



Convention on
Biological Diversity

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STATEMENT BY

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**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

ON THE OCCASION OF

**THE MEETING OF THE SECOND STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE INTER-
PARLIAMENTARY UNION**

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Life in harmony, into the future
いのちの共生を、未来へ
COP 10 / MOP 5

Mr. Chairman,

In 2004 in Geneva, a resolution adopted unanimously by the 111th IPU Assembly on the role of parliamentarians in preserving biodiversity recognized the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) as the principal international instrument addressing the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

In 2008 at CBD COP9 in Bonn, parliamentarians adopted the Bonn Declaration on Parliamentarians and Biodiversity (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/groups/parliamentarians/bonn-declaration-2008-en.pdf>).

More recently, at CBD COP10 in Nagoya 120 legislators from 38 Parties to the CBD participated in the Parliamentarians and Biodiversity Forum. The resulting Nagoya Declaration on Parliamentarians and Biodiversity (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/biodiv/parli-nagoya/official/parli-nagoya-declaration-en.pdf>) calls for, and I quote, “a transition to a new global economy where the true values of biodiversity, ecosystem services and natural capital are carefully integrated into policy making processes at all levels of government.”

To this end, parliamentarians in Nagoya explicitly supported the establishment of an Access and Benefit Sharing Protocol under the CBD and offered their political support for proposed the 2011-2020 strategy of the Convention. Following the historic success of the Nagoya Biodiversity Summit, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising out of their Utilization and the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan, or the Aichi Targets, are now realities that must be implemented.

The eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD (COP 11), which will convene in India from 8-19 October 2012, is the target for convening the first meeting of the Parties to the Protocol. To achieve this target, the Nagoya Protocol must enter into force no later than 8 October 2012, with the 50th instrument of ratification deposited no later than 10 July 2012. Similarly, to provide effective guidance on national implementation of the Aichi Targets, countries must formulate new National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans as soon as possible.

Considering the direct connection of the Nagoya Protocol and the Aichi Targets with the issues of sustainable development, finance and trade, including natural resource management and agricultural production, we at the Convention would like to emphasize that the CBD and the Nagoya Outcomes provide the relevant framework when – as urged by the draft resolution now being debated – parliamentarians “act as agents of change in identifying an integrated and sustainable approach to the management of natural resources, agricultural production and demographic change.”

Given the increasing collaboration between the CBD and the IPU, we believe it is important to take every opportunity to harmonize our work, and encourage the Second Standing Committee to take the ratification of the Nagoya Protocol and the achievement of the Aichi Targets into consideration as it reviews the draft resolution on the role of parliaments in ensuring sustainable development through the management of natural resources, agricultural production and demographic change.

Thank you for your kind attention.