



RECENT MEA ACTIVITIES

► BIODIVERSITY AND WILDLIFE

CITES PLANTS COMMITTEE FORWARDS RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP



Members of the Plants Committee

The 18th meeting of the Plants Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) convened from 17-21 March 2009, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The meeting addressed proposals for amendments to the Ap-

pendices for possible consideration at the 15th Conference of the Parties to CITES, progress on the implementation of the action plan for bigleaf mahogany, Review of Significant Trade (RST) in specimens of Appendix II species, and the outcomes of the recent international expert workshop on non-detriment findings. The Plants Committee made many recommendations, including to: exclude mahogany from Peru from the RST; include mahogany from Nicaragua, Bolivia, Ecuador, Honduras and Venezuela in the next round of the RST; commission trade studies, including on a review of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding Systems (HS Code) applicable to timber trade and associated definitions for specimens in trade and amendments to annotations for tree species listed in Appendices II and III; establish capacity-building workshops to provide guidance for non-detriment findings (NDFs) for timber species and *Prunus Africana*; task the Bigleaf Mahogany Working Group to address cedar and rosewood; and encourage all range States to list cedar and rosewood in Appendix III (<http://www.iisd.ca/cites/pc18/>).

In other CITES-related news, new measures regulating the international trade in the European eel came into effect on 13 March 2009, to help re-establish a sustainable fishery for the species (http://www.cites.org/eng/news/press_release.shtml). Furthermore, a section on the African cherry (*Prunus Africana*) was created under Species Programmes on the CITES website (http://www.cites.org/eng/prog/african_cherry.shtml).

MEA Clusters In This Issue

- **Biodiversity and Wildlife**
CBD Prepares for ABS7; World Migratory Bird Day to Focus on Obstacles to Migration Page 2
- **International Organizations**
UN Officials Contribute to World Water Forum Page 2
- **Chemicals and Wastes**
Stockholm Holds POPs Wastes Workshop; Basel Celebrates 20th Anniversary; Rotterdam Posts COP4 Report Page 3
- **Trade, Finance and Investment**
First GEF5 Replenishment Meeting Convenes Page 3
- **Sustainable Development**
DSD Prepares for CSD17 Page 4
- **Water, Oceans and Wetlands**
Ramsar STRP Members Named; UN DOALOS Organizes Consultations on Fish Stocks Agreement; IMO Intersessional Makes Progress on Ship Energy Efficiency Pages 4-5
- **Forests, Deserts and Land**
UNFF Holds Informal Consultations on Finance; Preparations for UNCCD Scientific Conference Underway Page 5
- **Climate and Atmosphere**
UNFCCC Secretariat Prepares for AWG Sessions; Ozone Secretariat Releases OEWG29 Agenda Page 6

GUEST ARTICLE I

UN Initiatives on Climate Change Capacity Building and Development

By Mamadou Moussa Diakhité,
Manager, Climate Change
Programme, United Nations Institute
for Training and Research (UNITAR)

Abstract

Under the leadership of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's "Delivering as One" initiative, various UN agencies and institutions are joining efforts to address the

Continued on page 2

GUEST ARTICLE II

Community-Based Adaptation in the Global Climate Change Response

By Angie Dazé, Regional Climate Change Coordinator, West and Southern Africa, CARE International, and Christina Chan, Senior Policy Analyst, CARE USA

Abstract

The world's poorest people are least responsible for causing climate change; yet, they will bear the brunt of its negative consequences.

Continued on page 3

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GUEST ARTICLE I (cont.)

numerous challenges posed by the threat and impacts of climate change.

The Chief Executives Board (CEB) initiative on climate change was launched in 2007, to improve coordination in support of national efforts to tackle climate change and facilitate the UNFCCC negotiating process. With countries expressing the need to strengthen national institutions and human capacity to better address the impacts of climate change, capacity building was recognized as a key part of the CEB initiative. The UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) were designated to act as co-conveners in this focus area.

The UN capacity-building and development efforts collectively seek to sup-

port country-led initiatives in areas such as national communications, national adaptation programmes of action, and technology needs assessments. Inter-agency collaboration seeks to support decision makers to not only improve their knowledge and skills on climate change adaptation and mitigation policies, but also to contribute towards the integration of those policies into national economic and social development planning activities.

UNITAR, through its Climate Change Programme as well as other programmes, contributes towards enhancing the capacity of developing country governments and civil society representatives to improve their participation in the UNFCCC process and to assist countries to implement decisions and policies at the national and local

levels. In response to a specific request from the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) group at Poznan, UNDP, UNEP, UNITAR and the UNFCCC Secretariat have developed an initiative to provide LDC Parties with immediate support. It includes joint activities to improve the negotiating skills of LDC delegates, to ensure they can more effectively participate in the negotiating sessions that will shape the future intergovernmental climate change regime.

Link to the full article: <http://www.iisd.ca/mea-l/guestarticle66a.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, for further information.

► BIODIVERSITY AND WILDLIFE

CBD PREPARES FOR ABS7, WORKING GROUP ADDRESSES FUTURE OF POLICY FOR BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS

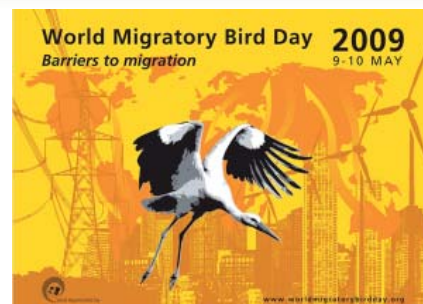
In preparation for the seventh meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing, to be held from 2-8 April 2009, in Paris, France, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has circulated an explanatory note from the Working Group Co-chairs Fernando Casas (Colombia) and Timothy Hodges (Canada) regarding a workflow scenario for the meeting (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2009/ntf-2009-032-abs-en.pdf>). The Co-chairs will hold informal consultations immediately prior to the meeting, on 31 March and 1 April (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2009/ntf-2009-030-abs-en.pdf>). The meeting documents are

available on the CBD website (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=ABSWG-07>).

At the invitation of the German Presidency of the CBD Conference of the Parties, approximately 50 distinguished individuals met in their personal capacity from 9-10 March 2009, in Bonn, Germany. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the framework of the post-2010 biodiversity target and to prepare the ground for the discussion and action on the future of the global biodiversity agenda (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/press/2009/pr-2009-03-18-german-en.pdf>).

WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY 2009 TO FOCUS ON OBSTACLES TO MIGRATION

The Secretariats of the African-European Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA) and the Convention on Migra-



Poster courtesy of the AEWA Secretariat

tory Species (CMS) have announced the countdown for World Migratory Bird Day 2009. The two-day awareness-raising campaign will take place globally from 9-10 May 2009. Its central theme will be "Barriers to Migration," highlighting the threat posed by man-made obstacles to birds during their annual migration (http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2009/wmbd2009.htm).

► INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

UN OFFICIALS CONTRIBUTE TO WORLD WATER FORUM

Among the UN officials that participated in the fifth World Water Forum, which convened in Istanbul, Turkey, from 16-22 March 2009, were UN

Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs Sha Zukang and UN Environment Programme (UNEP) Deputy Executive Director Angela Cropper. Sha



UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs Sha Zukang and UNEP Deputy Executive Director Angela Cropper

Zukang addressed several audiences, including the opening ceremony, during which he suggested "four strategic actions on bridging divides for water," including engaging with other policy communities on the nexus between water challenges and climate change, accelerating progress in climate change adaptation, and improving human and institutional capacity backed by adequate financial resources. During a 17 March 2009 panel discussion on water and finance, he discussed linking the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development on water and sanitation with the follow-up process to the Monterrey

Consensus on Financing for Development, and said that, since both processes are addressed within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, he would do his part "to help realize the potential synergies between them" (<http://www.un.org/esa/desa/ousg/>).

On 22 March 2009, Angela Cropper participated in a high-level roundtable on "adapting to global changes in transboundary basins," during which she highlighted her organization's role in research and information dissemination and institutional capacity building (<http://www.iisd.ca/download/pdf/sd/ymbvol82num22e.pdf>).

GUEST ARTICLE II (cont.)

One of the biggest challenges facing negotiators of the post-2012 agreement under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is ensuring not only that sufficient funds are available to support adaptation in vulnerable developing countries, but also that those funds are used effectively and reach the people who need them most.

Well designed top-down, scenario-driven approaches to adaptation can play a role in reducing vulnerability to climate change; however, there is evidence that they may fall short in addressing the particular needs and concerns of the most vulnerable people. Without access to adaptation funds,

vulnerable communities and groups may continue to rely on short-term coping mechanisms that are more damaging in the long run. In order for the global adaptation response to be effective, large-scale interventions must be combined with community-based adaptation initiatives. Despite this, existing funding mechanisms and planning processes under the UNFCCC do not prioritize community-based adaptation.

To minimize these risks, the post-2012 agreement must more effectively support community-based adaptation as part of an effective, pro-poor global climate change response. This framework must include three key elements to ensure that funds are directed to the

needs and priorities of vulnerable communities and groups. The agreement must require systematic identification of vulnerable communities and groups within countries in addition to assessments of biophysical risk. It must mandate the participation of vulnerable communities and groups in decision making on adaptation, and it must ensure that this participation is active and meaningful. Finally, the agreement must put in place mechanisms to ensure that these stakeholders can play appropriate roles, and that the global adaptation effort is focused on appropriate actions to meet the needs of the world's most vulnerable people.

Link to the full article: <http://www.iisd.ca/mea-1/guestarticle66b.html>

► CHEMICALS AND WASTES**ROTTERDAM CONVENTION POSTS COP4 REPORT**

The Rotterdam Convention has released the Report of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade on the work of its fourth meeting (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.4/24). The report is available in all UN languages (<http://www.pic.int/home.php?type=t&id=58&sid=27>).

STOCKHOLM CONVENTION HOLDS POPS WASTES WORKSHOP

In collaboration with the Government of Peru, the Stockholm Convention Secretariat convened a workshop on polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and persistent organic pollutants (POPs) wastes in Lima, Peru, from 2-5 March 2009. The workshop was attended by



Participants at the workshop (photo courtesy of the Stockholm Convention Secretariat)

17 delegates from nine countries. It targeted trainers and national experts on the environmentally sound management (ESM) of PCBs and POPs wastes and aimed to enhance the capacity of the participants to deliver further training on the concepts, principles and standards for the ESM of POPs wastes. The workshop also provided participants with the opportunity to establish collaborative national action plans to manage PCBs and POPs waste activities (<http://chm.pops.int/Programmes/WasteStockpiles/Trainingworkshops/South-AmericanregioninLimaPeru/tabid/494/language/en-US/Default.aspx>).



Banner courtesy of the Basel Convention Secretariat

BASEL CONVENTION CELEBRATES 20th ANNIVERSARY

The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal celebrated the 20th Anniversary of its adoption this month. The treaty regulates the transboundary movements and management of hazardous and other wastes, and was adopted in Basel, Switzerland, on 22 March 1989. A celebration to mark the Anniversary is expected later this year (<http://www.basel.int/>).

► TRADE, FINANCE AND INVESTMENT**FIRST GEF5 REPLENISHMENT MEETING CONVENES, GEF-SUPPORTED INITIATIVE CONSIDERS ACTION PLAN**

The First Meeting of Contributing Participants towards the Global Environment Facility's Fifth Replenishment (GEF5) was held on 17-18 March 2009, in Paris, France. Prospective donors from both developed and developing nations participated at the meeting with several calling for a substantial increase in the replenishment of the GEF. They also evaluated the effective exchange rates to be used in determining GEF5 contributions, the future strategic positioning of the GEF, and innovative and alternative sources of funding. Participants de-

cidated to organize their discussion under two broad themes: Institutional Reform and Governance and Programming for GEF-5. They also requested additional information, including on broadened access to GEF resources, a proposed pilot on direct access and information on co-financing and procurement. The next replenishment meeting is scheduled to convene from 25-26 June 2009, in Washington DC, US (http://www.thegef.org/interior_right.aspx?id=48).

In other GEF news, on 13 March 2009, environment and fisheries ministers from six Asia Pacific countries considered a draft Regional Action Plan for the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI) on coral reefs, fisheries and food security, which

establishes a framework to tackle coastal and marine resource degradation in the Coral Triangle ecosystem. The CTI is supported by the GEF and the Asian Development Bank, and has generated commitments or pledges of around US\$400 million. Ministers from Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste are working to ensure the sustainable management of the Coral Triangle, and the Plan is expected to be endorsed by heads of State at a CTI Leaders Summit in Manado, Indonesia, in May 2009. A World Ocean Conference will take place prior to the CTI Summit (<http://www.adb.org/Media/Articles/2009/12823-asian-environmental-protections>).

RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

UN WORLD WATER DEVELOPMENT REPORT 3 – WATER IN A CHANGING WORLD

(UNESCO, March 2009) This report presents a comprehensive assessment of global freshwater resources to date. It emphasizes the role played by water in development and economic growth, and examines a range of subjects, including population growth, climate change, altered ecosystems, food production, health, industry and energy (<http://www.unesco.org/water/wwap/wwdr/wwdr3/tableof-contents.shtml>).

CLIMATE CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: A REVIEW

(ECLAC, March 2009) This review, presented by the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), highlights that Latin America and the Caribbean may suffer more impacts of climate change than other regions due to the island States in the region, low coastal areas and prevalence of hurricanes. It further emphasizes that, considering that greenhouse gas emissions in the region are relatively low (11.7% of global emissions in 2000), authorities' attention must focus on adaptation (<http://www.eclac.cl/cgi-bin/getprod.asp?xml=/dmaah/noticias/paginas/6/34886/P34886.xml&xsl=/dmaah/tpl/p18f.xsl&base=/dmaah/tpl/top-bottom.xsl>).

GLOBAL GREEN NEW DEAL: POLICY BRIEF

(UNEP, March 2009) This report, based on the findings of the UNEP-commissioned report "A Global Green New Deal," aims to inform the debate at the upcoming G20 meeting to be held in London, UK, in early April 2009. The report calls for the investment of 1% of global GDP in the energy efficiency of buildings, renewable energy, sustainable transport, ecological infrastructure and sustainable agriculture (http://www.unep.org/pdf/A_Global_Green_New_Deal_Policy_Brief.pdf).

► SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

DSD PREPARES FOR CSD

The Division for Sustainable Development (DSD), which serves as the Secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), has released an advance unedited copy of the Chair's Negotiating Text, which is proposed by the Chair of the 17th session of the CSD for consideration by the CSD in May 2009. The text was developed following the deliberations of the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting in February 2009 (http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/resources/res_pdfs/csd-17/Chairs_Negotiating_Text_CSD17-Final.pdf). Also in preparation for the May meeting, the CSD17 provisional

organization of work has been posted. This document indicates that two working groups will hold parallel negotiations and the High-Level Segment will consist of keynote speeches and round-table discussions (http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/resources/res_pdfs/csd-17/csd17_organization_of_work.pdf). The DSD is also contributing to an expert group meeting on "Sustainable Land Management and Agricultural Practices in Africa: Bridging the Gap between Research and Farmers," which will convene from 16-17 April 2009, in Gothenburg, Sweden (http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/susdevtopics/sdt_agri-egm0409.shtml).

► WATER, OCEANS AND WETLANDS

UN DOALOS RELEASES ADVANCE REPORTS, ORGANIZES CONSULTATIONS ON FISH STOCKS AGREEMENT

The UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UN DOALOS) has released the advance and unedited text of the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea, which provides background information on the topic of focus of the tenth meeting of the UN Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea ("the Consultative Process"), as well as full texts of contributions from States, UN agencies, programmes and bodies, and other intergovernmental organizations. The report aims to facilitate the discussions on the topic of focus "Implementation of the outcomes of the Consultative Process, including a review of its achievements and shortcomings in the first nine meetings," and provides: information on the establishment of the Consultative Process; an overview of its functioning, including a summary of the outcomes of its meetings; a review of how those outcomes have generally been incorporated in the relevant General Assembly resolutions and what subsequent major actions have been taken; and a summary of the views expressed on the achievements and shortcomings of the Consultative Process at its meetings and in the contributions to the present report (http://www.un.org/Depts/los/general_assembly/documents/oceans_los_advance_unedited.pdf).

UN DOALOS has also released "Practical suggestions concerning the final preparation and deposit of a submission to the CLCS with the Secretary-General of the UN," which relates to the finalization of the submission as well as the process of its delivery aimed to assist coastal States that are planning to make

a submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS) (http://www.un.org/Depts/los/clcs_new/practicalsuggestions.pdf).

In related news, the eighth round of Informal Consultations of States parties to the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA, or the Agreement) was held from 16-19 March 2009, at UN Headquarters in New York, US. The meeting brought together approximately 200 participants, who focused on the meeting's theme "Continuing Dialogue." During the session, participants also undertook initial preparations for the resumption of the Review Conference in 2010, and prepared a timeline and programme of work for consideration by the 64th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA). The outcome of the Continuing Dialogue was a summary report prepared by the Dialogue's Moderator that captures the debates on the subtopics on promotion of wider participation in the Agreement, capacity building, compatibility of conservation and management measures, enforcement and port State measures and the relationship between the UNFSA and UNCLOS and other international instruments. Both outcomes will be appended to the Chair's Summary for submission to the 64th session of the UNGA (<http://www.iisd.ca/oceans/fsaic8/>).



Chair Balton speaks with delegates during the UNFSA meeting

► WATER, OCEANS AND WETLANDS

IMO INTERSESSIONAL MAKES PROGRESS ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY FOR SHIPS

The second intersessional meeting of the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Working Group on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions from Ships took place at IMO headquarters in London, UK, from 9-13 March 2009. The meeting brought together over 200 experts and focused on technical and operational measures to reduce GHG emissions from ships. A report from the meeting will be presented to the 59th session of the IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 59), to be held in July 2009. Participants considered proposals from governments and observer organizations on ways to increase fuel efficiency for ships, focused on refining the Energy Efficiency Design Index for new ships, and considered how to improve the Energy Efficiency Operational Index, which enables operators to measure the fuel efficiency of an existing ship. Participants discussed a draft Ship Energy Management Plan, which was developed by a coalition of industry organizations, and agreed to forward it to MEPC 59 for further consideration. The outcome of MEPC 59 will be presented to the climate change conference in Copenhagen in December 2009 ([http://](http://www.imo.org/Newsroom/mainframe.asp?topic_id=1773&doc_id=11176)

www.imo.org/Newsroom/mainframe.asp?topic_id=1773&doc_id=11176).

RAMSAR REPORTS ON MOLDOVA'S INVENTORY PROJECT, STRP MEMBERS NAMED

The Ramsar Secretariat has reported that the Center for Strategic Environmental Studies ECOS in the Republic of Moldova has carried out a small grants fund (SGF) project addressing a baseline inventory of priority wetlands in the Moldovan part of the Danube river basin, which should be a part of the Danube River Basin Management Plan to achieve integrated management of water resources in line with the EU Water Framework Directive. With the project, Moldova made a first inventory of all inland and human-made wetlands in the Moldovan part of the Danube river basin (http://www.ramsar.org/sgf/sgf_rpts_moldova_inventory.htm).



Moldova's wetlands (photos courtesy of the Ramsar Secretariat)

In other Ramsar news, the Secretariat has reported that Turkmenistan has joined the Convention as its 159th Contracting Party. The Convention will enter into force for Turkmenistan on 3 July 2009 (http://www.ramsar.org/index_bulletin.htm).

The Ramsar Secretariat has also announced that the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) Oversight Committee has reviewed all nominations and has appointed the STRP members to serve for the 2009-2012 cycle, with Heather MacKay to serve as the Chair and Rebecca D'Cruz as Vice-Chair (http://www.ramsar.org/strp/strp_members_2009-2012.pdf). The first full meeting of the STRP for the 2009-2012 cycle (STRP15) will take place at the Secretariat offices in Gland, Switzerland, from 30 March-3 April 2009 (http://www.ramsar.org/strp/strp15_agenda.pdf).



► FORESTS, DESERTS AND LAND

UNFF HOLDS INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON FINANCE

Delegates to the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF) gathered in Rome, Italy, from 12-13 March 2009, for informal consultations on finance. Boen Purnama (Indonesia), Chair of the Bureau of UNFF8, stressed that the meeting would provide an opportunity to further discuss and expand on Member States' understanding on options for forest financing and the role and actions of the UNFF in this regard, and said it was hoped that the consultations would facilitate and advance consensus at UNFF8. Participants focused on identifying key elements in relation to the three proposed financing options: dedicated fund; facilitative mechanism; or a combination of these two (<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/consultations-SFMfinance.html>).

The week before these consultations, Chair Purnama organized a briefing at UN Headquarters in New York, US, to discuss the informal consultations as well as preparations for the eighth session of UNFF, which will convene from 20 April-1 May 2009. Purnama

explained the mandate and main challenges for UNFF8 and provided information on session documents, logistic arrangements and travel support. He informed participants that the Bureau is considering how best to organize the work during UNFF8, and that the preliminary organization of work would be made available soon (IISD RS sources).

PREPARATIONS FOR UNCCD SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE UNDERWAY

At its eighth session, in September 2007 in Madrid, Spain, the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Conference of the Parties agreed to hold a scientific style conference during the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) meeting at COP9, which will take place in September 2009 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. This conference, "Understanding Desertification and Land Degradation Trends: Biophysical and socioeconomic monitoring and assessment of desertification and land degradation to support decision-making in land and water

management," is being organized by the Dryland Science for Development Consortium with the assistance of the UNCCD Secretariat. Three thematic working groups have been established to prepare white papers to be discussed at the conference. Working Group 3 (impacts of economic and social drivers and knowledge management on monitoring and evaluation of land degradation) held its first meeting from 12-14 March 2009, in Hamburg, Germany, sponsored by the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ). Eighteen participants discussed the nature of the white paper and the content of its chapters, and developed a draft outline. Working Groups 1 (integrated methods for monitoring and assessment of land degradation processes and drivers) and 2 (monitoring and assessing land rehabilitation and sustainable land management efforts) are expected to meet in the next six weeks. The conference itself is scheduled to take place from 22-24 September 2009 (<http://dsd-consortium.jrc.ec.europa.eu/php/index.php?action=view&id=150>; IISD RS sources).

► CLIMATE AND ATMOSPHERE

UNFCCC SECRETARIAT PREPARES FOR AWG SESSIONS

The UNFCCC Secretariat has released a number of documents in the run up to the seventh session of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on further commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP) and the fifth meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA), which will convene from 29 March-8 April 2009, in Bonn, Germany. Document FCCC/KP/AWG/2009/4 identifies possible elements of a text relating to issues including: improvements to emissions trading and the project-based mechanisms; definitions, modalities, rules and guidelines for the treatment of land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) in the second commitment period; the coverage of greenhouse gases, sectors and source categories; common metrics to calculate the carbon dioxide equivalence of emissions and removals by sinks; approaches to limit or reduce emissions from aviation and marine bunker fuels; 2006 IPCC Guidelines; possible approaches targeting sectoral emissions; and potential consequences, including spillover effects, of tools, policies, measures and methodologies available to Annex I Parties. It outlines action that needs to be taken by the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP) to adopt proposals relating to these issues and/or to request any follow-up work to implement such proposals (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/awg7/eng/04.pdf>).

Document FCCC/KP/AWG/2009/INF.1 elaborates on how to address, where applicable, the definitions, modalities, rules and guidelines for the treatment of LULUCF under the Kyoto Protocol. The note summarizes issues raised by parties concerning the treatment of LULUCF, proposals for addressing those issues, and options for how these might be translated into definitions, rules and modalities in future commitment periods (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/>

[awg7/eng/inf01.pdf](http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/awg7/eng/inf01.pdf)). The UNFCCC Secretariat has also released an addendum (FCCC/KP/AWG/2009/MISC.5/Add.1) to document FCCC/KP/AWG/2009/MISC.5 that elaborates on how to address, where applicable, the definitions, modalities, rules and guidelines for the treatment of LULUCF under the Kyoto Protocol. This new document consists of a submission from Tuvalu (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/awg7/eng/misc05a01.pdf>).

Four submissions on views on the legal implications arising from the work of the AWG-KP pursuant to Article 3, paragraph 9, of the Kyoto Protocol have also been released. These submissions are from Belarus, the Czech Republic on behalf of the EU, Japan and New Zealand (http://unfccc.int/documentation/documents/advanced_search/items/3594.php?rec=j&preref=600005110&suchen=n). An information note (FCCC/KP/AWG/2009/INF. 3) to facilitate deliberations on potential environmental, economic and social consequences, including spillover effects, of implementing tools, policies, measures and methodologies available to Annex I parties, taking into account the submissions and views received, has also been released. It contains a description of a possible approach to group actions (e.g. policies, tools and measures) that may lead to either positive or negative consequences as well as a detailed description of the various tools, policies and measures and their associated consequences. The note also contains information on possible ways, including those proposed by parties and relevant organizations, to take action on negative potential consequences (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/awg7/eng/inf03.pdf>).

Regarding the AWG-LCA, two “focus” documents on the Fulfilment of the Bali Action Plan and components of the agreed outcome (FCCC/AWGLCA/2009/ 4 (Part I and II)) prepared by the Chair of the AWG-LCA have been released. The documents are aimed at focusing the negotiating process on the

fulfilment of decision 1/CP.13 (the Bali Action Plan) and on the components of the agreed outcome to be adopted by the COP at its fifteenth session, by describing areas of convergence in the ideas and proposals of parties, exploring options for dealing with areas of divergence, and identifying gaps that might need to be filled by building upon the ideas and proposals of parties (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/awglca5/eng/04p01.pdf>; <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/awglca5/eng/04p02.pdf>).

The UNFCCC Secretariat has also released the scenario note (FCCC/AWGLCA/2009/2) for the upcoming fifth session of the AWG-LCA. The note shares with delegations the plans and expectations of the Chair of the AWG-LCA for the session, focusing on the organization of work (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/awglca5/eng/02.pdf>).

OZONE SECRETARIAT RELEASES OEWG29 AGENDA

The Ozone Secretariat has released the provisional agenda for the 29th meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (OEWG29), which will convene from 15-18 July 2009, in Geneva, Switzerland. Issues to be discussed include nominations for essential-use and critical-use exemptions, the status of agreements to convert metered-dose inhaler manufacturing facilities in developing countries, the interim report of the Technology and Economic Assessment Panel on quarantine and pre-shipment applications of methyl bromide, the scoping study addressing alternatives to hydrochlorofluorocarbons in developing countries with special conditions, management of banks of ozone-depleting substances (ODS), the summary report of the discussions that took place at the dialogue on high-global warming potential alternatives for ODS, and treatment of stockpiled ODS (http://ozone.unep.org/Meeting_Documents/oewg/29oewg/OEWG-29-1E.pdf).

► KEY UPCOMING MEA MEETINGS

- **Fifth Adaptation Fund Board Meeting:** 24-27 March 2009. Bonn, Germany. <http://www.adaptation-fund.org/>
- **AWG-KP7 and AWG-LCA5:** 29 March-8 April 2009. Bonn, Germany. <http://www.iisd.ca/climate/ccwg5/>
- **GEF-STAP Workshop on Climate Change Science and Technology Advice:** 30 March 2009. Washington, DC, US. http://stapgef.unep.org/activities/technicalworkshops/CC_GEF5
- **15th Meeting of Ramsar's Scientific and Technical Review Panel:** 30 March-2 April 2009. Gland, Switzerland. <http://www.ramsar.org/meetings.htm>
- **GEF-STAP Workshop on REDD, Forest Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management:** 31 March 2009. Washington, DC, US. http://stapgef.unep.org/activities/technicalworkshops/SFM_REDD
- **Seventh meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing (ABS) of the CBD:** 2-8 April 2009. Paris, France. <http://www.iisd.ca/biodiv/abs7/>