration took place in the historic rooms of 50 Albemarle Street, from which the book was first published on 24 November 1859.



John Murray, great-grandson of John Murray III, publisher of "On the Origin of Species" at the event.

## LAUNCH OF THE IYB-UK PARTNERSHIP

On 25 November, the CBD Executive Secretary attended and delivered a keynote speech at the launch of the UK-IYB partnership, in support of the International Year of Biodiversity. The event gathered more than 300 participants, including the UK Minister for biodiversity. In the margins of the event, meetings were held with: the UK Minister and with senior staff from DEFRA. The idea of convening the next Darwin international conference at the margins of COP 10, similar to the CBD Linnaeus Lecture, was discussed. The event was hosted by the Natural History museum. Media events with the CBD Executive Secretary included BBC radio and The Guardian interviews.



Huw Arranca-Davies, UK Minister for biodiversity with Ahmed Djoghlaif, CBD Executive Secretary.

## SIXTH MEETING OF THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE UNDER THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY



Jurg Bally, Chairperson

The sixth meeting of the Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety took place in Montreal, on 4-6 November 2009. The Committee continued further with its discussions of its previous meetings regarding the situation in Parties' fulfilment of their national reporting obligation. It conducted its discussions on the basis of a working document prepared by the Secretariat concerning experience and information on the reporting rates under other multilateral environmental agreements. The Committee reviewed a number of scenarios which, on the one hand, might have hindered the fulfilment of reporting obligation under the Biosafety Protocol, and, on the other, measures that could improve the existing situation. It also reviewed general issues of compliance as regards the obligation

to provide information to the Biosafety Clearing-House. The Committee agreed, on a preliminary basis, to some recommendations. It decided not to consider a complaint submitted to it by a non-governmental organization alleging non-compliance of a Party with its obligations under the Protocol, because the matter falls outside the scope of section IV of the compliance procedures provided for in the annex to decision BS-I/7. The Committee elected a new chairperson and vice chairperson who would serve for the next two-year term.



From L-R: Worku Yifru, Ahmed Djoghlaif, Charles Gbedemah and Kathryn Garforth.

## LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE REVIEW OF PROGRESS AND CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PROTECTED AREAS UNDER THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY



Participants at the meeting.

In pursuance of the request from the Conference of the Parties, contained in paragraph 25 of decision IX/18, the Executive Secretary, with the generous financial assistance of the European Commission, the Governments of the Netherlands and Spain, and in collaboration with the Government of Colombia and the PoWPA Friends Consortium, organized the Latin America and the Caribbean Africa regional workshop on the review of progress and capacity-building for the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas, held on 2-5 November 2009 in Bogota, Colombia.

The objectives of the workshop were: (i) to strengthen the skills and knowledge of protected area functionaries and others who implement the programme of work through an exchange of ex-

periences, sharing of tools, available resources and capacity-building in two aspects of the programme of work on protected areas: (a) integration of protected areas into wider land and seascapes; and (b) governance; (ii) to review progress made in implementation of the programme of work on protected areas at subregional and regional levels, including identification of constraints and opportunities to promote implementation; and (iii) inputs to the fourteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, to be held in May 2010 on the in-depth review of the programme of work on protected areas, including proposing ways and means for strengthening the implementation and the programme of work on protected areas post-2010.

The workshop was attended by 23 government-nominated experts from the following countries in Latin America and the Caribbean: Argentina, Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay. Six representatives from indigenous and local communities also attended the workshop: one representative from the Coordinadora de las Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazonica (COICA), four representatives from the Forest Peoples Programme (FFP), and one representative from the Comunidad Indígena del Pueblo Kolla. One representative from the International Collective in Support of Fish Workers, one representative from IUCN-WCPA, and one representative from IUCN-WCPA Young Professionals for South America, also attended the workshop. Birdlife International, Conservation International, The Nature Conservancy, UNDP-GEF, the Centre for Sustainable Development, the World Wide Fund for Nature, and IUCN-The International Union for the Conservation of Nature, provided resource persons.

### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR SAFEGUARDING THE AMAZON

The Amazon contains the largest remaining contiguous rainforest on Earth with unparalleled aquatic and terrestrial biological diversity that profoundly influences the global climate stability and provides enormous ecosystem services to the planet. To strengthen the protected area systems of the Amazonian countries viz., Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Surinam, and Venezuela, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Latin American Network for Technical Cooperation on National Parks other Protected Areas and Wild Flora (REDPARQUES), IUCN, and WWF signed a memorandum for the Pan-Amazonian protected areas initiative to promote regional implementation of the CBD PoWPA.



From L-R: Sarat Gidda, Roberto Troya, Julia Miranda Londoño, Claudio Maretti, Maria Ximena Barrera, Joerg Elbers

### NEW PUBLICATION



The second issue of the CBD Newsletter for Civil Society, [square brackets], is available now. Released to coincide with the eighth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access

and Benefit-Sharing (ABS), this edition, through articles and a questions and answers section, focuses on the complex issues surrounding an international regime on ABS. ([www.cbd.int/ngo](http://www.cbd.int/ngo))

## VISITORS THIS MONTH



*Sujata Arora and A.K. Goyal, Ministry of Environment & Forests, India, 6 November*



*Volker Matzeit and Wolfgang Koehler (for COP-MOP President), 6 November*



*Shakeel Bhatti, ITPGRFA, 8 November*



*Maria Cecilia Wey de Brito, Brazil, 8 November*



*Japan Environmental Civil Network for CBD, 10 November*



*Suhel Al-Janabi and Dagmar Krenz, GTZ, and Didier Dogley, Seychelles, 11 November*



*Kimo Goree, ENB, 11 November*



*Jean-Claude Jacques, IUCN & Ms. Rajae Chafif of IEPF, 12 November*



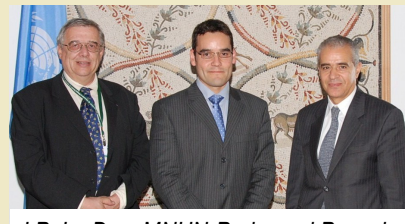
*Mark Stone, Australia, 12 November*



*Alex Pires, Diane Klaimi, Kamar Yousuf, Balakrishna Pisupati, UNEP, 12 November*



*R. Jean Gapusi, Rwanda, 12 November*



*J.P. Le Duc, MNHN-Paris, and Pascal Sliwanski, MFA-France, 12 November*



*Felix Dodds, Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future, 12 November*



*Hugo-Maria Schally and Ines Verleye, 14 November*



*Senior officials from the Japanese government and UNON staff discuss the Nagoya biodiversity meetings, 16 November*



*Thora M. Herrmann, Canada Research Chair in Ethnoecology and Biodiversity Conservation and UNESCO staff: David Walder (SG-Canadian Commission) and Ana Persic, 12 November*

*Visit of McGill students from the Environmental Assessment class (12 Nov) and the Integrated Water Resource Management Masters of Science Research group (17 Nov)*

*Visit of Concordia University students from the class of Prof. Peter Stoett (26 Nov)*

## OTHER MEETINGS

- First meeting of the Expert Panel on the state and trends of biodiversity science in Canada, 2-3 November 2009, Ottawa, Canada
- Attend the UNFCCC meeting to support a range of activities relating to biodiversity and climate change, including promotion of REDD, 3-5 November 2009, Barcelona, Spain
- Teleconference with Tadanori Inomata and Marc Paquin of Joint Inspection Unit, 6 November, Montreal
- Meeting via teleconference with Eric Falt, 6 November
- Workshop on project development seminar (as pre-conference event for 3<sup>rd</sup> International Barcode of Life Conference), take apart in a short course on barcoding protocols, deliver a presentation on barcoding invasive species, 6-9 November 2009, Mexico City, Mexico
- Participate as keynote speaker at the Ecotourism Australia's seventh annual Global Eco Asia-Pacific Tourism Conference, 9-11 November 2009, Alice Springs, Australia
- Meeting of the UN-EMG issues management Group drafting meeting on the UN response to the (post) 2010 biodiversity targets, 10-11 November 2009, Rome, Italy
- Meeting with the Consul General of the Republic of Korea, 11 November 2009, Montreal, Canada
- Seminar on gender and climate change organized by GEF Secretariat in collaboration with UN Foundation, also met with staff of GEF Secretariat on CBD-GEF collaboration on gender, 12 November 2009, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.
- Third meeting of the Steering Committee for the 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, 13 November 2009, London, U.K.
- Project Development Workshop for the GTI in Africa, 16-18 November 2009, Nairobi, Kenya
- Meet with senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Environment of Finland, 18-20 November 2009, Helsinki, Finland
- Meet with senior officials from the European Commission, Belgian Ministry of Environment and NATO, 21-23 November 2009, Brussels, Belgium
- Attend the East Asian Seas Congress 2009, 23-27 November 2009, Manila, Philippines
- Meet with representatives of *Fonds Danone pour la Nature*, and with senior officials from the Government of France, 24-25 November 2009, Paris, France
- Meet with senior officials from the Government of Denmark, 26-27 November 2009, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Meet with a number of potential partners with LifeWeb initiative, 28 November-1 December 2009, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Attend the UNCTAD Biotrade workshop, 24-25 November 2009, Geneva, Switzerland
- Provide assistance at the SADC Training Workshop, 25 November-1 December 2009, Johannesburg, South Africa
- Participate in the Conference on Genetically Modified Organisms in European Agriculture and Food Production, 25-26 November 2009, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Attend the Planetworkshop Global Conference, 26 November 2009, Deauville, France
- Meeting with senior officials of the French Ministry of Environment, 27 November 2009, Paris, France
- Meeting with Mr. Kuroda, Japan, 30 November

### SCBD CONFERENCE ROOM DEDICATED IN MEMORY OF MRS. FEE CHON CHONG LOW

On 13 November, the Secretariat dedicated one of its conference rooms in memory of Mrs. Fee Chon Chong Low, for her invaluable contribution to UNEP. Apart from the Secretariat staff, members of the COP Bureau, the Malaysian delegation, and staff from UNEP-GEF attended the ceremony.

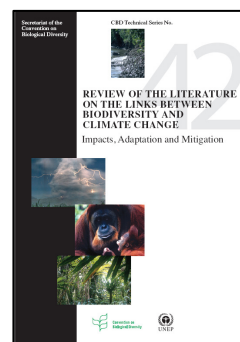


Gurdial Singh, head of Malaysian delegation, saying a few words in memory of Mrs. Fee Chon Chong Low.



Jochen Flasbath, on behalf of the COP President, and Gurdial Singh, Malaysia.

### NEW PUBLICATIONS



CBD Technical Series No. 42:  
Review of the Literature on the  
Links between Biodiversity and  
Climate Change – Impacts,  
Adaptation and Mitigation  
[http://www.cbd.int/doc/  
publications/cbd-ts-42-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-42-en.pdf)



November 2009 issue  
[http://www.cbd.int/forest/  
newsletters/redd-2009-  
11.htm](http://www.cbd.int/forest/newsletters/redd-2009-11.htm)



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