



RECENT MEA ACTIVITIES

► CHEMICALS AND WASTES

POPRC RECOMMENDS LISTING FOUR MORE CHEMICALS

The fourth meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee (POPRC4) of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), which convened from 13-17 October 2008, in Geneva, Switzerland, considered several operational issues, including conflict-of-interest procedures, toxic interactions



Throughout the week, the Committee continued progress with its agenda, completing deliberations on c-octaBDE, PeCB, alpha-HCH and beta-HCH

between POPs, and activities undertaken for effective participation of parties in its work. The Committee approved the risk management evaluations for four chemicals, and recommended that the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties consider listing under Annexes A, B, or C: commercial octabromodiphenyl ether (c-octaBDE), pentachlorobenzene (PeCB), and alpha- and beta-hexachlorocyclohexane (alphaHCH and betaHCH). A draft risk profile for short-chained chlorinated paraffins (SCCPs) was discussed throughout the week and the Committee agreed to forward it to POPRC5. POPRC4 also evaluated a proposal to list endosulfan under the Convention and agreed, by vote, that it met the Annex D criteria for listing and that a draft risk profile should be prepared for consideration by POPRC5. POPRC4 also began an exchange of views on a proposal to list hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD) under the Convention. Despite unusually contentious deliberations during the week, many participants expressed satisfaction with the Committee's accomplishments (<http://www.iisd.ca/chemical/pops/poprc4>).

MEA Clusters In This Issue

- **Chemicals and Wastes**
ICCM Working Group Convenes;
Mercury OEWG Recommends
Framework Page 2
- **Intergovernmental Organizations**
UNEP and UNWTO Announce
Sustainable Tourism Criteria Page 3
- **Sustainable Development**
DSD Organizes Climate Change and
Indicators Meeting Page 3
- **Forests, Deserts and Land**
ITTO Co-Hosts Forum; UNCCD
Participates in Environmental
Migration Conference Pages 3-4
- **Climate and Atmosphere**
Kyoto Trading "Goes Global;"
Multilateral Fund, Ozone Secretariat
Prepare for Meetings Page 4
- **Water, Oceans and Wetlands**
New Ramsar Sites Designated;
DOALOS Releases Documents;
IMO Environment Committee
Makes Progress Page 5
- **Trade, Finance and Investment**
IMF and World Bank Address
Economic Crisis and Climate Change;
Climate Investment Fund Boards
Selected Page 6
- **Biodiversity and Wildlife**
CBD Bureau Assesses COP9 Decision
Funding Requirements; CMS MOU
on Marine Mammals Signed; CITES
and Interpol Launch Manual Page 7

SPECIAL MEETING REPORT

Lusaka Agreement Parties Complete Ninth Governing Council Meeting

The Lusaka Agreement on Cooperative Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora held its ninth Governing Council Meeting in Kampala, Uganda, on 3 October 2008. The Governing Council was preceded by a two-day Meeting of Experts, which identified a number of common and challenging issues facing parties.

Continued on page 2

RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

CLIMATE CHANGE AND GOVERNANCE IN THE FOREST SECTOR

(Rights and Resources Initiative and Intercooperation, October 2008) Written by Carmenza Robledo, Jürgen Blaser, Sarah Byrne and Kaspar Schmidt, this report provides an overview of the issues on forests and climate change, with specific consideration of sector governance, tenure and access for local stakeholders (<http://www.rightsandresources.org/documents/index.php?pubID=857>).

Continued on page 3

The *MEA Bulletin* © is a publication of IISD <info@iisd.ca>, publishers of the *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* © <enb@iisd.org>. This issue was researched and written by Soledad Aguilar, Melanie Ashton, Alice Bisiaux, Reem Hajjar, Amber Moreen, Ph.D., Renata Rubian, Chris Spence, Elsa Tsioumani, and Lynn Wagner, Ph.D. The Digital Editor is Diego Noguera. The Editor is Lynn Wagner, Ph.D. <lynn@iisd.org>. The Deputy Director of IISD Reporting Services is Chris Spence and the Director of IISD Reporting Services is Langston James "Kimo" Goree VI <kimo@iisd.org>. The *MEA Bulletin* is published by IISD in cooperation with UNEP's Division of Environmental Law and Conventions (DEL/C). Opinions expressed in *MEA Bulletin* are those of the authors and not the publishers. Excerpts from the *MEA Bulletin* may be used in non-commercial publications with appropriate academic citation. For information on IISDRS publications, including requests to provide reporting services, contact the Director of IISD Reporting Services at <kimo@iisd.org>, +1-646-536-7556 or 300 East 56th St., 11A, New York, NY 10022, USA.

SPECIAL MEETING REPORT (cont.)

Traditional poaching has given way to more sophisticated commercial poaching stretching the resources of wildlife enforcement agencies across Africa. Rapidly expanding human populations are increasingly leading to human – wildlife conflicts, with no or limited compensation schemes for injuries or property damage. African countries lack adequate wildlife legislation or existing legislation is inadequately enforced. In many countries the penalties for illegal trade in wildlife are only a fraction of the rewards poachers gain. This leaves a serious enforcement gap. Economic expansion to tap raw materials provides access to previously untouched areas. This opens up new routes to poaching. Additionally, countries need to realize that their wildlife is an important asset to be utilized to the benefit of local people.

To combat these and other related problems, the Lusaka Agreement established a permanent Lusaka Agreement Task Force in 1999. This unique Task Force is composed of national law enforcement officers seconded by the parties. Additionally, National Bureaus conduct joint cross-border law enforcement operations and conduct training and inter-agency awareness programmes both independently and with the Task Force. The work of the Task Force has been instrumental in addressing wildlife crime, as evidenced by its role in the seizure of



Participants at the end of the meeting (photo courtesy of UNEP)

6.5 tons of contraband ivory in Singapore. Having served its investigative purposes, the Governing Council decided that this ivory will now be disposed of in accordance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) provisions.

Despite these successes, the Lusaka Agreement faces challenges ahead. With only six parties (Congo-Brazzaville, Kenya, Lesotho, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia) and three signatories (Ethiopia, South Africa and Swaziland), the Lusaka Agreement needs to attract more African States to ensure comprehensive coverage of the continent and to further prevent or address transboundary wildlife crime. With an eye on this, the Lusaka Agreement will now undertake an assessment on sustainable options related to financing mechanisms for the Lusaka Agreement and its Task Force,

the structure of the Task Force and deployment of its Field Officers.

The Lusaka Agreement on Cooperative Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora is a regional agreement open to all African States. Its objective is to reduce, and ultimately eliminate, illegal trade in wild fauna and flora. The Agreement builds upon and supports implementation of CITES in Africa. For more information visit the Lusaka Agreement website (<http://www.lusakaagreement.org/>) or contact the Lusaka Agreement Task Force Director (skisamo@lusakaagreement.org; administrator@lusakaagreement.org).

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, for further information.

► CHEMICALS AND WASTES

ICCM OPEN-ENDED LEGAL AND TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP CONVENES

The Open-ended Legal and Technical Working Group (OELTWG) in preparation for the Second International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM2) is convening in Rome, Italy, from 21-24 October 2008. The OELTWG's agenda includes: the preparation of the rules of procedure of the ICCM; emerging

policy issues; aspects related to the implementation of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM); a process for the possible addition of new activities to the Global Plan of Action; and the relationship of the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety to the SAICM. As of Wednesday 22 October, delegates were addressing rules of procedure for the ICCM (<http://www.iisd.ca/chemical/iccm2/lgt/>).

SECOND MERCURY OEWG RECOMMENDS ADOPTION OF FRAMEWORK

The Second Meeting of the Ad hoc Open-ended Working Group (OEWG2) to Review and Assess Measures to Address the Global Issue of Mercury met from 6-10 October 2008, in Nairobi, Kenya. The OEWG discussions included: elements to be addressed by a mercury framework; actions to be undertaken to address mercury; and the capacity building, financial and technical support required to deliver on the actions. Delegates recommended that the UN Environment Programme Governing Council adopt a policy framework on mercury and narrowed down the list of implementation instruments – one legally-binding and three voluntary options – for its consideration in February 2009 (<http://www.iisd.ca/chemical/merc2/>).



Members of the SAICM Secretariat during the opening plenary of the Open-ended Legal and Technical Working Group in preparation for the Second ICCM

RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

USING NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCE REVENUES FOR SUSTAINABLE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

(DESA, 2008) This sixth issue in the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs' (DESA) Innovation Briefs series examines the issue of the use of non-renewable resource revenues for sustainable local development (<http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/publications/innovationbriefs/no6.pdf>).

THE STATE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE 2008 – BIOFUELS

(FAO, October 2008) The 2008 edition of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) State of the World's Food and Agriculture Report focuses on the prospects, risks and opportunities for biofuels (http://www.fao.org/sof/sofa/index_en.html).

GPA OUTREACH

(Stakeholder Forum, September 2008) This publication focuses on implementation of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA) by various GPA partners. In this issue, the International Ocean Institute describes its work on GPA-related activities, lessons learned in carrying out the Memorandum of Understanding between the UNEP/GPA and the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)-National Ocean Service are reviewed, and Oceana outlines sources of land-based pollution and their impacts on the marine environment (http://www.stakeholderforum.org/fileadmin/files/GPA_Outreach/GPA_July_Sept_FINAL_13_10_08.pdf).

ANNUAL REPORT ON PROTECTED AREAS: A REVIEW OF GLOBAL CONSERVATION PROGRESS IN 2007

(UNEP-WCMC, 2008) This report highlights achievements made in protected areas around the world during the past year (http://www.unep-wcmc.org/protected_areas/docs/Wdpa%202008%20ComplR%20Final.pdf).

▶ INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS



Banner courtesy of the Global Sustainable Tourism Criteria

UNEP ANNOUNCES SUSTAINABLE TOURISM CRITERIA

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the UN World Tourism Organization, with the UN Foundation and the Rainforest Alliance, have established the Global Sustainable Tour-

ism Criteria. The criteria are targeted at establishing a framework to aid tourists and the tourism industry in evaluating the benefits of tourism to local communities, the impacts of tourism on cultural heritage, the extent of harm to the local environment and sustainability (<http://www.sustainabletourismcriteria.org/>).

▶ SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

DSD ORGANIZES MEETING ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND INDICATORS, DRAFT TEN YEAR FRAMEWORK ON SCP RELEASED

The Division for Sustainable Development of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DSD/DESA) organized an expert group meeting on "Climate Change and Sustainable Development: The Role of Indicators," which convened from 15-16 October 2008, in New York, US. Participants examined the usefulness of indicators for sustainable development (ISD) for climate change adaptation and mitigation policies and frameworks, with the objective of identifying the linkages between ISD and climate change (http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/natlinfo/indicators/15Oct_2008/egm.htm).

In other DSD news, the draft Ten Year Framework on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) has been released for public comment. During the coming weeks, a number



Logos courtesy of the UN

of meetings will take place in relation to the Marrakesh Process on SCP, including the second meeting of the Advisory Committee (23 October 2008, Paris, France), the European Regional Meeting on SCP (30-31 October 2008, Prague, Czech Republic), and the North American Regional Meeting on SCP (6-7 November 2008, Washington, DC, US) (<http://esa.un.org/marrakechprocess/firstdraft10YFP.shtml>).

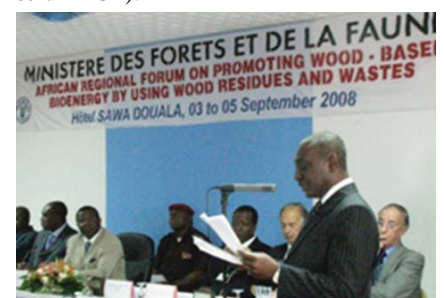
Finally, the guidelines for major groups' participation in the 17th session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) are now available all UN official languages, for the first time in CSD history (<http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd17/mg/guidelines2009e.htm>).

▶ FORESTS, DESERTS AND LAND

ITTO CO-HOSTS AFRICAN WOOD-BASED BIOENERGY FORUM

The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) has posted information from an African regional forum on promoting wood-based bioenergy using wood residues and wastes, which convened in Douala, Cameroon, on 3-5 September 2008. Participants at the event, co-sponsored by ITTO, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization and GTZ, discussed a road-map for wood-based bioenergy development in the region. They recommended several thematic issues to be addressed by the road-map and project activities, including: improvement of wood-charcoal production from forest and industry wood residues; development of ways

to assess forest-based resources; and pilot projects at the local/regional level on technologies to make use of wood residues from processing of secondary wood-species (<http://www.itto.or.jp/live/PageDisplayHandler?pageId=223&id=4131>).



Emmanuel Ze Meka, ITTO Executive Director, addresses the forum (photo courtesy of T. Yanuariadi, ITTO)

RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

TROPICAL FOREST UPDATE

(ITTO, October 2008) The latest issue of the newsletter published by the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) includes articles on the process of revising guidelines for biodiversity conservation in tropical production forests, the role of reduced impact logging in biodiversity and carbon conservation, and sustainable forest use in Thailand, the Philippines, the Congo Basin and Cameroon (<http://www.itto.or.jp/live/PageDisplayHandler?pageId=243&id=4257>).

THE 2008 REVIEW OF THE IUCN RED LIST OF THREATENED SPECIES

(IUCN, October 2008) This publication explores aspects of the IUCN Red List, including: freshwater biodiversity; status of the world's marine species; broadening the coverage of biodiversity assessment; species susceptibility to climate change impacts; and the Mediterranean, a biodiversity hotspot under threat (http://iucn.org/about/work/programmes/species/red_list/review/index.cfm).

▶ FORESTS, DESERTS AND LAND

UNCCD PARTICIPATES IN CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL MIGRATION

The Secretariat of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) has participated as an organizing partner of the International Conference on Environment, Forced Migration and Social Vulnerability, which convened in Bonn, Germany, from 9-11 October 2008. The meeting was hosted by the UN University, with UNEP and International Organization for Migration among the other organizing partners. The Conference discussed the current

state of research and debate on the issue and concluded with recommendations for moving forward. Speaking at the Conference, the UNCCD Secretariat suggested that an internationally accepted definition of "environmental refugees" should be agreed upon, as only political refugees are eligible for aid from the UN refugee agency. Coinciding with the meeting, the UNCCD developed a webpage on desertification and migration (<http://www.efmsv2008.org/>; <http://www.unccd.int/science/desertsandmigration/menu.php>).



Photos courtesy of the International Conference on Environment, Forced Migration and Social Vulnerability

▶ CLIMATE AND ATMOSPHERE

KYOTO TRADING "GOES GLOBAL;" DE BOER HIGHLIGHTS AFRICA'S OPPORTUNITY

The UNFCCC International Transaction Log has linked with the trading registries of European Union countries. According to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat, the linking of these systems "allows governments and legal entities to exchange and use emissions rights on a global scale, also taking advantage of credits stemming from the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and Joint Implementation flexibility mechanisms of the Kyoto Protocol." The system was launched on 16 October 2008, and is expected to boost the exchange of global emissions credits significantly (http://unfccc.int/files/press/news_room/press_releases_and_advisories/application/pdf/20081014_press_release_itl_citl.pdf).

Meanwhile, UNFCCC Executive Secretary Yvo de Boer has argued that African countries have a "golden opportunity" to design an agreement on the road to Copenhagen that benefits the continent. In a speech delivered on

21 October 2008, he proposed that solutions should help Africa adapt to climate change, boost technology transfer and capacity building, and "green Africa's economic growth" (http://unfccc.int/files/press/news_room/statements/application/pdf/081021_speech_benin.pdf).

In other news, preparations for the UNFCCC negotiations in Poznan, Poland, have continued with the release of several new conference documents, including a compilation of views on the distribution and effectiveness of the CDM, a report on the Kyoto mechanisms, and a technical paper on funding adaptation in developing countries (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2008/cmp4/eng/inf04.pdf>, <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2008/cmp4/eng/inf03.pdf>, <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2008/tp/06.pdf>).

MULTILATERAL FUND, OZONE SECRETARIAT PREPARE FOR MEETINGS

The Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol has released background documents in preparation for the 56th Meeting of

the Executive Committee, which will convene from 8-12 November 2008, in Doha, Qatar. The Executive Committee will consider the status of contributions and disbursements, 2008 business plans, developing countries' prospects of achieving compliance with the next round of control measures, costs of HCFC phase-out, and the study on financing the destruction of ozone depleting substances (ODS) (<http://www.multilateralfund.org/56thmeeting.htm>).

In other ozone news, the Secretariat has posted: a document addressing data and compliance issues; comments received on a proposal on destruction and banks of ODS; the status of licensing systems and focal points; an addendum to the Secretariat's note on issues for discussion at the 20th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (MOP20) and the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention; recommendations of the seventh meeting of the Ozone Research Managers; and a survey to aid the Secretariat in the redesign of their website (<http://ozone.unep.org/highlights.shtml>).

► WATER, OCEANS AND WETLANDS



Caldeirão do Corvo (photo courtesy of Ramsar)



Complexo Vulcânico das Furnas (photo courtesy of Ramsar)

NEW RAMSAR SITES DESIGNATED

The Ramsar Secretariat has reported that the Governments of Portugal, Italy, Peru, France and Germany have designated new Wetlands of International Importance, and that 15 new Mexican sites have been listed. Peru has named eleven Ramsar sites in its mid-Atlantic autonomous region of the Azores Archipelago (http://www.ramsar.org/wn/w.n.portugal_eleven.htm). The Italian site is “Lagustelli di Percile” and consists of two closed Apennine lakes (http://www.ramsar.org/index_bulletin.htm). The Peruvian site is “Manglares de San Pedro de Vice,” which is currently threatened due to inadequate management and lack of planning (http://www.ramsar.org/index_bulletin.htm). The Governments of France and Germany have jointly designated two new Wetlands of International Importance and inscribed them as the ninth Transboundary Ramsar Site (http://www.ramsar.org/wn/w.n.trs_rhein.htm). In addition, the Government of Mexico had announced on World Wetlands Day, 2 February 2008, the designation of 45 new Wetlands of International Importance and the Secretariat has reported that the last 15 of those new Ramsar sites have been listed (http://www.ramsar.org/wn/w.n.mexico_last15_e.htm).

DOALOS RELEASES DOCUMENTS, WORLD OCEAN COUNCIL INAUGURATED, ITLOS ELECTIONS HELD

The UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS) has released an interdisciplinary manual entitled “Developing and Implementing an Ecosystem Approach to the Management of Ocean-Related Activities.” The manual focuses on the development and implementation of an ecosystem

approach to the management of human activities and their impacts on the marine environment within a national context, while meeting regional and international obligations. The manual will form a basis for the delivery of a training workshop, organized by DOALOS in the context of the Train-Sea-Coast Programme, and in collaboration with the UN Environment Programme and other partners, to be held in Mombasa, Kenya, from 27 October to 1 November 2008. The objective of the workshop is to provide government officials and managers with the necessary knowledge and skills to develop and implement an ecosystem approach to the management of ocean-related activities (http://www.un.org/Depts/los/tsc_new/bckgrd_ecosystem_approach.pdf).

DOALOS has also prepared a study entitled “Available Assistance to and Measures that May be Taken by Developing States,” which focuses on the least developed States and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), as well as coastal African States. The study aims to help these countries realize the benefits of sustainable and effective development of marine resources and uses of the oceans within the limits of national jurisdiction (http://www.un.org/Depts/los/general_assembly/study/study2008.htm).

In other DOALOS news, the Director of the Division, Vaclav Mikulka, and Georg Kell, Executive Director of the UN Global Compact, kicked off the inaugural meeting of the World Ocean Council (WOC) at UN Headquarters in New York, US, on 30 September 2008. The event brought together representatives from the shipping, oil and gas, fisheries, cruise ship tourism, aquaculture, ports and other ocean industries from around the world. The WOC aims to improve dialogue and understanding between those industrial sectors whose livelihood depends on the responsible and sustainable use of the world’s oceans. The WOC will coordinate efforts to reduce risk and increase stable and responsible ocean use by facilitating industry engaging in international ocean policy processes and collaborating on practical solutions (<http://www.trustforconservationinnovation.org/worldocean.php>).

In related news, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) has announced that Boualem Bouguetaia (Algeria) and Vladimir Vladimirovich Golitsyn (Russian Federation) were sworn in as members of the Tribunal on 1 October 2008. The two judges were elected on 13 June 2008 at the 18th Meeting of States Parties to the

UN Convention on the Law of the Sea to serve a term of nine years, commencing 1 October 2008. Golitsyn previously served as the Director of DOALOS from 2004–2007. On the same day, Judge José Luis Jesus was elected as President of ITLOS for the period 2008–2011 by the 21 members of the Tribunal. The President is elected for a period of three years and may be re-elected. On 2 October 2008, Judge Helmut Tuerk (Austria) was elected as Vice-President for the same period (http://www.itlos.org/news/press_release/2008/press_release_124_en.pdf; http://www.itlos.org/news/press_release/2008/press_release_125_en.pdf; http://www.itlos.org/news/press_release/2008/press_release_126_en.pdf).

IMO ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MAKES PROGRESS

The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) held its 58th session from 6-10 October 2008, in London, UK. During the meeting, the Committee made progress on, *inter alia*: harmful emissions from ships; environmentally-friendly recycling of ships; ballast water management; and greenhouse gas emissions from ships. The MEPC unanimously adopted amendments to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) Annex VI regulations to progressively reduce emissions of sulfur oxide, nitrogen oxide and particulate matter from ships. On recycling of ships, the MEPC conducted a review of the draft new convention on this matter, which will be circulated for consideration and adoption by a diplomatic conference to be held in Hong Kong, China, from 11-15 May 2009. The Committee also adopted guidelines for ballast water sampling and revised guidelines for approval of ballast water management systems, aimed to assist in the effective implementation of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships’ Ballast Water and Sediments. On greenhouse gases from ships, the MEPC made progress in developing technical and operational measures to address such emissions, including: the development of an energy efficiency design index for new ships and an energy efficiency operational index, with associated guidelines for both; an efficiency management plan suitable for all ships; and a voluntary code on best practice in energy efficient ship operations (http://www.imo.org/Newsroom/mainframe.asp?topic_id=1709&doc_id=10268).

► TRADE, FINANCE AND INVESTMENT



Photos of the Annual meetings of the Boards of Governors of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank (photos courtesy of IMF)

IMF AND WORLD BANK ADDRESS ECONOMIC CRISIS AND CLIMATE CHANGE, CLIMATE INVESTMENT FUND BOARDS SELECTED

The annual meetings of the Boards of Governors of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank took place from 11-13 October 2008, in Washington DC, US. Finance ministers from developing and industrialized nations attended the event, which was preceded by a meeting of the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) and the Development Committee. The Joint IMF and World Bank Development Committee issued a communiqué supporting the World Bank's stronger role in helping countries deal with the causes and effects of climate change, as well as the recent launch of the new Climate Investment Funds, including a Clean Technology Fund and a Strategic Climate Fund. In particular, finance ministers re-emphasized the primacy of the UNFCCC negotiation process, and "taking account of the Bali Action Plan," encouraged the World Bank to support climate actions in country-led development processes in a holistic manner. Regarding funds to address climate change, they encouraged the World Bank to "strengthen its resource mobilization efforts, including facilitating access to additional concessional financing, ensuring complemen-

tarity with other financing mechanisms (notably the Global Environment Facility and the Adaptation Fund), supporting the development of market-based financing mechanisms, leveraging private sector resources, and seizing opportunities for innovation." Ministers also recommended that the World Bank give increased attention to mobilizing resources for adaptation and to play an active role in supporting the development and deployment of clean and climate resilient technologies, and facilitating relevant R&D and technology transfer (<http://www.imf.org/external/am/2008/index.htm>).

In related news, two sets of seven donor countries and seven potential recipient countries have been selected to serve on the Clean Technology Fund (CTF) Trust Fund Committee and the Strategic Climate Fund (SCF) Trust Fund Committee, respectively, to oversee the decisions concerning investments and implementation of the recently created World Bank Climate Investment Funds (CIF). The US\$6 billion Funds were created in September to provide interim, scaled-up funding to help developing countries in their efforts to address climate change in their development strategies. According to the CIF design, donor and potential recipient countries must hold an equal number of seats, to be selected through a consultation process. Both Trust Fund Committees

will meet again in November to carry on their work. The selection of projects is expected in early 2009 (<http://go.worldbank.org/AVUF843NG0>).

GEF-FUNDED PROJECT WINS AWARD, SAVE YOUR LOGO CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

The La Ruta Moskitia (LARUMO) initiative has won a national award through the World Travel and Tourism Council for a locally designed programme that encourages visits to the rainforests. The ecotourism rainforest project is funded through the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme and implemented by five indigenous communities in La Moskitia region, an area crossed by the Rio Plátano Biosphere Reserve in Honduras. Local fisherman and farmers learned to be tour guides and service providers for tourists, and made US\$25,000 in revenue from the ecotours in the first three months (http://gefweb.org/interior_right.aspx?id=22724).

In other news, a new initiative seeks to leverage funds from firms that have endangered species in their logos. The campaign, sponsored by the World Bank, GEF and IUCN, will promote partnerships with the private sector to protect threatened species habitats and to secure healthy ecosystems vital for the livelihoods of local populations (http://gefweb.org/interior_right.aspx?id=22726).



Photos of the Annual meetings of the Boards of Governors of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank (photos courtesy of IMF)

► BIODIVERSITY AND WILDLIFE

CBD SECRETARIAT LAUNCHES REDD NEWSLETTER, COP BUREAU ASSESSES COP9 DECISION FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has launched a bi-monthly e-newsletter to inform CBD National Focal Points and other interested recipients about biodiversity aspects in relation to "Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation" (REDD). The first issue includes news and events of interest, including on the Juma Sustainable Development Reserve Project in the State of Amazonas, Brazil, and forest actions announced by Paraguay and Indonesia, and a call for contributions to the draft second edition of the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standards (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/newsletters/redd/redd-2008-10-en.pdf>).

In other CBD news, during a 4 October 2008 meeting in Barcelona, Spain, the CBD Conference of the Parties (COP) Bureau reviewed the COP9 decisions with a view to assessing funding requirements, and identified a list of decisions that are underfunded in the COP9 budget. It is estimated that an additional US\$1.8 million in voluntary contributions will be required for implementation (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2008/ntf-2008-135-budget-en.pdf>).

CMS MOU ON WEST AFRICAN MARINE MAMMALS SIGNED, 2009 TO BE YEAR OF THE GORILLA

During the second inter-governmental meeting on Western African and Macaronesian aquatic mammals (WATCH-Western African Talks on Cetaceans and their Habitats), which took place in Lomé, Togo, from 2-3 October 2008,

15 countries signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS) to protect over 30 small cetacean species in an area that stretches from Macaronesia, through Morocco to South Africa. The new instrument contains two action plans to conserve marine species and will help facilitate transboundary cooperation by providing an international platform to negotiate and coordinate research and conservation measures (http://www.cms.int/news/PRESS/nwPR2008/10_Oct/WATCH_II_Press_Release.pdf).

A CBD capacity-building workshop for Central Africa on National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and mainstreaming of biodiversity, held from 22-25 September 2008, in Limbé, Cameroon, brought together focal points of CBD, CMS, the Commission for the Forests of Central Africa and the Great Apes Survival Project (GRASP) to discuss issues related to NBSAPs, including the integration of migratory species, particularly gorillas, into NBSAPs. CMS and GRASP delegates also addressed the Gorilla Action Plan, which is due to be passed as a resolution at the first Meeting of the Parties to the Gorilla Agreement, to be held on 29 November 2008, in Rome, Italy (http://www.cms.int/news/PRESS/nwPR2008/10_Oct/nw0810_CMS_CBD_Limbe.htm).



Limbé Workshop participants (photo courtesy of CMS)

In related news, CMS will declare 2009 the Year of the Gorilla at COP9, to be held from 1-5 December 2008, in Rome (http://www.cms.int/news/PRESS/nwPR2008/10_Oct/CMS_Year_of_the_Gorilla_2009_E.pdf).

Finally, the second edition of the CMS Family Guide, containing over 100 information sheets and taking into account the growth of the Convention, the negotiation of new agreements and other developments, is now available (http://www.cms.int/publications/cms_guide.htm).

CITES AND INTERPOL LAUNCH NEW SUPPORT MANUAL

A manual to support law enforcement officers in their investigation of wildlife crimes was launched on 16 October 2008 by Interpol and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). The manual provides guidelines on how to carry out controlled delivery of illegal items in order to identify individuals connected with criminal activity and to gather evidence against them using techniques primarily developed in combating drugs trafficking. The manual was launched during Interpol's Sixth International Conference on Environmental Crime, held from 13-17 October 2008, in Lyon, France (http://www.cites.org/eng/news/sundry/2008/Enforcement_guide_interpol_CITES.shtml).

The CITES Secretariat has also launched a new section on its website concerning wildlife trade policy reviews, to offer an entry point for looking at effective CITES implementation (<http://www.cites.org/eng/prog/policy/index.shtml>), and has updated the register of licensed exporters and of processing and repackaging plants for specimens of sturgeon and paddlefish species (http://www.cites.org/common/resources/reg_caviar.pdf).

► KEY UPCOMING MEA MEETINGS

- **Rotterdam PIC Convention COP4:** 27-31 October 2008. Rome, Italy. <http://www.iisd.ca/chemical/pic/cop4/>
- **Ramsar Convention COP10:** 28 October-4 November 2008. Changwon, Republic of Korea. <http://www.iisd.ca/ramsar/cop10/>
- **FfD Process Informal Meetings:** 29-31 October 2008. New York, US. <http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/>
- **Third Session of the Joint ILO/IMO/Basel Convention Working Group on Ship Scrapping:** 29-31 October 2008. Geneva, Switzerland. http://www.imo.org/Environment/mainframe.asp?topic_id=818
- **CBD Expert Workshop on Integrating Protected Areas into Wider Land- and Seascapes:** 1-4 November 2008. Isle of Vilm, Germany. <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EWSIPALS-01>
- **Stakeholders' Meeting to Review the Draft Business Plan to Promote a Global Partnership for Developing Alternatives to DDT:** 3-5 November 2008. Geneva, Switzerland. <http://chm.pops.int/Programmes/DDT/Meetings/Business-Plan/tabid/418/language/en-US/Default.aspx>
- **ITTC44:** 3-8 November 2008. Yokohama, Japan. <http://www.iisd.ca/forestry/itto/ittc44/>
- **UNCCD CRIC7 and Special Session of the CST:** 3-14 November 2008. Istanbul, Turkey. <http://www.iisd.ca/desert/cric7/>
- **CBD Expert Meeting on South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development:** 6-7 November 2008. Montreal, Canada. <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EMSSC-01>