

## REFERENCES TO OTHER TOPICS

### Global Compact Leaders' Summit

Over 1200 corporate and government representatives met in New York to reaffirm their commitments under the UN's Global Compact. The meeting concluded with the adoption of the New York Declaration by Business, in which Global Compact leaders expressed their commitment to making the global economy more sustainable and inclusive through implementation of responsible practices. Noting that "market success and political leadership go hand in hand", they expressed their willingness to do their part and called on governments to, *inter alia*: set goals and incentives to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; strengthen climate resilience; and support a clean energy pathway globally, and especially in developing countries. The New York Declaration is online at: [http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/news\\_events/9.1\\_news\\_archives/2010\\_06\\_25/LeadersSummit\\_NY\\_Declaration.pdf](http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/news_events/9.1_news_archives/2010_06_25/LeadersSummit_NY_Declaration.pdf).

### UNGA: Working Group Considering Marine Environment

Focusing on global reporting, an Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole met with the goal of making recommendations for the development of a "regular process" for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects. Initially established pursuant to GA resolution 64/71, ¶180, the group heard views of States on the practicalities of such a process, including the key elements and actions that should be included and relevant institutional and financing arrangements. Recommendations produced at this meeting will be forwarded to UN/GA-65.

### POPs Conventions Review Committee meets in Stockholm

The sixth meeting of the POPs RC-6 adopted 12 recommendations including a proposed work programme on new POPs. The RC also considered intersessional work on toxic interactions, as well as proposals relating to the management of several specific pesticides. More information about the POPRC is available online at <http://chm.pops.int/>.

### IPCC holds its 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concluded its 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting, focused on IPCC governance, process and procedures, as well as the development of a Synthesis of the 5<sup>th</sup> Assessment Report, as one step towards the issuance of that report.

### Secretary-General: Eminent Persons for LDCs

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon has appointed a Group of Eminent Persons to examine development problems faced by Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and to review the effectiveness of the 2001 Brussels Programme of Action, which outlined measures by industrialised countries and LDCs to reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development. The Group and its membership are further discussed in a UN Press release, available online at <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=35711&Cr=least+developed&Cr1=>.

### UNECE Assessment Protocol

The Kyiv Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (the SEA Protocol) entered into force on 11 July 2010. The Protocol was adopted on 21 May 2003 by an Extraordinary meeting of the Parties to the Espoo Convention during the Ministerial "Environment for Europe" Conference.

### Seminar on Trade Vulnerability to Carbon Policies

The UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) organised a seminar to address the vulnerability of international trade to carbon footprint policies adopted by developed countries. More information available at <http://www.iisd.ca/larc/vol02/larc0201e.html>.

### FAO Committee on Forestry Meets

In its 20<sup>th</sup> session, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) Committee on Forestry (COFO 2010) considered the production of the next Global Forest Resources Assessment, as well as its role in climate change; opportunities and challenges in forest finance and forest governance; a variety of actions and programme priorities for FAO in forestry; and communications and preparations for the XIV World Forestry Congress. The Final Report of COFO 2010 is available in "advance draft" form at <http://www.fao.org/docrep/meeting/019/k9227e.pdf>.

### WTO: Negotiations on Environmental Goods and Services

The WTO's Committee on Trade and Environment Special Session (CTESS) held an informal meeting for further negotiations regarding Environmental Goods and Services (see *EPL* 40/2–3, p. 109). The meeting received many national proposals on possible environmental goods to be identified for liberalisation. These proposals are being held pending agreement on the basic elements.

### New Biosphere Reserves Designated

The International Coordinating Council of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme has added 13 new sites to the World



The critically endangered *Coffea Arabica* originates from the new UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Kafa (Ethiopia) Courtesy: UNESCO

Network of Biosphere Reserves, and extended five others. The Network now numbers 564 sites in 109 countries. More information is available at: [http://portal.unesco.org/science/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=5572&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/science/en/ev.php-URL_ID=5572&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html).

### IMO:

#### – Marine Environment Protection Committee

The 61<sup>st</sup> Session of the MEPC of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) met to consider a number of important issues, including the adoption of the revised MARPOL Annex III, the approval of a revised text for MARPOL Annex V, the implementation of the ballast water and ship recycling conventions and the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases from ships. Documents will be made available at <http://www.imo.org/>. (ATL)

#### – Shipping Industry Climate Efforts

Shipping industry representatives met, under the auspices of IMO, to review the industry's progress in addressing climate change issues, particularly through IMO's comprehensive regulatory regime aimed at limiting or reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from ships. The meeting produced significant approval for these measures, and for the work of IMO's Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), which will meet "with a view to achieving proportionate, balanced and workable measures".

### Law of the Sea Institute Conference

The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea facility held a 2-day dialogue on "Institutions and Regions in Ocean Governance". The programme of the dialogue is available online at [http://www.law.berkeley.edu/files/HAMBURG\\_CONFERENCE\\_PROGRAM\\_2010.0923\(2\).pdf](http://www.law.berkeley.edu/files/HAMBURG_CONFERENCE_PROGRAM_2010.0923(2).pdf). (ATL)

### Finance for Climate Change Action Considered

Two recent meetings addressed the issue of climate-change finance. First, the UNGA Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing, under the co-chairmanship of Prime Ministers Meles Zenawi (Ethiopia) and Jens Stoltenberg (Norway), met to discuss ways of identifying sources of longer-term financing for developing countries' efforts in mitigating and adapting to climate change, as promised by world leaders in Copenhagen in 2009 (see <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=35313&Cr=climate+change&Cr1=>).

Second, a formal dialogue hosted by the Governments of Switzerland and Mexico brought representatives of 71 countries together with key individuals in the Climate Change negotiations, including the chair of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (see p. 212) and the UNFCCC Executive Secretary. Discussions emphasised the role of governments in the development of a "finance architecture that will improve coherence, coordination and transparency of climate financing". It also considered the roles of the new climate fund and the private sector in financing climate action. The meeting also saw the launch of the *Fast Start Finance* website (<http://www.faststartfinance.org/>).

### CMS: MOU Signatories Meet

The signatories to three CMS-originated MOUs held meetings this summer. The second meeting of the Saiga Antelope MOU enabled its Parties to engage in key discussions and to accept Mongolia as a new Signatory. The Pacific Cetaceans MOU also held its second meeting and saw important progress. The MOU on the Conservation of the Siberian Crane held its seventh meeting, in which Signatories endorsed a new conservation plan, as well as designating two new sites for the West and Central Asian Site Network. Documents and information are available at [http://www.cms.int/bodies/Agreement\\_MoU\\_Meetings.htm](http://www.cms.int/bodies/Agreement_MoU_Meetings.htm).

### UNFF:

#### – Forest Financing Expert Group

In the 1<sup>st</sup> Open-ended Intergovernmental Ad Hoc Expert Group on Forest Financing (AHEG-1), delegates from several countries considered "strategies to mobilize resources from all sources to support the implementation of sustainable forest management, the achievement of the global objectives on forests and the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests". An advance unedited draft of the report of AHEG-1 is available online at: <http://www.un.org/esa/forests/adhoc-forestfinance.html>. The Group expects to adopt recommendations at its next meeting. (ATL)

#### – Regional Workshop on Forest Governance

The Country-led Initiative presented a workshop for Latin American and Caribbean countries as part of its mandate to identify trends, and facilitate sharing of experiences and lessons learned with sustainable forest management (SFM), forest governance and decentralisation, as well as REDD+. The participants' report, including recommendations, will be presented to UNFF early next year.



Courtesy: BLER

#### ITTO/JICA Partnership on Tropical Forests

The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed an agreement to collaborate on further promoting the sustainable use and conservation of tropical forest resources. The Partnership will focus on targeted joint activities at sub-national, national and regional levels relevant to forest management, capacity building, forest fire prevention and management, and development of regional early warning and detection systems.

### World Water Week

The most recent World Water Week conference was held in Stockholm, Sweden, in September, presenting a range of seminars, side events and workshops on themes ranging from climate change adaptation to water quality issues that are preventing achievement of the MDGs (see: [www.worldwaterweek.org](http://www.worldwaterweek.org)).

### Green Economy and MDGs

UNEP's "Brief for Policymakers on the Green Economy and the Millennium Development Goals" has been released and is available online at: [http://www.unep.org/greeneconomy/portals/30/docs/policymakers\\_brief\\_GEI&MDG.pd](http://www.unep.org/greeneconomy/portals/30/docs/policymakers_brief_GEI&MDG.pd). (ATL)



Courtesy: apolloalliance

### Pacem in Maribus XXXIII

The 33<sup>rd</sup> Pacem in Maribus Conference focused on the issues of climate change and sustainable development as they relate to oceans, with a particular focus on the challenges faced by coastal cities. Further information and the outcomes of the meeting will be available from IOI at: [http://193.191.134.30/ioi\\_hq/](http://193.191.134.30/ioi_hq/).

### Katoomba Group: 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting on Payments for Ecosystem Services

The Katoomba Group, an international network of individuals focusing on markets and payments for ecosystem services (PES), held its 17<sup>th</sup> global meeting in Hanoi, Viet Nam. Discussions focused on carbon financing and REDD issues, emphasising work in Southeast Asia, especially recent experiences in Papua New Guinea, Viet Nam and Indonesia. Reports and videos at: <http://live.katoombagroup.org/>.

### Africa-EU Energy Partnership

The first high-level meeting of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP) brought together a group of ministers, ambassadors and other high-level decision makers from 21 European and 23 African countries, to address politics and markets, as well as the future of the AEEP and technology. The meeting centred around the role of energy as one of the keys to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Documentation and detailed information at: <http://www.aEEP-conference.org/>.

### African Ministers' Conference on Environment (AMCEN)

AMCEN-13 was held in June, in Bamako, Mali, with the theme "Enhancing the interrelationship between climate change, biodiversity and desertification for sustainable development". Focusing especially on on-going negotiations on climate change and biodiversity, ministers emphasised the need for common positions in negotiations (see pp. 209 and 212), and ensuring synergies in the implementation of the three "Rio Conventions" (see: [www.unep.org/roa/amcen\\_Events/13th\\_Session/default.asp?ct=docs](http://www.unep.org/roa/amcen_Events/13th_Session/default.asp?ct=docs)).

[All references by TRY unless otherwise noted]