



## RECENT MEA ACTIVITIES

### ▶ BIODIVERSITY AND WILDLIFE

#### ABS WORKING GROUP SUSPENDS SESSION, FORWARDS CO-CHAIRS' DRAFT PROTOCOL TO RESUMED SESSION AS NON-NEGOTIATED DOCUMENT

The ninth meeting of the *Ad Hoc* Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing (ABS) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) convened from 22-28 March 2010, in Santiago de Cali, Colombia. The meeting continued negotiations on an international regime on ABS, in view of its mandate to submit an instrument for consideration at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 10). For the first time in the process, negotiations were conducted on the basis of a draft protocol, tabled as a Co-Chair's text and developed upon a request made during the Co-Chairs' Informal Inter-regional Consultation held prior to ABS 9. Following three days of productive contact group discussions and significant progress achieved on a number of issues, including benefit-sharing from derivatives and an internationally recognized certificate of compliance, an inter-regional group was established. Due to procedural wrangling, the inter-regional group did not enter into text-based negotiations. The Working Group eventually agreed to: suspend ABS 9 and convene a resumed session in June/July 2010; and forward the draft protocol text as revised in Cali to the resumed session, with the understanding that the draft was not negotiated, is without prejudice to the rights of parties to make further amendments and additions to the text, and should be read together with the ABS 9 report reflecting parties' views expressed at the meeting (<http://www.iisd.ca/biodiv/abs9/>).



L-R: Working Group Co-Chairs Tim Hodges (Canada) and Fernando Casas (Colombia) celebrating the end of the ABS 9 meeting

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#### GUEST ARTICLE I

##### Earth Summit 2012 – the Rio Spirit

By Felix Dodds, Stakeholder Forum

##### Abstract

In 2012, in Rio, governments will again try to muster the political will to move us on to a more sustainable path. If we look back to the first Rio Conference in 1992, a number of successful outcomes can be identified. The Rio event created a deadline for ongoing negotiations on two multilateral environmental agreements: the Conventions on Climate Change and Biological Diversity.

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#### GUEST ARTICLE II

##### Piloting Integrated Processes and Approaches to Facilitate National Reporting to Rio Conventions – a Global Environment Facility financed project

By Adamou Bouhari, UNEP Division of GEF Coordination, and Asghar M. Fazel, UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre

##### Abstract

National reporting is a key commitment for Parties to multilateral environmental agreements. The overall aim of national reporting is to inform an improved implementation of the conventions in question.

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**GUEST ARTICLE I (cont.)**

Delegates in Rio agreed to negotiate additional MEAs: the Desertification Convention and the Straddling Fish Stocks Agreement. Agenda 21 – the blueprint for creating a sustainable planet in the 21st century, with 40 chapters covering the main challenges facing our ability to live sustainably on the planet – was negotiated specifically for the Summit. The Rio Declaration – a set of 27 principles that have found their way into domestic law in many countries – and the Forestry Principles – an attempt to guide us all to manage the decreasing forests in a more sustainable way – were adopted. And, the UN Commission on Sustainable Development was created to track implementation of the Rio agreements. In addition, the Rio Earth Summit created a role for stakeholders in developing policy and implementing the agreements.

The 2012 Summit agenda, as drafted in the UN General Assembly (GA) resolution, suggests delegates should consider: implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development; the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; sustainable development governance; and emerging issues.

The Summit offers additional opportunities to those identified in the GA resolution. A common work programme for the Rio Conventions in the area of REDD could be developed. A new Mercury Convention could be signed. The event could offer a point at which possible agreement by the 2011 UNFCCC COP on a legally binding agreement could be signed. And two possible conventions to come out of the Summit supported by stakeholders, related to the green economy, could be developed: a convention on Corporate Accountability, possibly

bringing together the new ISO 26000 standard and the OECD guidelines; and a convention on Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration: access to information, participation and justice in the area of environment.

Stakeholder Forum, Brazilian Forum of NGOs and Social Movements for Sustainable Development and Environment (FBOMS) - Latin America, Environment and Development Action Africa (ENDA) – Africa, and Participatory Research Information Asia (PRIA) – Asia have created a partnership to mobilise stakeholders for the Summit. Leaving Rio in 2012, we hope we will all be full of the ‘Rio Spirit,’ ready to be part of the answer, part of the engine of implementation, part of a global community that has agreed to work together to make this planet a sustainable one for all.

To read the full article, visit: <http://www.iisd.ca/mea-1/guestarticle89a.html>

**► BIODIVERSITY AND WILDLIFE****CITES COP 15 DEBATES  
BLUEFIN TUNA, SHARKS AND  
IVORY, LISTS PLANT SPECIES**

The 15th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) convened from 13-25 March 2010, in Doha, Qatar. Drawing together some 1,500 participants, the meeting considered 68 agenda items and 42 proposals to amend the CITES appendices. Parties rejected proposals to list bluefin

tuna, shark species, polar bears and corals, with their arguments focusing on scientific, economic and livelihood considerations and, most notably, CITES jurisdiction vis-à-vis Regional Fisheries Management Organizations. The meeting decided to list Kaiser's spotted newt, five species of tree frogs, the unicorn beetle, rosewood, holywood and several Madagascar plant species, among others. Tanzania's proposal to transfer its elephant population from Appendix I to Appendix II for specific purposes, and

Zambia's proposal to transfer its population to Appendix II for the exclusive purpose of allowing trade in hunting trophies, raw hides and live animals under conditions set forth in the proposal were rejected. Beyond these debates, delegates seemed pleased with progress on numerous implementation and enforcement efforts, including source codes, permits and certification, and electronic permitting, as well as the protection of a number of new plant and animal species (<http://www.iisd.ca/cites/cop15/>).



The dais during one of the plenary sessions

**GUEST ARTICLE II (cont.)**

However, in recent years, there has been a growing recognition that the reporting burden has increased. Each convention provides guidance on content and format of these reports, often independent from the other conventions, resulting in duplication, overlaps and inefficiencies, often creating, unnecessarily, an institutional fragmentation at the national level along individual convention themes. Developing countries, especially Least Developed Countries and Small Island Development States, with limited resources are heavily burdened by such requirements. The institutional fragmentation and current GEF support modalities for reporting (through Enabling Activities) are convention-oriented. Opportunities for integrated processes for reporting to the Rio Conventions – Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Convention to

Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) – have not been explored fully yet.

Therefore, the objective of this project is Piloting Integrated Processes and Approaches to Facilitate National Reporting to Rio Conventions. More specifically, the project will (a) develop integrated approaches to data collection/analysis and information management of relevance to the three Rio Conventions at the national level; (b) increase synergies in the process of reporting to the three conventions without compromising relevant COP decisions; and (c) contribute to improved overall planning and decision-making processes at the country level related to the implementation of these three conventions.

The GEF Implementation Agency for the project is the UNEP Division of GEF Coordination and the Executing Agency is the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre. The project works through six pilot countries: Afghanistan, Eritrea, Lao PDR, Liberia, Palau and Mauritius. The project duration is from January 2010 to December 2012. The total cost of the project is US\$1,7m, with GEF financing of US\$840,000. In February, the project inception workshop and the first meeting of the Project Steering Committee took place in Cambridge, UK.

To read the full article, visit: <http://www.iisd.ca/mea-1/guestarticle89b.html>

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

**▶ WATER, OCEANS AND WETLANDS**



Delegates at ICSP 9 considered the agenda item on future actions, including possible meetings of the Review Conference after May 2010, and future informal consultations

**ICSP 9 DISCUSSES AGENDA FOR REVIEW CONFERENCE OF UN FISH STOCKS AGREEMENT**

The Ninth Round of Informal Consultations of States Parties (ICSP 9) 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 (UN Fish Stocks Agreement) took place on 16-17 March 2010, at UN Headquarters in New York, US. ICSP 9 was convened to serve as a preparatory meeting for the resumed Review Conference on the Fish Stocks Agreement, scheduled to take place at the same venue from 24-28 May 2010. Participants: discussed the UN Secretary-General's report to the resumed Review Conference (A/CONF.210/2010/1); considered recommendations for the resumed Review Conference, including its organization of work, draft provisional agenda, bureau and outputs; and discussed possible future actions and events after the resumed Review Conference. They concluded the

session with general approval on the resumed Review Conference's proposed organization of work and agenda (<http://www.iisd.ca/oceans/fsaic9/>).

**NEW RAMSAR SITE DESIGNATED**

The Ramsar Secretariat has announced that the Government of Brazil has designated its 11th Wetland of International Importance, Arolhos Marine National Park ([http://www.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-news-archives-2010-brazil11/main/ramsar/1-26-45-437%5E24502\\_4000\\_0\\_\\_](http://www.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-news-archives-2010-brazil11/main/ramsar/1-26-45-437%5E24502_4000_0__)).

**IMO's MEPC MAKES PROGRESS ON GHG FROM SHIPPING**

The Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) held its 60th session from 22-26 March 2010, in London, UK, and focused on the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from international shipping. The MEPC concluded that more work needs to be done before it completes its consideration of the proposed mandatory application of technical and operational

measures designed to regulate and reduce GHG emissions from international shipping. The MEPC established an intersessional Working Group to build on the progress that had been made during the meeting on technical and operational measures to increase the energy efficiency of ships, and an Expert Group on market-based measures to undertake a feasibility study and impact assessment of the proposals submitted for a market-based instrument for international maritime transport. Both Groups are to report to the MEPC at its 61st session. Participants also: adopted amendments to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL Convention); addressed issues relating to the implementation of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, and adopted a resolution that requests Administrations to encourage the installation of ballast water management systems on new ships; continued work on developing "Guidelines for safe and environmentally sound ship recycling," and commenced the development of "Guidelines for the development of the Ship Recycling Plan;" and agreed that the discharge requirements for the Wider Caribbean Region Special Area under MARPOL Annex V "Regulations for the prevention of pollution by garbage from ships" would take effect on 1 May 2011 ([http://www.imo.org/Newsroom/mainframe.asp?topic\\_id=1859&doc\\_id=12724](http://www.imo.org/Newsroom/mainframe.asp?topic_id=1859&doc_id=12724)).

## RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

### GLOBAL FOREST RESOURCES ASSESSMENT 2010: KEY FINDINGS

(FAO, March 2010) The UN Food and Agriculture Organization has published the key findings of its 2010 Forest Resources Assessment. The report points out that global deforestation rates have declined in the past decade, but remain alarming in many countries. The full report will be available in October 2010 (<http://www.fao.org/forestry/static/data/fra2010/KeyFindings-en.pdf>).

### FOREST LAW COMPLIANCE AND GOVERNANCE IN TROPICAL COUNTRIES

(ITTO and FAO, March 2010) Written by Jurgen Blaser, this report summarizes the main outcomes and lessons learned from five regional workshops on forest law compliance and governance conducted jointly by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Tropical Timber Organization throughout the tropics. Based on the outputs of the workshops, the report makes a number of region-by-region recommendations and draws some general conclusions ([http://www.itto.int/direct/topics/topics\\_pdf\\_download/topics\\_id=2293&no=0](http://www.itto.int/direct/topics/topics_pdf_download/topics_id=2293&no=0)).

### ENVIRONMENT OUTLOOK FOR THE ARAB REGION: ENVIRONMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN WELL-BEING

(UNEP, 2010) This UN Environment Programme report provides a comprehensive and integrated assessment of the state of environment in the region, and was compiled at the request of the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (<http://www.unep.org/dewa/westasia/eoar/>).

### SICK WATER

(UNEP Grid Arendal, March 2010) This e-book of the UN Environment Programme Grid Arendal identifies the transformation of wastewater from a major health and environmental hazard into a clean, safe and economically-attractive resource as a key challenge in the 21st century (<http://www.grida.no/publications/rr/sickwater/ebook.aspx>).

## ► FORESTS, DESERTS AND LAND



The first issue of "CST Highlights" (cover courtesy of the UNCCD Secretariat)

### UNCCD DEVELOPS CST NEWSLETTER, GM CONSULTING ON RCMs

The first issue of "CST Highlights" has been posted on the website of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), to share information on its Committee on Science and Technology (CST). The newsletter reviews decisions that were taken at the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 9) related to the CST, including the adoption of impact indicators, the development of a process leading to the second UNCCD Scientific Conference, and the decision to assign the CST Bureau direct responsibility for the implementation of the Committee's work programme, and attainment of its objectives (<http://www.unccd.int/knowledge/docs/CST%20final%20.pdf>).

In other UNCCD-related news, the Global Mechanism (GM) of the

UNCCD has announced that it has begun consultations regarding the provision of financial and human resources to facilitate regional coordination mechanisms (RCMs), as called for by COP 9 (<http://global-mechanism.org/news--events/news/gm-makes-resources-available-to-the-regional-coordination-mechanisms-of-the-unccd/>). The GM is also taking part in the Joint Task Team (JTT) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee to elaborate proposals for the "Rio Markers," which will seek to measure the relevance and effectiveness of official development assistance in combating desertification, addressing climate change and protecting biodiversity (<http://global-mechanism.org/news--events/news/reporting-on-oda-against-desertification>). The JTT will hold its next meeting in June 2010.

## ► CHEMICALS AND WASTES

### ROTTERDAM CONVENTION CRC RECOMMENDS LISTING TWO CHEMICALS

The sixth meeting of the Rotterdam Convention Chemical Review Committee (CRC 6) convened from 15-19 March 2010, in Geneva, Switzerland. The CRC recommended that two pesticides – endosulfan and azinphos methyl – be included in the Rotterdam Convention's Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure. Endosulfan is an organochlorine insecticide and acaricide is used in crops worldwide. It is currently also being considered for inclusion under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). Azinphos methyl is a broad spectrum organophosphate insecticide and a neurotoxin. The CRC also considered amitraz and methyl bromide and concluded that there was one notification for each chemical meeting the Annex II criteria. As the Conven-

tion requires two notifications, neither was recommended for inclusion in the Convention. The CRC also considered notifications for paraquat, but concluded that none of the notifications met the Annex II criteria. The recommendation to include endosulfan and azinphos methyl in the PIC procedure will be considered by the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention, scheduled to convene in June 2011 (<http://www.pic.int/home.php?type=b&id=166&sid=18&tid=42>).

In other Rotterdam Convention news, the Secretariat has launched a new section on the role of Customs, on the Convention website. The section is intended to form an easy reference tool for Customs Authorities and provides information on the role of customs officers in the implementation of the Rotterdam Convention (<http://www.pic.int/customs/Minisite/Roles.html>).

## RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

### WATER, WETLANDS AND FORESTS: A REVIEW OF ECOLOGICAL, ECONOMIC AND POLICY LINKAGES

(CBD Technical Series No. 47, March 2010) This report of the Convention on Biological Diversity was produced in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and other partners. It aims to foster better awareness of the crucial role that forests and wetlands play in sustaining the availability and quality of water critical for human well-being (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-47-en.pdf>).

### PROGRESS ON SANITATION AND DRINKING-WATER 2010 UPDATE

(WHO/UNICEF, 2010) This report of the World Health Organization / UN Children's Fund Joint Monitoring Programme on Water Supply and Sanitation provides the most recent data for drinking-water and sanitation, along with the implications and trends these new data reveal for reaching the basic sanitation and safe drinking-water Millennium Development Goals ([http://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/publications/9789241563956/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/9789241563956/en/index.html)).

## ► CHEMICALS AND WASTES

### STOCKHOLM CONVENTION CONVENES POPs AND PCBs WORKSHOP

The Stockholm Convention Secretariat, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Mali, and the African Stockpile Programme, convened a regional training workshop from 8-11 March 2010, in Bamako, Mali. Key outcomes included improved capacity of participants on: the concepts, principles and standards for the Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) of POPs wastes as presented in the Basel Convention POPs waste guidelines; practical aspects of the ESM of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and POPs wastes; possibilities of applying for technical and financial assistance for the implementation of the Convention; and the interactive training tool on POPs wastes, the PCBs Elimination Network, as well as other Secretariat activities related to PCBs and POPs wastes (IISD RS Sources).

In other Stockholm Convention news, the Secretariat has invited comments on how to improve the usefulness of the social and economic guidance and additional guidance on the calculation of action plan costs, in accordance with decision SC4/9. Comments should be submitted to the Secretariat by 31 May 2010 (<http://chm.pops.int/Programmes/NIPs/InformationrequestdecisionSC49/tabid/720/language/en-US/Default.aspx>).

The Stockholm Convention Secretariat has also released questionnaires for

donors and recipients in relation to information on ways to support the Stockholm Convention pursuant to decision SC-4/24. Responses should be submitted to the Secretariat by 31 May 2010 (<http://chm.pops.int/Programmes/FinancialMechanism/COP4Followup/tabid/725/language/en-US/Default.aspx>).

### SAICM RELEASES REPORT ON HEALTH SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

The Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) has released the report of the Consultation on the Development of a Strategy for Strengthening the Engagement of the Health Sector in Implementation of the SAICM, which convened from 4-5 February 2010, in Ljubljana, Slovenia. The report outlines pilot activities and next steps for engaging the health sector including: establishing a clear and engaging website; creating a health sector network; gathering and reporting on examples of the health sector leading by example in the management of chemicals used as part of health-care; fostering connections between medical and nursing associations and academic environmental health and risk assessment societies; initiating a dialogue with health sector unions about SAICM; and contributing information about SAICM and the development of the health strategy in medical journals ([http://www.saicm.org/documents/meeting/Health%20Strategy\\_Ljubljana%202010/Health.1\\_3\\_final%20report.pdf](http://www.saicm.org/documents/meeting/Health%20Strategy_Ljubljana%202010/Health.1_3_final%20report.pdf)).

## ► SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### PREPARATIONS FOR CSD 18 CONTINUE

The Division for Sustainable Development (DSD), in its role as the Secretariat for the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), has released the draft organization of work for the 18th session of the CSD, which will convene from 3-14 May 2010, in New York, US ([http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/resources/res\\_pdfs/csd-18/csd18\\_organization\\_of\\_work.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/resources/res_pdfs/csd-18/csd18_organization_of_work.pdf)). As part of its Thematic Seminar Series that has presented scientific and technical information on the issues under review by CSD 18 and 19, the DSD organized a seminar on the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, on 30 March 2010, at the same venue ([http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd\\_aofw\\_scpp/scpp\\_ss0310.shtml](http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_scpp/scpp_ss0310.shtml)).

In other CSD 18-related news, the Caribbean Regional group and the AIMS (Africa, Indian Ocean, Medi-

terranean and South China Sea) group held preparatory meetings for the Five Year Review of the Mauritius Strategy for the further implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island States (SIDS) (MSI+5). The regional meetings will also feed into the one day of CSD 18 that will serve as a preparatory committee for MSI+5. The AIMS region met in Male, Maldives, from 9-10 March 2010, where representatives suggested that work should be undertaken to develop country vulnerability profiles and highlighted the need to establish regional support mechanisms for intra-regional cooperation among the AIMS-SIDS.

The Caribbean Regional meeting convened in St. George's, Grenada, on 16 and 18 March 2010, and participants supported, *inter alia*: identifying and assessing adaptation needs; addressing the issue of access to low carbon technologies and enhanced technology transfer; promoting energy efficiency and enhancing renewable energy resources and related services; strengthening early warning systems and expanding a risk management framework; and promoting greater regional cooperation in research and development for SIDS-appropriate applications for improved knowledge management (IISD RS Sources; [http://www.sidsnet.org/msi\\_5/index.shtml](http://www.sidsnet.org/msi_5/index.shtml)).



## ► CLIMATE AND ATMOSPHERE

### UNFCCC PREPARES FOR APRIL MEETING

The UNFCCC has released the annotated provisional agenda and scenario notes for the 11th session of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP 11), and the ninth session of the *Ad Hoc* Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA 9). These meetings, the first round of formal UNFCCC negotiations for 2010, will be held from 9-11 April 2010, in Bonn, Germany. During the session, in addition to other items, the AWG-LCA will be invited to agree on the organization of its work, including the calendar of meetings in 2010, and methods of work that will allow the AWG-LCA to resolve outstanding issues in the negotiations while ensuring inclusiveness, transparency and efficiency in reaching substantive outcomes.

The AWG-KP is expected to elect a Chair, Vice-Chair and Rapporteur for 2010 and to consider how to ensure that work on all outstanding issues will be concluded by the end of 2010, including the need for any technical input to support this work. The AWG-KP will also be invited to consider, and agree on, the modalities and organization of work in 2010, as well as the number of sessions and their length in order to ensure that the group's work is presented to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP 6) (<http://unfccc.int/meetings/items/4381.php>; [http://unfccc.int/kyoto\\_protocol/items/4577.php](http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/4577.php)).

A compilation of 32 submissions from parties on their views on the need for additional meeting time for the AWG-KP and the AWG-LCA, and on organization of work of the AWG-LCA, has also been published. This follows a request from the Chairs of the two AWGs to parties to submit their views on the need for additional meet-

ing time. In addition, the AWG-LCA Chair also invited parties to submit their views on how best to advance the work of the AWG-LCA in 2010 (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/awglca9/eng/misc01.pdf>).

The UNFCCC has also published eight submissions on views on issues relating to the 2006 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Guidelines and the revision of the UNFCCC Annex I reporting guidelines. The submissions are from Australia, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Spain on behalf of the EU, and the US. These views will be considered by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) at its 32nd session, to be held in Bonn, Germany, from 31 May-11 June 2010 (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/sbsta/eng/misc01.pdf>).

In other news, the UNFCCC has published a proposal by Kazakhstan to amend Annex B to the Kyoto Protocol. Kazakhstan proposes that the name of Kazakhstan be included in Annex B, with a quantified greenhouse gas emission limitation or reduction commitment under Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol of 100% of the 1992 level in the commitment period 2008 to 2012, and a footnote indicating that the country is undergoing the process of transition to a market economy (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/sbi/eng/06.pdf>).

The UNFCCC Secretariat has also published several reports including a Synthesis report of information contained in submissions from parties and relevant organizations, and other relevant sources, on efforts undertaken to assess the costs and benefits of adaptation options. The report complements the technical paper reviewing the existing literature on the potential costs and benefits of adaptation options, in particular in the areas of lessons learned and good practices, gaps and needs. The report will be considered by SBSTA at its 32nd session (<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/sbsta/eng/03.pdf>).

int/resource/docs/2010/sbsta/eng/03.pdf).

An initial summary report titled "National Economic, Environment and Development Study for Climate Change" has also been published. This study follows a June 2008 request from the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to the Secretariat to provide information to non-Annex I Parties on the assessment of financing needs to implement mitigation and adaptation. In response to this mandate, the Secretariat established the National Economic, Environment and Development Study (NEEDS) for Climate Change ([http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/needs\\_initial\\_sum\\_rep\\_2010.pdf](http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/needs_initial_sum_rep_2010.pdf)).

### IPCC COMPLETES NOMINATION PROCESS FOR AR5

The IPCC has announced the completion of the nomination process for the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5). Over 3000 experts were nominated by IPCC national focal points and observer organizations. The Report, scheduled to be finalized in 2013-2014, will be the next comprehensive assessment of scientific information on climate change by the IPCC. According to IPCC procedures, the author selection is carried out by the Working Group Bureaux, which follow the IPCC Principles and Procedures for selection based on criteria that cover expertise, range of views and geographical representation. Approximately 600 to 700 scientists will be selected as Coordinating Lead Authors and Lead Authors. Many additional experts will be invited to participate as Contributing Authors as the work on the AR5 progresses. The author teams will conduct the scientific-technical assessment using procedures that emphasize comprehensiveness, scientific independence, openness, thorough review and transparency.

The author selection process will be completed at the upcoming meeting of the IPCC Bureau in May 2010. The final list of Coordinating Lead Authors and Lead Authors will then be provided to the IPCC member governments and made publicly available ([http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/press/ipcc\\_info\\_note\\_rev1\\_24032010.pdf](http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/press/ipcc_info_note_rev1_24032010.pdf)).

### OZONE SECRETARIAT RELEASES OEWG DOCUMENTS

The Ozone Secretariat has released documents for the 30th meeting of the Open-Ended Working Work (OEWG 30), which is scheduled to convene in Bangkok, Thailand, from 14-18 June 2010. Documents include the provision agenda and information note for participants (<http://ozone.unep.org/highlights.shtml>).



AWG-LCA Chair Michael Zammit Cutajar during the Copenhagen Climate Change Conference

## ► TRADE, FINANCE AND INVESTMENT



The dais during the closing plenary of the 2010 CIF Partnership Forum

### CIF ANNOUNCE LOW-CARBON GROWTH PROJECTS

The Climate Investment Funds (CIF) held several back-to-back meetings from 15-19 March 2010, in Manila, the Philippines, hosted by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), and unveiled plans to mobilize some US\$40 billion for country-led low carbon growth projects. The series of meetings included the CIF Partnership Forum, on 18-19 March 2010, which gathered 400 participants representing governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples and the private sector. The CIF Clean Technology Fund (CTF) now has 13 plans in place around the world, and some US\$4.3 billion of CTF co-financing allocated to projects ranging from solar power development to the greening of public transport systems. It is estimated that an additional US\$36 billion will be leveraged in the coming years from other sources, including the private sector, bringing the total to be mobilized to US\$40 billion (<http://www.iisd.ca/yimb/climate/cif2010/>; <http://go.worldbank.org/N4FGL4Q050>).

### IMF CHIEF PROPOSES GREEN FUND TO ADDRESS CLIMATE-RELATED SHOCKS IN AFRICA

Dominique Strauss-Kahn, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), took part in a panel discussion at the Kenya International Conference Center in Nairobi, and explained that the IMF staff is working on the idea of a "Green Fund" with the capacity to raise US\$100 billion a year by 2020.

He clarified that the IMF does not intend to manage such a fund, but presented the idea as the UN High-Level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing was about to begin its work. He also suggested IMF quotas could provide a key for burden sharing, to help overcome one of the obstacles to an agreement (<http://www.imf.org/external/np/speeches/2010/030810.htm>; <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/spn/2010/spn1006.pdf>).

### DIALOGUE ON FfD DISCUSSES ISSUES ON MDG SUMMIT AGENDA

The Fourth High Level Dialogue of the General Assembly on Financing for Development took place at UN Headquarters in New York, US, on 23-24 March 2010, and presented an advance discussion of some of the issues to be dealt with at the MDG Summit in September, in the same venue. The concluding remarks by the President of the General Assembly highlighted that the recent world fuel, energy, financial and economic crises threaten the hard won and uneven gains made in the fields of poverty reduction, health and education. Moreover, he said they undermine progress on agreed targets on environmental sustainability. In this context, it was noted that the international community must fulfill the development promise of the Doha Round, extend measures to enhance access to technology to deal with climate change, and increase agricultural productivity (<http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/hld/HLD2010/ConcludingRemarks.pdf>).

### WTO CTESS TAKES STOCK OF EGS NEGOTIATIONS

The World Trade Organization's (WTO) Trade Negotiations Committee meeting took place from 22-26 March 2010, in Geneva, Switzerland. This stocktaking week on the status of the Doha negotiations evaluated progress in negotiations on environmental goods and services (EGS). Manuel A. J. Teehankee, Chair of the WTO's Special Session of the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTESS), addressed the Trade Negotiations Committee on 22 March, listing the areas that require further attention in order to complete the mandate of paragraph 31 of the Doha Declaration (trade and environment). On the relationship between existing WTO rules and trade-related measures in multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), he said conclusions fall within five main clusters: the importance of national coordination to enhance mutual support; options on how to reflect discussions in an outcome document; dispute settlement or legal principles; technical assistance to developing country members; and general principles. He indicated that further dedicated discussions will be held on these five clusters, in an effort to move to text-based negotiations.

Regarding procedures for regular information exchange between MEA Secretariats and the WTO, and granting of observer status, he noted consensus exists and said text-based consultations will take place on this topic. Finally, on the liberalization of trade in EGS, he said the approach to define the universe of goods and services covered still remain open, with options ranging from adopting an agreed set of environmental goods, undertaking a request-offer process to reduce tariffs to these products, or providing concessions for goods used in environmental projects, like the Clean Development Mechanism. He called on members to review what is on the table and make further specific proposals ([http://www.wto.org/audio/2010\\_03\\_22\\_tnc\\_teehankee.mp3](http://www.wto.org/audio/2010_03_22_tnc_teehankee.mp3)).

## ► KEY UPCOMING MEA MEETINGS

- **Open-Ended Meeting of Government-Designated Experts on a Compilation of Internationally Agreed Environmental Goals and Objectives:** 29-31 March 2010. Geneva, Switzerland. <http://www.unep.org/law/PDF/UNEPProvisionalAgenda.pdf>
- **AWG-KP 11 and AWG-LCA 9:** 9-11 April 2010. Bonn, Germany. <http://www.iisd.ca/climate/ccwg9/>
- **Workshop on Regional Action to Combat Invasive Species on Islands to Preserve Biodiversity and Aid Climate Change Adaptation:** 12-16 April 2010. Auckland, New Zealand. <http://www.cbd.int/meetings/>
- **60th Meeting of the Executive Committee to the Montreal Protocol:** 12-15 April 2010. Montréal, Canada. <http://www.multilateralfund.org/homepage.htm>
- **CSD 18 Thematic Seminar Series: Mining and Transportation:** 9 and 13 April 2010. New York, US. [http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd\\_csd18\\_seminar\\_series.shtml](http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd_csd18_seminar_series.shtml)