



Media Release

Last stop before Nagoya

How can EU biodiversity policy really make a difference

Brussels, 08 September 2010 – Ahead of the International Conference “Biodiversity post 2010: Biodiversity in a changing world” organized by the Belgian Presidency of the EU, BirdLife International [1] repeatedly highlighted a series of specific actions [2] which would enable a new EU biodiversity policy to achieve its goals, following the recently launched EU 2020 Biodiversity target.

If the European Union has to halt the loss of biodiversity, the degradation of ecosystem services by 2020 and step up its contribution to avert global biodiversity loss, rapid action is definitely needed. Therefore BirdLife believes that the expected EU Biodiversity strategy, which will be presented by the European Commission this autumn, will list ambitious and measurable goals for the EU, Member States and all relevant sectors.

At the conference BirdLife and FACE – the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the European Union [3], will give a strong message suggesting concrete steps and measures to be taken not to miss the 2020 Biodiversity target.

Specifically the two organizations call for a better implementation and enforcement of the EU Birds and Habitats Directives, which are at the hearth of the EU biodiversity policy. New and innovative tools have to be implemented to ensure effective inspection, monitoring and the creation of effective sectoral strategies. Moreover the EU budget should be reformed, supporting biodiversity conservation through dedicated and integrated funds. [4]

At the conference, BirdLife and FACE will also present their partnership to showcase that with the right approach all relevant stakeholders can come together and contribute to nature and biodiversity protection.

“This conference is the last chance for the EU to define its post 2010 strategy to be presented and agreed in Nagoya at the CBD COP 10 Meeting next October”, commented Ariel Brunner, Head

of EU Policy at BirdLife International. “The EU and Member States need to be serious this time and we all need to do everything we can to stop eroding our biodiversity”.

ENDS

For more information, please contact:

Alessia Pautasso, Communication & Media Officer at BirdLife International -

+32 (0) 2 541 07 81

Mobile: +32 494 542844

E-mail: alessia.pautasso@birdlife.org

Notes to the editor

[1] BirdLife International is a global Partnership of nature conservation organisations working in more than 100 countries and territories. BirdLife is the leading authority on the status of birds, their habitats and the problems affecting them, and is working on a wide range of environmental issues. BirdLife has 42 Partners in Europe, and is represented in all 27 Member States.

For more information about the work of the BirdLife European Division:

<http://europe.birdlife.org>

[2] These asks were prepared together with the European Environmental Bureau – EEB and can be found at

http://www.birdlife.org/eu/pdfs/BirdLife_EEB_post_2010_policy_asks_July_2010_Final.pdf

[3] The Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the EU (FACE) is an international non-profit making, non-governmental organisation that acts in the interests of over 7,000,000 European hunters. It represents its Full Members that are the national hunters' associations within 36 states of the European Union and other Council of Europe countries, as well as its four Associate Members. For more information, visit: www.face.eu

[4] The joint declaration will be presented during the Biodiversity Fair, which will take place on 9 September between 13.15 and 15.00 at the conference venue. The declaration is available at

http://www.birdlife.org/eu/pdfs/Joint_BirdLife_FACE_statement_2010.pdf