



## RECENT MEA ACTIVITIES

### ▶ CLIMATE AND ATMOSPHERE

#### MOP 22 Takes Decisions on Evaluation of Financial Mechanism



L-R: Environmental Effects Assessment Panel Co-Chair Jan van der Leun being thanked by Trairong Suwankiri, Deputy Prime Minister, Thailand, for his long-standing commitment to the Protocol

The 22nd Meeting of the Parties (MOP 22) to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer took place in Bangkok, Thailand, from 8-12 November 2010. MOP 22 adopted 16 substantive decisions including on: the terms of reference (ToR) for the Technical and Economic Assessment Panel study on the replenishment of the Multilateral Fund; the ToR for the evaluation of the financial mechanism; assessment of technologies for ozone-depleting substances (ODS) destruction; budget; and data and compliance issues. The meeting did not make progress on low-global warming potential alternatives, or ODS destruction (<http://www.iisd.ca/vol19/enb1979e.html>).

#### GUEST ARTICLE

##### Addressing climate change in national key sectors – assessing the costs of adaptation and mitigation

By the Environment and Energy Group, Bureau for Development Policy, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

##### Abstract

Climate change already impacts the lives of people around the world, and nearly all sectors of society either contribute to greenhouses gas emissions and/or are affected by climate change.

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#### RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

##### Interdependence of Biodiversity and Development under Global Change

(CBD Technical Series No. 54, 2010) This report presents an analysis of the systemic character of global change, biodiversity and human development, and the relationships between them, describing and evaluating the complicated relationships and dynamics between human and biological systems. It was edited by P.L. Ibsch, A. Vega E. and T.M. Herrmann (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-54-en.pdf>).

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## ► CLIMATE AND ATMOSPHERE



Logo courtesy of the UNFCCC Secretariat

### Cancún Agenda and Scenario Note Published

The UNFCCC Secretariat has released additional documents in preparation for the 16th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 16) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP 6), which will be held in Cancún, Mexico, from 29 November-10 December 2010. The 33rd meetings of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) will also convene at the same time.

Under the AWG-LCA, the scenario note for AWG-LCA 13 has been published. The Secretariat has also issued notes containing the provisional agenda and annotations for the session. The scenario note indicates that the AWG-LCA Chair's assessment is that the appropriate way for the AWG-LCA to present its outcome to COP 16 would be through one draft decision that encompasses the full scope of the AWG-LCA outcome. This decision will need to be comprehensive but not exhaustive, recognizing that the AWG-LCA will not be able to conclude on all as-

pects of its work this year, while securing incremental progress in a balanced manner. Any remaining work would need to be carried forward (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/awglca13/eng/17.pdf>).

In-session draft texts and the notes by the facilitators prepared at AWG-LCA 12 have also been published. The draft texts were made available to parties during the Tianjin session reflecting progress made on elements of the AWG-LCA negotiating text (FCCC/AWGLCA/2010/14) by the drafting groups. These texts were understood by the drafting groups as revisions of corresponding elements in the negotiating text. The notes by facilitators were prepared for various purposes, depending on the approach adopted in the drafting group. They contain points of discussion, potential areas of convergence and outstanding issues, questions and issues raised by parties of possible elements of a draft decision. The notes have no formal status in the negotiations. The AWG-LCA negotiating text still remains on the table for consideration at AWG-LCA 13 (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/awglca13/eng/inf01.pdf>).

Under the AWG-KP a draft proposal by the AWG-KP Chair to facilitate preparations for negotiations has been published. The document consists of draft COP/MOP decisions on: amendments to the Kyoto Protocol pursuant to its Article 3, paragraph 9; land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF); emissions trading and the project-based mechanisms; greenhouse gases (GHGs), sectors and source categories, common metrics to calculate the carbon dioxide equivalence of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks, and other methodological issues; and consideration of

information on potential environmental, economic and social consequences, including spillover effects, of tools, policies, measures and methodologies available to Annex I parties (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/awglca15/eng/17.pdf>).

A report of the Adaptation Fund Board for consideration by COP/MOP 6 has also been released. The report contains a draft decision for approval by the COP/MOP, and information on decisions and actions taken by the Adaptation Fund Board to be noted by the COP/MOP. The report invites the COP/MOP to take note of key actions, including: inception of the accreditation process of implementing entities; approval of the first two funding decisions, including a direct access programme for Senegal; and accrual of proceeds from the monetization of certified emission reductions (CERs) of over \$120 million. The report also describes additional progress made by the Adaptation Fund ([http://maindb.unfccc.int/library/view\\_pdf.pl?url=http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/cmp6/eng/07.pdf](http://maindb.unfccc.int/library/view_pdf.pl?url=http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/cmp6/eng/07.pdf)).

In other news, a regional training workshop was held on 26-28 October 2010, in Singapore, on preparing technology transfer projects for financing. Participants included representatives from Fiji, Maldives, Singapore, Palau, Solomon Islands and Samoa, who were trained in preparing project proposals for financing, with special attention to risk management and financial structuring. The training was based on material in the UNFCCC guidebook on preparing technology transfer projects for financing. Participants also submitted draft project proposals that were presented and improved during the workshop (<http://unfccc.int/ttclear/jsp/TrnDetails.jsp?EN=TrainingWorkshopSingapore>).

## ► SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### ECESA Discusses Vision and Expectations for UNCSA

The Principals of the Executive Committee of Economic and Social Affairs (ECESA) and of other relevant UN entities met at UN Headquarters in New York, US, on 4 November, in an effort to define a common UN vision and expectations for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSA, also called Rio+20).

UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs Sha Zukang, Convenor of ECESA and UNCSA Secretary-General, invited the Principals of ECESA to engage in a frank, interactive dialogue during which they brainstormed initiatives to be launched at UNCSA. The meet-

ing focused in particular on the two thematic focuses of UNCSA: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and the institutional framework for sustainable development (IFSD). Participants also discussed potential individual and joint outreach activities that would encourage stakeholder participation. Under-Secretary-General Sha called on UN system entities to provide substantive contributions, such as inputs to the Secretary-General's Report, technical papers on priority themes, expert meetings or briefings, support for national and regional preparatory activities, secondment of staff, and sharing experiences of best practices ([http://www.uncsa2012.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=131:working-together&catid=1:latest-news&Itemid=71](http://www.uncsa2012.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=131:working-together&catid=1:latest-news&Itemid=71)).

In related news, the Division for Sustainable Development has posted the provisional organization of work for the 19th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). This document anticipates that negotiations on draft decisions would take place in two working groups, beginning on Tuesday, 3 May 2011. A High-level Segment will convene from 11-13 May 2011, with a Multistakeholder Dialogue on "Moving Forward with CSD-19 Decisions" to take place on 13 May 2011 ([http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd\\_pdfs/csd-19/Organization\\_of\\_work\\_CSD19-draft.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd_pdfs/csd-19/Organization_of_work_CSD19-draft.pdf)).

**GUEST ARTICLE (cont.)**

However, most developing countries have been unable to articulate the economic and policy implications of addressing this challenge. Now, UNDP is supporting more than 20 countries in their efforts to undertake national assessments to estimate the costs of addressing priority adaptation and/or mitigation options in key sectors.

The countries are using a methodology developed by UNDP in collaboration with international experts and regional centres of excellence. The national assessment of investment & financial flows (I&FF) seeks to answer the question: “From a development perspective, what does my country need to do to address climate change in my selected key sectors, and what i) policy and regulatory framework, ii) investment environment, and iii) financial landscape will be required to achieve that objective?” In this sense, the assessment moves beyond a straight costing activity to consider who is investing in the sector (households, corporations, and/or government?), when major investment decisions are expected to be made, and what shifts or increases in investments or financial flows will be needed in order to address climate change. The I&FF methodology captures the full financial needs of countries – including both specific physical investments and the wider financial flows for non-physical expenditures.

Conceptually, the I&FF methodology is straightforward. Once the scope of a sector is clearly defined, the relevant investment costs for that sector are projected for two future scenarios: 1) a baseline scenario, which reflects a continuation of current national policies and plans, i.e., a future in which no new measures are taken to address climate change (otherwise referred to as a “business-as-usual” scenario), and 2) a climate change scenario, in which new mitigation measures are taken (a “mitigation scenario”) or new adaptation measures are taken (an “adaptation scenario”). The investment costs of the baseline and mitigation (or the baseline and adaptation) scenarios are then compared to determine the incremental changes in investments needed to mitigate emissions from the sector (or to adapt to the impacts to the sector). Note that changes in investments may include not only increases in investments (new funding), but also shifts in existing investments (reallocations of existing and currently projected funding levels such that funds in one area decrease, and funds in another area increase).

Under the projects, countries have selected two to four key sectors for the I&FF assessment. For mitigation, energy and forestry were the most commonly identified (by 10 and eight countries respectively), while for adaptation, agriculture and water were the most common (by 12 and 11 countries respectively). Other sectors iden-

tified were transport, health, coastal zones, forestry, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism.

Understanding the financial costs of addressing climate change, as well as the potential sources of those funds, is a critical step for governments in developing longer-term national policies and measures and the I&FF assessment has been a useful tool in this context. However, an equally important outcome of the process has been the fostering of institutional collaboration and discussions for mainstreaming climate change issues into national development planning. The I&FF assessments have improved the knowledge base for national budget planning and prioritization of investments, reinforced national sectoral planning, and informed discussions at the national level regarding the post 2012 financial architecture for long-term cooperation on climate change. It is also anticipated that the I&FF assessments could provide useful inputs for the development or refinement of national strategies, such as National Adaptation Plans.

To read the full article, visit: <http://www.iisd.ca/mea-1/guestarticle104.html>

*Editor's note: MEA Bulletin invites articles from practitioners, MEAs and academics on issues that are of interest across the MEA community. Please contact the Editor, [lynn@iisd.org](mailto:lynn@iisd.org), for further information.*

**► INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS****UNEP Supports Low-Carbon Activities in India, Facilitates Major Group Consultations**

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) has announced a EUR2.49 million project funded by the German International Climate Initiative to support India's efforts in aligning transport growth with the country's climate change agenda. Supported by UNEP, the project comprises two key



India has embarked on a new pathway towards developing a low-carbon transport system (photo courtesy of UNEP)

interventions: the development of a national action plan for low-carbon transport and the design of low-carbon mobility plans for four cities across India (<http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=651&ArticleID=6829&l=en>).

As part of the Natural Resources Management in Post-Conflict Countries Initiative, developed by UNEP in partnership with the UN Industrial Development Organization and the International Institute for Sustainable Development, UNEP convened a four-day training course for UN Field Mission staff. Aiming to equip participants with the tools to address environmental issues related to the work and mandate of UN peacekeeping missions, the training was held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 9-13 November, and attended by 25 environmental focal points representing all current peacekeeping missions (<http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?Docu>

[mentID=651&ArticleID=6824&l=en](http://www.unep.org/Documents.Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=651&ArticleID=6824&l=en)).

UNEP has facilitated the development of a Major Groups and Stakeholder Advisory Group on International Environmental Governance (IEG), consisting of 15 core members, following the submission of 90 responses to the call for applications. The Advisory Group participated in a consultation on 25 October 2010, in Geneva, Switzerland, to assess the IEG options currently under discussion, to examine alternative options, and to identify implementation and communication outreach strategies, among other agenda items. UNEP is also in the process of organizing regional consultations for major groups in preparation for the February 2011 meeting of the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environmental Forum (<http://www.unep.org/civil-society/GlobalMajorGroupsStakeholdersForum/RegionalConsultations2010/tabid/5454/Default.aspx#IEG>).

## RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

### Biodiversity Planning: An Assessment of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

(UNU-IAS, October 2010) Authored by Christian Prip, Tony Gross, Sam Johnston and Marjo Veiros, the report is the first comprehensive assessment of all national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) and their effectiveness as tools for national implementation. Recommendations focus on the steps needed to ensure that NBSAPs fulfill their role as the primary mechanism for implementation of the CBD and its new Strategic Plan ([http://www.ias.unu.edu/sub\\_page.aspx?catID=97&ddIID=1406](http://www.ias.unu.edu/sub_page.aspx?catID=97&ddIID=1406)).

### Biodiversity Indicators and the 2010 Biodiversity Target

(CBD Technical Series No. 53, 2010) Prepared by the UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), and published by the 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, the CBD Secretariat, UNEP and the GEF, this technical compendium of the products delivered by the 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership provides details on the methodology and underlying data for each of the indicators used in the third edition of Global Biodiversity Outlook (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-53-en.pdf>).

### Protecting Arctic Biodiversity: Strengths and Limitations of Environmental Agreements

(UNEP GRID-Arendal, 2010) This report details solutions to the current biodiversity crisis existing in the Arctic, but stresses conservation gains are only possible if root causes for biodiversity loss are addressed outside the Arctic (<http://www.grida.no/publications/arctic-biodiversity/>).

### Catalogue of Biodiversity-Based Products

(GEF, Small Grants Programme, 2010) This catalogue of biodiversity-based products from SGP's Latin American & Caribbean portfolio demonstrates the linkage between the sustainable use of biodiversity, community empowerment and poverty reduction ([http://sgp.undp.org/index.cfm?module=ActiveWeb&page=WebPage&s=biodiversity\\_case\\_st](http://sgp.undp.org/index.cfm?module=ActiveWeb&page=WebPage&s=biodiversity_case_st)).

## CHEMICALS AND WASTES

### SAICM Invites Comment on Health Sector Engagement Strategy

The Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) Secretariat has released a draft strategy on strengthening the engagement of the health sector in implementation of the SAICM. The SAICM Secretariat is inviting comments including on: the proposed objectives, activities and actions and means of implementation, and ascribed priorities; existing activities that could contribute to the implementation of the proposed activities and actions; and the availability of case studies that could assist policy makers at the third session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM-3) to assess the strategy and chart a way forward for the period 2012-2020. Comments should be submitted to the Secretariat by 17 January 2011 (<http://www.saicm.org/index.php?menuid=9&pageid=433&submenuheader=>).

In other SAICM news, the SAICM Quick Start Programme has opened its tenth round of applications. Applications from SAICM participating governments are invited for activities to implement SAICM, and should be submitted by 11 February 2011 (<http://www.saicm.org/index.php?menuid=25&pageid=259&submenuheader=>).

### Rotterdam Requests Examples of Cooperation Under Synergies Decision

The Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention is requesting information from parties, regional centers and stakeholders on examples of good coordination and exchanges of experiences, through voluntary reports and national

and regional activities, as requested under RC.Ex-1.1. Reports should be submitted by 30 November 2011 (<http://www.pic.int/Synergies/Invitation%20to%20report%20on%20joint%20activities%20on%20the%20Basel.%20Rotterdam%20and%20Stockholm%20Conventions.pdf>).

In other news, St. Vincent and the Grenadines has acceded to the Convention, which will enter into force for the country on 27 January 2011 (<http://www.pic.int>).

### Basel Convention Adds Synergies Page to Website

The Secretariat of the Basel Convention has added a synergies section to its website. The page includes decisions related of the simultaneous extraordinary meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions held in Bali, Indonesia, from 22-24 February 2010 (<http://www.basel.int/synergies/index.html>).

### Stockholm Convention Releases Technical Assistance Newsletter

The Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention has released the November edition of its technical assistance newsletter. The November edition includes articles on: the Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Convention brokering tool, to assist developing countries in accessing finance; plans for Stockholm Convention COP-5 to be paperless; the outcomes of the recent Global Monitoring Plan Meeting; and the outcomes of a recent regional workshop in Kuwait (<http://chm.pops.int/Convention/Media/Newsletters/tabid/778/language/en-US/Default.aspx>).

## FORESTS, DESERTS AND LAND

### ITTO/CBD Transboundary Conservation Project Receives Funding

On 28 October 2010, the Government of Japan and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) exchanged notes on granting funding to a transboundary conservation area between Thailand and Cambodia, as part of the collaborative initiative between the ITTO and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The Transboundary Biodiversity Conservation of Mekong Protected Forest Area is in a region where habitat of transboundary wildlife species has been fragmented due to illegal logging and forest conversion to farmland. The Protected Area will receive a maximum of 174 million yen from the Government of Japan. It aims to improve the management plan of the Protected Area, establish head-

quarters for biodiversity management, build capacity amongst various stakeholders, including border patrol police, and improve local livelihoods, including by upgrading cultivation facilities for commercializing ornamental plants. This project is also a part of Japanese assistance to developing countries in the area of climate change ([http://www.itto.int/news\\_releases/id=2462](http://www.itto.int/news_releases/id=2462)).



Signing ceremony of the Thailand/Cambodia TBCA project under CBD/ITTO collaborative initiative (photo courtesy of the ITTO Secretariat)

## ► FORESTS, DESERTS AND LAND



Delegates during the first UNCCD Scientific Conference held in Buenos Aires, Argentina

### UNCCD Posts Assessment of First UNCCD Scientific Conference

The Secretariat of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) has posted the assessment it commissioned to review the organization of the first UNCCD Scientific Conference. The assessment, prepared by Lakhdar Boukerrou and Rania Bou Kheir, offers recommendations related to: conference organization; conference implementation; participation and funding; conference content; and communica-

tion with the press. Through interviews, surveys and other research methods, the authors develop the suggestion that “a scientific conference is a good mechanism for addressing scientific issues, but not a mechanism designed to address long-term issues and provide continuity.” They also note that “an independent mechanism is needed to allow for continuity within the UNCCD and for broader participation by the scientific community” (<http://www.unccd.int/science/docs/CONFERENCE%20ASSESSMENT%20FINAL%20REPORT%20NOV%207.pdf>).

In other UNCCD news, the latest issue of UNCCD News, which includes articles from the Executive Secretary and Ashok Khosla, among other features, has been published. In his editorial, UNCCD Executive Secretary

Luc Gnacadja recommends reading “Keeping the Promise,” the outcome of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) mid-term review in September, noting that the resolution highlights the fight against desertification. An interview with Ashok Khosla presents his insights into inadequate economic indicators, mediocrity in global governance and the short-termism of businessmen (<http://newsbox.unccd.int/>).

In addition, documents for the February 2011 meetings of the Committee on the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (<http://www.unccd.int/cop/officialdocs/cric9/doclist.php>) and second special session of the Committee on Science and Technology (<http://www.unccd.int/cop/officialdocs/cric9/cstdoclist.php>) are beginning to be posted on the UNCCD website.

## ► BIODIVERSITY AND WILDLIFE

### CITES Secretariat Prepares for Plants Committee Meeting, Launches New Web Sections

In preparation for the 19th meeting of the Plants Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Secretariat has issued a notification containing several issues of relevance, including registration and documentation (<http://www.cites.org/eng/notif/2010/E033.pdf>; <http://www.cites.org/eng/com/PC/19/index.shtml>).

The CITES Secretariat has also invited parties to nominate candidates for participation in the Working Group on the Bigleaf Mahogany and Other Neotropical Timber Species. Nominations should be sent to the CITES Secretariat before 30 November 2010, and will be reviewed by the Plants Committee (<http://www.cites.org/eng/notif/2010/E031.pdf>).

In other news, the CITES Secretariat has added two new sections on the CITES website, on: e-commerce of CITES-listed species; and the e-permitting toolkit. The section on e-commerce was developed pursuant to relevant decisions of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, and aims to compile and disseminate information related to e-commerce of CITES-listed species. The section on the CITES e-permitting toolkit provides information on e-permits and e-certificates and on the development of national e-permitting systems (<http://www.cites.org/eng/notif/2010/E035.pdf>).

In other CITES-related news, a worldwide operation co-ordinated by INTERPOL and involving 51 countries worldwide against the illegal trade in reptiles

and amphibians has resulted in arrests worldwide and the seizure of thousands of animals as well as of products worth more than 25 million Euros (<http://www.interpol.int/Public/ICPO/PressReleases/PR2010/PR089.asp>). Furthermore, meeting in Doha, Qatar, from 8-11 November 2010, the General Assembly of INTERPOL has adopted a resolution calling upon national law enforcement authorities to recognize that “environmental crime is not restricted by borders and involves organized crime networks which engage in other crime types including murder, corruption, fraud and theft.” Environmental crime encompasses activities ranging from illegal trade in wildlife, timber and marine species, to transborder movements of hazardous waste, and the illicit exploitation of natural resources. The adopted resolution was welcomed by the CITES Secretariat ([http://www.cites.org/eng/news/press/2010/20101108\\_Interpol\\_resolution.pdf](http://www.cites.org/eng/news/press/2010/20101108_Interpol_resolution.pdf)).

### CBD Circulates COP 10 Outcomes

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has made available the decisions of the 10th meeting of the CBD Conference of the Parties (COP 10), in an advance unedited version (<http://www.cbd.int/nagoya/outcomes/>).

In other CBD-related news, the Consortium of Scientific Partners to the CBD has expanded, as Missouri Botanical Garden, the Joint Nature Conservation Committee of the UK, and the National Institute of Biological Resources of Korea signed memoranda of understanding with the CBD Secretariat on the margins of COP 10 (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/press/2010/pr-2010-11-12-consortium-en.pdf>).

and amphibians has resulted in arrests worldwide and the seizure of thousands of animals as well as of products worth more than 25 million Euros (<http://www.interpol.int/Public/ICPO/PressReleases/PR2010/PR089.asp>).

Finally, the CBD Secretariat has called for nominations of: experts to participate in the meeting of the *ad hoc* technical expert group (AHTEG) on addressing the risks associated with the introduction of invasive alien species (IAS) as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food, scheduled to meet from 2-4 February 2011, in Geneva, Switzerland; and indigenous and local community representatives from the Caribbean, for participation to a regional capacity-building workshop, to be held from 16-18 March 2011, in Georgetown, Guyana (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2010/ntf-2010-204-ias-en.pdf>; <http://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2010/ntf-2010-202-tk-en.pdf>).

### UNEP/EUROBATS Launch Guidelines for Surveillance and Monitoring of European Bats

The UNEP-backed Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats (EUROBATS) has launched a new publication on guidelines for surveillance and monitoring of European bats, aiming to assist government and non-government organizations in Europe to: detect changes in distribution, range and abundance and provide long-term population trends; influence national and international policy/setting of conservation priorities; assess the effects of conservation and other types of wildlife management; and educate people about conserving and managing mammal populations ([http://www.eurobats.org/publications/publication%20series/pubseries\\_no5\\_english.pdf](http://www.eurobats.org/publications/publication%20series/pubseries_no5_english.pdf)).

## ► WATER, OCEANS AND WETLANDS

### DOALOS Releases UNSG Report

The UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS) has released the report of the UN Secretary-General (UNSG) "Oceans and the law of the sea" Addendum (Document A/65/69 Add.2). The report includes sections on: the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and its implementing agreements; marine science and technology; conservation and management of marine living resources; marine biological diversity; protection and preservation of the marine environment and sustainable development; climate change and oceans (<http://www.un.org/Depts/los/index.htm>).

### Ramsar Reports on BlackSeaWet Initiative, Releases Portfolio of Project Funding Opportunities

The Ramsar Secretariat has reported on the second meeting of the Ramsar's

Regional Initiative for Black and Azov Seas coastal wetlands, which took place from 5-7 October 2010, in Tulcea, Romania. The meeting was hosted by the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority, and brought together representatives of the countries bordering the Black and Azov Seas ([http://www.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-news-blackseawetnov2010/main/ramsar/1-26%5E24841\\_4000\\_0\\_\\_](http://www.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-news-blackseawetnov2010/main/ramsar/1-26%5E24841_4000_0__)).

In other Ramsar news, the Secretariat has released the 2010 Ramsar Small Grants Fund portfolio of project funding opportunities. The Fund aims to assist developing countries and those with economies in transition in implementing the Convention and to support the conservation and wise use of wetland resources, with a strong human and social dimension ([http://www.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-news-sgf2010/main/ramsar/1-26%5E24840\\_4000\\_0\\_\\_](http://www.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-news-sgf2010/main/ramsar/1-26%5E24840_4000_0__)).

### IMO Signs Cooperation Agreement, Presents Prize

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Norwegian Development Cooperation Agency (Norad) signed a framework Cooperation Agreement on 3 November 2010, under which Norad will provide contributions to the Organization's Integrated Technical Cooperation Programme. Selected projects under the Agreement will focus on activities related to the protection of the marine environment (<http://www.imo.org/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/Norway-to-assist-IMO.aspx>). In related news, the International Maritime Prize for 2009 was presented to Johan Franson (Sweden), for his contribution to maritime safety, security and prevention of pollution from ships, during a special ceremony at IMO headquarters in London, UK (<http://www.imo.org/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/prize2009.aspx>).

## ► TRADE, FINANCE AND INVESTMENT

### World Bank Signs Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement, Announces Partnership

The World Bank has signed the first African Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement (ERPA) on soil carbon. The Kenya Agricultural Carbon Project, implemented by the Swedish non-governmental organization (NGO) Vi Agroforestry, is located on 45,000 hectares in the Nyanza Province and Western Province of Kenya. Small-holder farmers and small-scale business entrepreneurs are trained in cropland management techniques such as covering crops, crop rotation, compost management and agro-forestry, and the World Bank-administered BioCarbon Fund will buy the carbon credits, providing direct benefit to local communities of over US\$350,000 with an initial payment of US\$80,000 to be made in 2011 (<http://go.worldbank.org/WIWKCY9T0>).

On 28 October 2010, the World Bank announced a new initiative entitled "Global Partnership for Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services Valuation and Wealth Accounting," which is designed to integrate ecosystem services into national accounting. Building on the UN Environment Programme project "The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodi-

versity" (TEEB), the initiative seeks to bring visibility to nature's services to the economy, bringing the value of natural capital to the highest level of a country's economic decision-making (<http://go.worldbank.org/WM94GRKSH0>).

In other development bank news, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the World Bank, and IUCN launched, on 28 October 2010, the Save Our Species (SOS) initiative with more than US\$10 million in financing commitments, calling on businesses to help build the biggest global species conservation fund by 2015 (<http://www.thegef.org/gef/node/3773>).

And the Global Environment Facility (GEF) launched the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative, a platform for organizations engaged in integrating conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in production landscapes, including forests and agricultural lands (<http://www.thegef.org/gef/node/3680>).

### WTO Trade and Environment Committees Discuss Environmental Goods, Ecolabels and Transport

Three recent meetings on trade and environment held at World Trade Organization (WTO) headquarters have

continued existing discussions on: the relationship between multilateral agreements and the WTO; the definition of environmental goods and ecolabels; and the challenges of controlling transport emissions from a trade perspective. On 8 November 2010, the Committee on Trade and Environment in Special Session held an open-ended informal meeting on all three elements under Paragraph 31 of the Doha Development Agenda. Regarding the relationship between the WTO and multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), both Norway and South Africa drew attention to previously submitted proposals while Switzerland introduced a new submission focusing on conflict avoidance. Particular concerns were raised regarding the Swiss proposal's implications for the WTO's dispute settlement procedures. Regarding negotiations on environmental goods, delegates stressed the need to address cross-cutting issues such as non-tariff barriers, special and differential treatment, and technology transfer. On 9 November 2010, the WTO Secretariat also organized a Workshop on the Linkages between Trade, Transport and the Environment and held a meeting of the Committee on Trade and Environment in Regular Session (IISD Sources).

## ► KEY UPCOMING MEA MEETINGS

- **Second Meeting of the Consultative Group on IEG:** 21-23 November 2010. Espoo, Finland. <http://www.unep.org/environmental-governance/Introduction/GCfeb2010/tabid/4556/language/en-US/Default.aspx>
- **58th Meeting of the CDM Executive Board:** 22-26 November 2010. Cancún, Mexico. <http://cdm.unfccc.int/Meetings/MeetingInfo/DB/K592CXOW1YI3F4U/view>
- **UNFCCC COP 16 and COP/MOP 6:** 29 November-10 December 2010. Cancún, Mexico. <http://www.iisd.ca/climate/cop16/>
- **62nd Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund for the Montreal Protocol:** 29 November-3 December 2010. Montréal, Canada. [http://www.multilateralfund.org/62nd\\_meeting\\_of\\_the\\_excutive\\_c.htm](http://www.multilateralfund.org/62nd_meeting_of_the_excutive_c.htm)