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## **Biodiversity in the EU after Nagoya, vleva, December 22<sup>nd</sup> 2010**

This event was organised by Minaraad and the Liaison agency Flanders-Europe (vleva).

Chair: Jan Verheeke Minaraad.

### ***Iris Lauwaert, Cabinet Joke Schauvliege: Outcome & follup-up of the Nagoya Conference***

Preparation of the conference: Nairobi (May 2010) en ABS-working groups, conference in Ghent in September 2010 (targeted larger audience but some key messages were formulated).

.COP 10: 42 points on the agenda – 3 objectives linked to the 3 pillars of sustainable development

.Importance of the COP 10: key moment (cf. European legislation)

.Several policy packages

#### 1) Strategic Plan: Long-term vision (2050):

- to halt the loss of biodiversity, contributing to public health and poverty eradication.
- 5 strategic goals linked to 20 target with soci-economic impact
- 3 targets by 2015 (ecosystems, ABS)

#### 2) Access & Benefit Sharing

- Had been negotiated previously but advancing was difficult during COP
- Important for various sectors
- ~ Fair & Equitable sharing of the benefits of genetic sources

#### 3) Strategy for Resource Mobilization

- All types of resources
- North South discussion ( N wanted first assessment on the need of resources South financial contributions)

#### 4) Climate change and biodiversity

#### 5) Protected areas

#### 6) Marine biodiversity

Important: Develop procedure to identify 'Ecological and Biological Significant Areas'

#### 7) Other

- Forestry: enhanced cooperation

FOLLOW-UP of COP 10:

.Conclusions of the EU-environment Council: first step to the translation in EU-legislation. It is important that all legislative initiatives of other sectoral policies keep these measures in mind.

.Rio 20+: May 2012: 2 important themes: green economy linked with TEEB and institutional framework for Sustainable Development

.COP 11 India October 2011

### ***Anne Teller, European Commission***

#### .EU-biodiversity policy

Evolution: with exception of the bird and the habitat directive (end of the seventies) the first EU-legislation was created through the COP in the '90ies =>

2001: ° targets and afterwards Action Plan in 2006 (Based on Millennium ecosystem assessment)

#### .Post-2010 strategy

- based on the communication of DG ENV in January 2010, the Council Conclusions of March and COP 10

- Contribution of Member states and through consultation

- Public consultation open for everyone: mainly citizens

-Sub-targets and measures: the rationale was subsidiarity: where the EU can make a difference

-de knowledge base: different from previous targets

#### .Objectives

1) Preservation of Nature (Natura 2000: more funding is needed, marine territories must be better identified, some issues to tackle in new member states, ...)

2) Green Infrastructure: preservation in and outside protected areas (f.ex. green cities, roofing, restoration of ecosystems, .)

3) Agriculture and rural areas: through direct payments and agro-environmental measures in pillar 2 (incl. forestry)

4) Fisheries

5) Invasive species – by 2012 first Commission initiatives

6) Contribution to global biodiversity

Integrating initiatives: Cohesion Policy, CAP, Whitepaper on sustainable transport, Budget Review, Resource Efficiency Flagship (EU2020) ....

#### .Follow-up:

- Publication of the strategy hopefully in February 2011

- Council conclusions in June

- End 2011: green infrastructure strategy

- 2012: Invasive species

### **Q&A:**

When will this policy be visible on MS-level: important to lobby on MS-level after council conclusions of June.

When will USA participate in the COP? Obama prioritises Climate change, he can't do both at the same time.

## **PANEL: CIVIL SOCIETY**

***Sabien Leemans, WWF***

.results Nagoya

. Biodiversity in the EU: political will is needed. WWF has made a brochure on the EU (available on the website) Budget Review: to realise all biodiversity goals more funding is needed. Now only LIFE+ is a possibility (only 0,2% of the entire budget – the new Multiannual Financial Framework should preview 1%) => all harmful subsidies and grants for biodiversity should be eliminated. (=> Anne Teller: Commission will take initiative/ is one of the priorities)

. Biodiversity in the world: COP11 resource mobilization targets should be adopted

***Leen Franchois, Boerenbond (Farmers' organisation)***

.Agriculture and biodiversity are not always best friends but there are complementarities. (f.ex. grasslands in extensive agriculture stimulates biodiversity, honeybees, ...)

.Nagoya: important is to think about how the preservation of biodiversity can be combined with an increasing population and demand for food ?!

.Flemish agriculture: 10% of the farmland is managed by agro-environmental measures (project example: Eco<sup>2</sup>)

.Biodiversity targets may not endanger the economic sustainability of the agriculture

.Gaps in biodiversity research: to verify how land management can be combined/integrated with biodiversity measures with respect for the economic aspect of agriculture

.Pressure on land is higher in Flanders than in the rest of the EU: Flanders is with regard to biodiversity a LFA, less favoured area.

.When Nagoya measures will be translated into EU and national legislation: local and regional needs should be respected (=> Anne Teller: socio-economic aspects of ecosystems will be taken into account).