



## RECENT MEA ACTIVITIES

### ▶ CLIMATE AND ATMOSPHERE

#### BARCELONA CLIMATE CHANGE TALKS SET STAGE FOR COPENHAGEN

The resumed ninth session of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP 9) and resumed seventh session of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA 7) were held from 2-6 November



L-R: José Montilla Aguilera, President of the Generalitat de Catalunya; Maria Teresa Fernández de la Vega, Vice-President of Spain; and Yvo de Boer, UNFCCC Executive Secretary

2009, in Barcelona, Spain, bringing together approximately 3,100 participants. The talks constituted the final round of negotiations under both AWGs before the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the UNFCCC in Copenhagen, Denmark, from 7-18 December 2009.

The Barcelona session sought to continue streamlining text and to identify key issues and provide clear options for ministers to choose from in Copenhagen. AWG-LCA 7 focused on the key elements of the Bali Action Plan (BAP), namely: adaptation, finance, technology, mitigation, capacity building and a shared vision for long-term cooperative action. It began addressing these issues based on several non-papers developed by the first part of AWG-LCA 7, which convened three weeks earlier in Bangkok. The AWG-LCA produced a series of new non-papers that will be compiled and forwarded to Copenhagen as an annex to the meeting report (FCCC/AWGLCA/2009/L.4).

AWG-KP 9 continued discussions on Annex I parties' emission reductions beyond the first commitment period under the Kyoto Protocol. At the beginning of the meeting, the African Group, supported by other developing countries, called for halting the AWG-KP's work on issues other than the "numbers." This led to suspension of all AWG-KP contact groups until Wednesday, after agreement had been reached to devote 60% of meeting time to numbers and evaluate progress at the end of each day. The AWG-KP did not finish consideration of numbers or of any of the other issues included in its work programme, and will have to finalize its work in Copenhagen before reporting to the fifth Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of Parties (COP/MOP 5) (<http://www.iisd.ca/climate/rccwg7/>).

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#### GUEST ARTICLE

##### Lake Tanganyika Authority Headquarters Agreement Signed

By Saskia Marijnissen, UNOPS, Technical Advisor UNDP/GEF Project on Lake Tanganyika, and Henry Mwima, Executive Director Lake Tanganyika Authority

##### Abstract

On 4 November 2009, the Minister of External Relations and International Cooperation of Burundi signed the Headquarters Agreement of the Lake Tanganyika Authority.

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#### RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

##### WORLD SURVEY ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT 2009

(UN Secretariat, 2009) This survey focuses on women's control over economic resources and access to financial resources, including microfinance. It highlights that population growth, climate change, the spread of markets and urbanization have created new opportunities and new challenges in women's access to land, housing and other productive resources (<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/public/WorldSurvey2009.pdf>).

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GUEST ARTICLE (cont.)

The signing of the Headquarters Agreement is an important milestone for the Lake Tanganyika Authority (LTA). In the Agreement, the Government of Burundi committed to house the LTA Headquarters, and provide diplomatic immunity, legal protection, as well as freedom of press to its members.

The LTA is an institutional management structure representing the governments of the riparian countries Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania and Zambia. The LTA coordinates the implementation of the Convention on the Sustainable Management of Lake Tanganyika, which unites the countries in recognizing that the lake is a shared heritage with unique biological diversity. The Convention also recognizes the significance of Lake Tanganyika and its basin for the development of the riparian states, and the necessity of establishing a sustainable legal and institutional framework for cooperative management.

The Convention forms the legal framework for implementation of the Lake Tanganyika Regional Integrated



Signing of the Lake Tanganyika Headquarters Agreement, Bujumbura, Burundi on 4 November 2009. L-R: Henry Mwima, Executive Director of the LTA, and Augustin Nsanze, Minister of External Relations and International Cooperation.

Management Programme (LTRIMP), which includes interventions identified in the Strategic Action Programme and the Framework Fisheries Management Plan for the lake. The LTRIMP is supported by a range of partner organisations including the African Development Bank, the UN Development Programme, the Global Environment Facility, the Nordic Development Fund, the Food and Agriculture Organization, International Union for Conservation of Nature and the UN Environment Programme.

Priority actions of the programme include development and capacity

building of local and national stakeholders, establishment of sustainable fisheries, pollution control through improved wastewater management, sustainable catchment management demonstrations, and establishment of regional lake monitoring systems.

For more information, visit <http://www.lta.iwlearn.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](mailto:lynn@iisd.org), for further information.*

► CLIMATE AND ATMOSPHERE

IPCC 31 MAKES PROGRESS ON AR5

The 31st session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) convened from 26-29 October 2009, in Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia, bringing together approximately 350 participants who focused primarily on the scoping of the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5). During the meeting, the IPCC's three Working Groups (WGs) convened in parallel sessions to approve the proposed chapter outlines of WG contributions to the AR5, which had been developed by the participants of the AR5 scoping meeting held in Venice, Italy, from 13-17 July 2009. The Panel then accepted the outlines of the WG reports and con-

sidered a number of other issues relevant to the scope of the AR5. In particular, delegates agreed to treat Article 2 of the UNFCCC as a crosscutting theme in the AR5, as well as revise the timetable for the preparation of the report.

The Panel also considered progress on the implementation of decisions taken at its 30th session (IPCC 30) with regard to involving scientists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, use of electronic technologies, and the longer-term future of the IPCC. The Panel also granted special observer status to the European Community and addressed progress reports on the development of new scenarios and on

the IPCC Peace Prize Scholarship Fund (<http://www.iisd.ca/climate/ipcc31/>; [http://www.ipcc.ch/meeting\\_documentation/meeting\\_documentation\\_31th\\_session.htm](http://www.ipcc.ch/meeting_documentation/meeting_documentation_31th_session.htm)). In other IPCC news, experts gathered in Panama City, Panama, on 9 November 2009, to begin work on a Special Report entitled "Managing the Risk of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation." The report will assess how climate change will affect disaster risks in the future and how countries can better manage the expected increases in damaging weather events due to climate change (<http://www.unisdr.org/news/v.php?id=11682>).



The dais during the opening of the 31st session of the IPCC

**RESEARCH AND RESOURCES**

**ASIA-PACIFIC TRADE AND INVESTMENT REPORT 2009: TRADE-LED RECOVERY AND BEYOND**

(UNESCAP, 2009) This report looks at the validity of the trade-led development model in Asia-Pacific, and the lessons the crisis has revealed to make development more inclusive and sustainable in the years ahead. It examines how regional integration contributes to development, and whether private enterprise should continue to pursue business-as-usual. The report also emphasizes the need to improve access to green technologies and services that help countries mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change and use resources in a sustainable manner (<http://www.unescap.org/tid/publication/aptr2549.pdf>).

**► CLIMATE AND ATMOSPHERE**

**MOP 21 AGREES 30 DECISIONS, HFC AMENDMENT PROPOSAL WITHDRAWN**

The 21st Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (MOP 21) took place in Port Ghalib, Egypt, from 4-8 November 2009. MOP 21 adopted 30 decisions, including on: examining alternatives to hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs); guidance to the Executive Committee on institutional strengthening; essential uses; environmentally

sound management of ozone depleting substance (ODS) banks; methyl bromide; the programme and budget; and data and compliance issues. Delegates also considered a North American proposal to amend the Montreal Protocol to phase-down hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), but after China, India and several Arab countries disagreed with discussing HFCs under the Montreal Protocol, the amendment proposal was withdrawn from the discussion (<http://www.iisd.ca/ozone/mop21/>).



L-R: Marco González, Executive Secretary, Ozone Secretariat; Paul Horwitz, Deputy Executive Secretary, Ozone Secretariat; Róbert Tóth, Hungary, President, MOP-20; Maged George, Minister for Environmental Affairs, Egypt; and Rapporteur Ir Sulistyowati, Indonesia

**► BIODIVERSITY AND WILDLIFE**

**CBD WORKING GROUP ON ARTICLE 8(j) MAKES PROGRESS**

The sixth meeting of the *Ad hoc* Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and related provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was held from 2-6 November 2009, in Montreal, Canada. The Working Group adopted a series of recommendations, to be submitted to the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 10) to the CBD, to be held from 18-29 October 2010, in Nagoya, Japan. Among its main achievements,

the Working Group worked towards concluding negotiations on an ethical code of conduct to ensure respect for the cultural and intellectual heritage of indigenous and local communities, and expressed detailed views on the international regime on access and benefit-sharing (ABS), for transmission to the eighth meeting of the *Ad hoc* Open-ended Working Group on ABS, which is meeting from 9-15 November 2009, in Montreal (<http://www.iisd.ca/biodiv/wg8j-6/>).

In other CBD-related news, India has offered to host COP 11, to be held in 2012 (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/press/2009/pr-2009-10-31-cop11-en.pdf>). The report of the sixth meeting of the Liaison Group on Capacity Building for Biosafety and the summary outcomes of the fifth meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) providing guidance regarding the technical issues associated with the ongoing development of the BCH are available online (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/bs/bslgcb-06/official/bslgcb-06-03-en.pdf>; <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/bch/bchiac-05/official/bchiac-05-02-en.pdf>).



WG Co-Chair Breier with CBD Executive Secretary Ahmed Djoghlaif and WG Co-Chair Lucy Mullenkei gavelled the meeting to a close at 5:05 pm.

**CITES COP 15 WORKING DOCUMENTS POSTED**

The Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) has posted on the CITES website the working documents submitted by the parties for consideration at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties ([http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/15/raw\\_docs.shtml](http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/15/raw_docs.shtml)).

The third issue of the newsletter of the ITTO-CITES Program for Implementing CITES Listings of Tropical Timber Species, covering a summary of programme activities during the period July-September 2009, is available (<http://www.cites.org/eng/news/sundry/2009/ITTO3.pdf>).

## ► CHEMICALS AND WASTES

### ROTTERDAM CONVENTION CONVENES TRAINING FOR DESIGNATED NATIONAL AUTHORITIES

The Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention convened sub-regional training and awareness-raising workshops for francophone African Designated National Authorities (DNAs) on the implementation of the Rotterdam Convention in Accra, Ghana, from 19-23 October 2009. The objectives of the workshop were to: strengthen the capacity of DNAs through the provision of practical training on the key obligations and operational elements of the Convention; facilitate a national dialogue among relevant stakeholders on the implementation of the Rotterdam Convention; and raise awareness of the linkages between the Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions (<http://www.pic.int/home.php?type=s&id=77>).



Participants during the Accra workshop (photo courtesy of the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat)

## ► INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### UNEP, UNCTAD AND UNITAR LAUNCH ONLINE COURSE ON ORGANIC PRODUCTION

The UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) launched the first online training course on organic farming production and

export. Operating under the auspices of the UNEP-UNCTAD Capacity Building Task Force on Trade, Environment and Development (CBTF), the course has received over 600 applications from 80 countries and territories, and will run from 2-27 November 2009. The course aims to build the capacities of participants to understand organic farming and its benefits, and enable

them to overcome production and export challenges. It will also provide guidance for conversion to organic farming, and monitor benchmarks for quality assurance to meet the standard and certification requirements for accessing local and international markets (<http://www.unep.org/Documents/Multilingual/Default.asp?DocumentID=602&ArticleID=6359&l=en>).

## ► TRADE, FINANCE AND INVESTMENT

### CLIMATE INVESTMENT FUNDS TO CHANNEL US\$1.1 BILLION FOR AFRICA

The Climate Investment Funds (CIF) will invest US\$1.1 billion to integrate climate risk and resilience into development planning, achieve renewable energy goals, and pursue low carbon growth in Africa. Mozambique, Niger and Zambia will receive US\$50-70 million each to integrate climate risk and resilience into their core development planning. South Africa will receive US\$500 million to support the generation of 4% of the country's electricity needs from renewable energy by 2013. Morocco will receive US\$150 million to pursue low-carbon growth. Lastly, Egypt will use US\$300 million to support sector development policies, for example, to develop wind power and low carbon urban transport systems (<http://go.worldbank.org/XXLSIEONL0>).

In other World Bank-related news, the World Bank approved, on 3 November 2009, a US\$3.35 million Global Environment Facility (GEF) grant to Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic to support management of protected areas and sustainable ecosystem development of the Tien

Shan region, a biodiversity 'hot-spot' with high numbers of endemic species and a significant level of threat (<http://go.worldbank.org/1HC734LRU0>).

### ADB FUNDS PANDA CONSERVATION

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will provide a US\$40 million loan for China to protect some of its most endangered animals and plants, while providing sustainable job opportunities for residents in the Qinling Mountains – an area where 300 giant pandas along with other threatened species live. The project will develop ecotourism attractions that will generate a sustainable source of funds to protect and restore the environment, while providing jobs and conservation-linked business opportunities. Among the planned attractions are large-scale botanical gardens, and a wildlife breeding and research program, including a center for giant pandas (<http://www.adb.org/Media/Articles/2009/13046-chinese-animal-protections/>).

The ADB has also announced a new video competition, titled "My View: The Asia-Pacific Climate Change Video Con-

test," to promote awareness of climate change, stimulate debate and encourage climate change solutions in the lead-up to the 2009 UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen (<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Events/2009/Climate-Change-Video-Contest/>).

### GEF'S INTERNATIONAL WATERS CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS WARMING IN LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

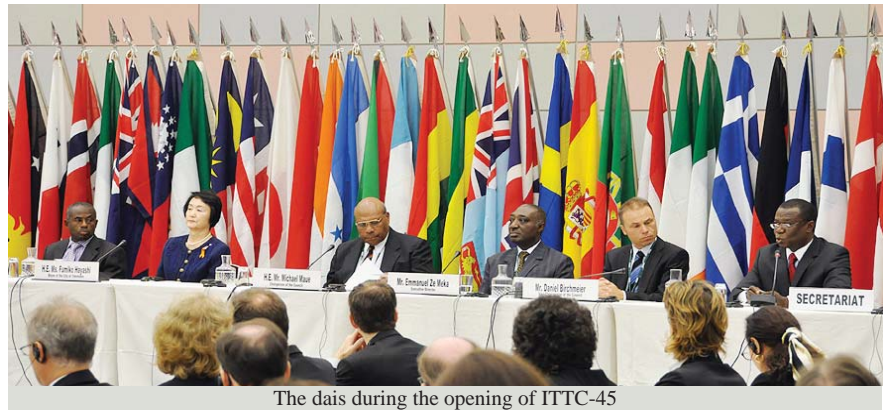
The Fifth GEF Biennial International Waters Conference convened from 24-29 October 2009, at the Australian Great Barrier Reef. During the event, a recent global assessment financed by the GEF was presented, showing that Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) are warming much more rapidly than expected and are over-fished and over-fertilized. The study found that 61 of the world's 64 large marine ecosystems show a significant increase in sea surface temperatures in the last 25 years, contributing to decreasing fisheries catches in some areas and increasing catches in others ([http://www.gefweb.org/interior\\_right.aspx?id=27296](http://www.gefweb.org/interior_right.aspx?id=27296)).

## ► FORESTS, DESERTS AND LAND

### UNFF ADOPTS DECISION ON FOREST FINANCING

Member States to the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF) adopted a decision on means of implementation on 30 October 2009, during a special session of the ninth session of UNFF (UNFF 9), held at UN Headquarters in New York, US. The special session of UNFF 9 was convened for the purpose of adopting this decision after informal consultations had resulted in agreed text on means of implementation, an issue that had remained unresolved at the last UNFF session in April 2009. The decision launches two initiatives to catalyze funding for sustainable forest management (SFM). The Forum will establish an intergovernmental process to conduct in-depth analysis of all aspects of forest financing over the next four years. An intergovernmental *ad hoc* expert group will analyze existing financing strategies for SFM, and explore ways to improve access to funds, including the option of establishing a voluntary global forest fund. The decision also launches a “facilitative process” on forest financing, to assist countries to mobilize funding from all sources.

The facilitative process addresses the special needs of countries that have faced a 20-year decline in forest financing. Specifically, these include least developed countries, low forest cover countries (LFCCs), high forest cover countries with low deforestation, low to medium income countries, small island developing States (SIDS), and low income countries in Africa. The facilitative process has received immediate support, including for a first project on “Facilitating Financing for SFM in SIDS and LFCCs,” from the Government of the United Kingdom. This project will be implemented by the UNFF Secretariat as the first phase of a larger project with other phases to be financed by a large



multilateral donor (<http://www.iisd.ca/forestry/unff/ssunff/>).

### ITTC 45 OPENS

The 45th Session of the International Tropical Timber Council (ITTC) and the Associated Sessions of the four Committees (Finance and Administration; Economic Information and Market Intelligence; Forest Industry; and Reforestation and Forest Management) are being held in Yokohama, Japan, from 9-14 November 2009. At this session the Council will consider: implementation of the Biennial Work Programme 2008-2009, and development of the Biennial Work Programme for 2010-2011; the current status of implementation of the ITTO Thematic Programmes; and progress towards meeting ITTO Objective 2000 for increasing the area of forests that are managed sustainably. The Council will also consider: the status of ratification of the ITTA, 2006; further engagement of the private sector and civil society, including a proposal for the establishment of a private sector consultancy board; and financing the work of the organization, including a proposal to establish a structured donor’s coordination group to secure funds (<http://www.iisd.ca/forestry/itto/itc45/>).

### UNCCD POSTS ADVANCE COPIES OF COP 9 DECISIONS

The Secretariat of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) has put together a compendium of the decisions adopted at the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 9). The compendium lists each of the L documents adopted at the conclusion of the 21 September-2 October 2009 meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and will be discontinued once the final COP 9 report is released (<http://www.unccd.int/cop/cop9/change.php>). In other UNCCD news, Executive Secretary Luc Gnacadja reported on COP 9 at the 36th GEF Council meeting, in Washington, DC, on 10 November 2009 ([http://thegef.org/uploadedfiles/C.36.2\\_Annotated\\_Provisional\\_Agenda\\_11.02.09Final\(2\).pdf](http://thegef.org/uploadedfiles/C.36.2_Annotated_Provisional_Agenda_11.02.09Final(2).pdf)).

The UNCCD Secretariat is also preparing for the first meeting of the Issue Management Group (IMG) on Land, which is scheduled to convene from 24-25 November 2009, in Bonn, Germany. This IMG is a programme of the Environment Management Group and responds to a call by governments for a coherent UN system-wide response to land challenges (<http://www.unccd.int/secretariat/docs/workplan/workplan2009-eng12.pdf>; <http://www.unemg.org/MeetingsDocuments/EMGCalendar/tabid/1237/language/en-US/Default.aspx>).

## ► SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### DSD ORGANIZES SPECIAL EVENTS FOR SECOND COMMITTEE, PRESENTS SECRETARY-GENERAL’S REPORTS

The Division for Sustainable Development (DSD) of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) organized, on 6 November 2009, a special event titled “Enhancing Governance on Water.” The event was part of the 64th Session of the UN General Assembly’s Second Committee (Economic and Financial), during which experts discussed some of the key issues on the global water agenda, such as cooperating on transboundary water resources, strengthening the response to climate change through smart water

management and reducing the impacts of water related disasters (<http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/index.shtml>).

On 26 October 2009, the Second Committee participated in a panel discussion on “Green growth and sustainable development,” focusing on how climate change mitigation can be supported by and contribute to economic growth and organized by UNDESA. Speakers, *inter alia*, stressed the “window of opportunity” for sustainable investment presented by the current economic crisis, and recommended gearing investment toward low-carbon, resource-efficient models that create employment, support communities and contribute to human flourishing.

On 2 November 2009, DSD Director Tariq Banuri presented five reports of the Secretary-General to the Second Committee, regarding: overall implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation; follow-up on the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States; activities undertaken during the International Year of Sanitation (2008); agricultural development and technology; and promotion of renewable sources of energy ([http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/resources/res\\_docugae-cos\\_64.shtml](http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/resources/res_docugae-cos_64.shtml)).

## ► WATER, OCEANS AND WETLANDS

### RAMSAR SIGNS MOC WITH SPREP

The Ramsar Convention Secretariat and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) signed a memorandum of cooperation (MOC) on 2 November 2009. The MOC is for the period 2009-2012, and will involve the identification of a number of focused and practical areas for cooperation, as well as the identification and protection of the wetland areas and awareness raising regarding the importance of wetlands ([http://www.ramsar.org/cda/ramsar/display/main/main.jsp?zn=ramsar&cp=1-26-45-84%5e24185\\_4000\\_0\\_\\_](http://www.ramsar.org/cda/ramsar/display/main/main.jsp?zn=ramsar&cp=1-26-45-84%5e24185_4000_0__)).

The Ramsar Convention, together with the Danone Groupe and IUCN, has called for “wet carbon” project proposals, or projects with wetland, community and climate impacts ([http://www.ramsar.org/pdf/danone\\_carbon\\_proposals2009.pdf](http://www.ramsar.org/pdf/danone_carbon_proposals2009.pdf)).

In other Ramsar news, from 21-23 October 2009, the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) and the National



L-R: Ananda Tiega and David Sheppard signing the MOC (photo courtesy of the Ramsar Secretariat)

Parks Board (NParks) of Singapore hosted the “ASEAN Conference on Biodiversity 2009,” which sought to provide a forum for the exchange of information and views on biodiversity issues relevant to the ASEAN region in the run up to the 10th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya, Japan, in 2010. During the meeting, there were parallel sessions on climate change and biodiversity; access to genetic resources and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their utilization; and economics of ecosystems and biodiversity – the ASEAN region’s contribution ([http://www.ramsar.org/cda/ramsar/display/main/main.jsp?zn=ramsar&cp=1-26-45-84^24181\\_4000\\_0\\_\\_](http://www.ramsar.org/cda/ramsar/display/main/main.jsp?zn=ramsar&cp=1-26-45-84^24181_4000_0__)).

### UNDOALOS RELEASES REPORTS

The UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UNDOALOS) has made two reports available. The report of the Secretary-General on actions taken by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to give effect to paragraphs 83 to 90 of General Assembly resolution 61/105 of 8 December 2006 on sustainable fisheries (A/64/305) describes the most vulnerable marine ecosystems and the impacts of bottom fishing on such ecosystems, and outlines actions taken by States and regional fishery management organizations and arrangements to adopt and implement measures aimed at regulating bottom fisheries and protecting vulnerable marine ecosystems from destructive fishing practices. It also describes initiatives by States to

establish new regional organizations and arrangements in the north-west and south Pacific with the competence to regulate bottom fisheries, as well as interim measures adopted by these States pending the establishment of such organizations or arrangements ([http://www.un.org/Depts/los/general\\_assembly/general\\_assembly\\_reports.htm#A/64/305](http://www.un.org/Depts/los/general_assembly/general_assembly_reports.htm#A/64/305)).

Two addenda were also released to accompany the Secretary-General’s report on oceans and the law of the sea. Document A/64/66/Add.1 offers a report on developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including the implementation of the resolution. Document A/64/66/Add.2 was prepared to assist the *Ad Hoc* Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction in preparing, in consultation with all relevant international bodies, the agenda of its third meeting, to be convened in 2010 ([http://www.un.org/Depts/los/reference\\_files/new\\_developments\\_and\\_recent\\_adds.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/los/reference_files/new_developments_and_recent_adds.htm)).

In related news, UNDOALOS has reported that, on 2 November 2009, Nigeria acceded to the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks ([http://www.un.org/Depts/los/reference\\_files/new\\_developments\\_and\\_recent\\_adds.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/los/reference_files/new_developments_and_recent_adds.htm)).

## ► COMINGS AND GOINGS

- In view of the retirement of Willem Wijnstekers, **Secretary-General of the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)**, UNEP has published a vacancy announcement for his succession. The deadline for application is 13 December 2009 ([https://jobs.un.org/Galaxy/Release3/vacancy/Display\\_Vac.aspx?lang=1200&VACID=4feabc6a-73c9-4c9e-a172-bc692788ab2a](https://jobs.un.org/Galaxy/Release3/vacancy/Display_Vac.aspx?lang=1200&VACID=4feabc6a-73c9-4c9e-a172-bc692788ab2a)).

## ► KEY UPCOMING MEA MEETINGS

- **Eighth Adaptation Fund Board Meeting:** 16-18 November 2009. Bonn, Germany. <http://www.adaptation-fund.org/afbb8documents.html>
- **Regional Capacity Building Workshop on BAT/BEP and Environmentally Sound Management of POPs Wastes and PCBs for Asia:** 16-20 November 2009. Beijing, China. <http://chm.pops.int/Programmes/TechnicalAssistance/hrTrainingWorkshops/Asia/tabid/654/mctl/ViewDetails/EventModID/1007/EventID/70/xmid/2499/language/en-US/Default.aspx>
- **Country-Led Initiative in Support of the UNFF: Forests for People - The Role of National Forest Programmes and the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests:** 17-20 November 2009. Guilin, China. <http://www.iisd.ca/yimb/forest/clic2009/>
- **Awareness Raising of the Rotterdam Convention and Training on Strengthening Chemicals Management and Implementation of Key Convention Obligations:** 23-27 November 2009. Armenia. <http://www.pic.int/mbg-short.php?ReId=121>
- **CSD Regional Implementation Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean:** 26-27 November 2009. Antigua, Guatemala. [http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd\\_csd18\\_rims.shtml](http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd_csd18_rims.shtml)