

25/10. Intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services

The Governing Council,

Recalling its main functions and responsibilities set out in General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, under which the Governing Council is, among other things, to promote the contribution of the relevant international scientific and other professional communities to the acquisition, assessment and exchange of environmental knowledge and information and, as appropriate, to the technical aspects of the formation and implementation of environmental programmes within the United Nations system,

Recalling also the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme¹ and the Malmö Ministerial Declaration;²

Noting the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and its follow-up process, the consultative process towards an international mechanism of scientific expertise on biodiversity and decision IX/15 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Noting also the outcomes of the ad hoc intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder meeting on an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services held in Putrajaya, Malaysia, from 10 to 12 November 2008,

Expressing its appreciation to the Government of Malaysia for hosting that meeting,

Recognizing and emphasizing the need to strengthen and improve the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for human well-being and sustainable development at all levels,

Taking note of the preliminary report on the gap analysis carried out by the United Nations Environment Programme to facilitate further discussions on the improvement of the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services for human well-being,³

Having considered the report by the Executive Director,⁴

1. *Invites* Governments and relevant organizations to continue to explore mechanisms to improve the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development, taking into account the special need to develop and maintain the technical and scientific capacity of developing countries in biodiversity-related issues;
2. *Requests* the Executive Director to undertake a further process to support efforts by Governments and relevant organizations to explore mechanisms to improve and to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development, aiming to report on its progress at the special session on biodiversity of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly and other relevant meetings;
3. *Also requests* the Executive Director to convene, for the purpose indicated in paragraph 2 above, a second intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder meeting at the earliest possible convenience in 2009 following completion of the full gap analysis on exploring mechanisms to improve the science-policy interface for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;
4. *Invites* Governments and organizations in a position to do so to provide extrabudgetary resources for the above-mentioned process.

¹ Governing Council decision 19/1, annex. Adoption by the General Assembly: Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/50/25), chap. IV, annex.

² Governing Council decision SS.VII, annex.

³ UNEP/GC.25/INF/30.

⁴ UNEP/GC.25/15.