



Declaration of Support for the CBD Global Partnership on Business and Biodiversity *Creating a Business Biodiversity Network Around the World*

On the occasion of COP 11,

recalling Decision X/2, the adoption of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and that Decision X/21, Business Engagement, recognizes the importance of globally engaging private enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, in the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention, namely in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, as well as the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources;

recognizing, in particular, the importance of
“Paragraph 1, Invites Parties [...]

(d) *To support the establishment of national and regional business and biodiversity initiatives and to strive towards a global partnership on business and biodiversity by inviting ongoing initiatives and other interested stakeholders to be part of the business and biodiversity initiative, and to take note of the Jakarta Charter; [...]*

(f) *To develop ongoing dialogue with the business community in relation to biodiversity considerations and activities”;*

“Paragraph 3, Requests the Executive Secretary [...]:

(a) *To encourage establishment of the national and regional business and biodiversity initiatives by facilitating a forum of dialogue among Parties and other Governments, business, and other stakeholders, with a particular focus on the global level”;*

recalling the first meeting of the Global Partnership on Business and Biodiversity, Tokyo, 2011;

welcoming that, at COP 11, the Parties to the Convention again encourage business and governments to take further action,

the founding and early members of the CBD Global Partnership on Business and Biodiversity as well as other interested partners and stakeholders express our support for further developing the Partnership as a framework for business collaboration.

The business sector's innovative strength and ability to bring about transformation is critical to halting biodiversity loss, one of the major global challenges of our time. Protecting biological diversity, ecosystems and the services they provide, requires profound changes in our life styles, our way of doing business and in supportive political frameworks. Our common vision is a society where businesses all over the world duly take into consideration biodiversity and ecosystem services in their corporate strategies, policies, and operations. We aim to demonstrate leadership and commitment by:

- a. Acknowledging the commitment of the Parties to the Convention to facilitate networking through the Global Partnership.
- b. Undertaking early cooperative efforts to establish, organize and shape the Partnership as a catalyst for change.
- c. Sharing expertise and encouraging the foundation, globally, of further initiatives to enlarge the Partnership and thus enable it to develop its full potential as a center of excellence.
- d. Using the Partnership as a platform to improve the flow of information.
- e. Joining forces to the mutual benefit of all participants.
- f. Acknowledging the important work and commitment by the Business unit within the CBD Secretariat in supporting the Global Partnership and moving the business engagement agenda forward.

Given the differences among countries and their challenges, their institutional landscapes as well as national policies and regulatory environment, the current business and biodiversity initiatives have emerged from different backgrounds and differ in structure, yet are dedicated to common overall goals. Our approach as business and biodiversity initiatives is to

- a. Raise awareness of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and equitable benefit-sharing.
- b. Serve as platforms for dialogue and cooperation with the various stakeholders in order to strengthen the interface of government, business, academia, conservation organizations and local interests.
- c. Act as service providers by providing information and practical tools.
- d. Operate as hubs for the exchange of experience and showcase best practice examples.
- e. Analyze and develop business cases for biodiversity.
- f. Boost biodiversity management skills on a micro and macro level.
- g. Stimulate the vast spectrum of voluntary commitment, including cross-sectorial and sectorial approaches.
- h. Report on and help provide solutions to obstacles businesses are facing in their efforts.
- i. Strive to advance business and biodiversity initiatives and networking on a global, national and regional level.

Business is dependent on reliable political frameworks that support the potential benefits of entrepreneurial commitment to protecting biodiversity under the conditions of global competition, therefore:

- a. We encourage Parties to the Convention to follow-up decisions and engage in ongoing dialogue with business and biodiversity initiatives to collaboratively formulate relevant actions.
- b. We support the continuation of the business unit within the CBD Secretariat and encourage the Parties to the Convention to take actions to allocate the resources needed to ensure its stable functioning into the future.

Supporters

The following initiatives that either represent or are involved in building national or regional business and biodiversity initiatives, or are associated with the work of the Global Partnership (further partners and stakeholders), express their support for the CBD Global Partnership on Business and Biodiversity. **The document is open and inclusive and further supporters are invited to endorse the declaration** during or following the XI Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Hyderabad, India, 2012.

National and Regional Initiatives

ASEAN region: ASEAN Center for Biodiversity



BRAZIL: Brazilian Business and Biodiversity Initiative



CANADA: Canadian Business & Biodiversity Council

CBBC
Canadian Business & Biodiversity Council

FRANCE: Orée



GERMANY: 'Biodiversity in Good Company' Initiative



JAPAN: Japan Business and Biodiversity Partnership

生物多様性民間参画
パートナーシップ



RWANDA: Forest of Hope Association (FHA)



SPAIN: Fundación Global Nature



Further Partners and Stakeholders

PORTUGAL: Quercus - Associação Nacional de Conservação da Natureza



Biodiversity Partnership Mesoamerica



CSCP - Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production



Union for Ethical BioTrade

