



COP9 CBD / High-Level Segment
28– 30 May 2008 in Bonn, Germany

Additional Information to Assist Participants to Prepare their Interventions

This note provides additional information to the participants to the High Level Segment in order to help them in preparing for their possible interventions.

Participation of Ministers in Negotiations

On Wednesday 28, during the opening ceremony, after the welcome speeches, the two chairs of the Working Groups I and II of CoP-9 will inform the High Level Segment about the current status of the negotiations. Then the President of CoP-9 will identify the most important outstanding issues which would need high level political guidance. This will be followed by a brief intervention of the Executive Director of UNEP, Mr Steiner, who will present a UN perspective on those issues. Ministers will then have the opportunity, according with the time available, for a round of discussions at the High Level Segment on those outstanding issues.

Formal negotiations on those issues will then take place, with the participation of Ministers, during the Wednesday's afternoon session of the Plenary of the Conference of the Parties. By the end of that session, if necessary, the President of CoP-9 will establish up to 3 groups of Friends of the Chair aiming at reaching a basis for consensus on those outstanding issues. If necessary, the group(s) of Friends of the Chair will work in parallel to the following sessions of CoP-9 and the High Level Segment.

Statements of Commitments

As announced in Minister Gabriel's invitation to the High Level Segment, the sessions of Thursday afternoon and Friday morning will focus on statements of commitments by Ministers. In view of the limited time available, statements are expected to be as short as possible in order to allow all speakers to address the High Level Segment. Participants are encouraged to inform the focal point for the High Level Segment, **Mrs. Verena Klinger-Dering** (e-mail: verena.klinger-dering@bmu.bund.de; GSM number: +49-173-5230149), at their earliest convenience, whether they intend to make a statement of commitments. In addition, it would also be useful if participants could send an advanced copy of their statement to Mrs. Klinger-Dering in order to make easier the work of the interpreters.