

**Global Biodiversity Sub-Committee (GBSC)**

Information paper

**Update Paper on Intergovernmental  
Platform for Biodiversity and  
Ecosystem Services (IPBES) for GBSC**

June 2009

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## **Update Paper on Intergovernmental Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) for GBSC**

The 25th session of the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environmental Forum (Nairobi, 16th–20th Feb 2009) adopted decision 25/10 on the intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services, which accords UNEP the mandate to continue to facilitate future discussions on strengthening science-policy interfaces on biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Specifically, the decision requested UNEP to undertake the following:

- Complete the full gap analysis building on the preliminary analysis presented to the 25th UNEP Governing Council; and
- Convene a second intergovernmental multi-stakeholder meeting on IPBES in 2009 (scheduled for 5-9 October 2009).

As stipulated in decision 25/10, the completion of a full gap analysis on existing science-policy interfaces on biodiversity and ecosystem services is a significant input to future discussions. To ensure that this full gap analysis is undertaken in a transparent and collaborative manner, Governments and organizations were invited to provide comments on the preliminary gap analysis that was presented to the Governing Council as information document UNEP/GC.25/INF/30. Letters to respective Governments and organizations were sent by UNEP in this regard. The UNEP consultation closed on 15<sup>th</sup> May<sup>1</sup>; the outcomes are not yet available.

### **G8 Siracusa Carta April 2009**

- Continue process of exploring mechanisms to improve the science-policy interface – re-affirming commitment;
- Supporting co-operation between countries and international organisations to further global monitoring of biodiversity;
- Achieving reliable, comparable and interoperable data on biodiversity and wide use of advanced technologies;
- Research and capacity building on biodiversity and ecosystem services.

### **EPBRS – Network of Knowledge (KoN)**

- European Platform on Biodiversity Research Strategy (EPBRS) concept note on ‘network of knowledge’;
- Workshop in Brussels on 6th May (outcomes will be made available on the EPBRS website<sup>2</sup>) to inform finalising the KoN concept, which is due end of July 2009;
- Contribution to EU discussion on IPBES; NoK concept presented to EU Working Panel on International Environmental Issues (WPIEI Biodiversity) in early June 2009;
- Anticipated FP7 Call for a European NoK.

### **IPBES next steps**

- Completion and review of gap analysis
- Development of options, costs

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ipbes.net/en/index.aspx>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.epbrs.org/epbrs/event/show/24>

- Agreement of EU position
- 2nd IPBES meeting October 2009
- Report to special session on biodiversity at 65th UN General Assembly
- CBD COP10

GBSC Secretariat (taken from from Andy Stott's presentation to the MEA workshop,  
20 May 2009)  
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