

19 January 2007
MR/E02/07



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY

For use of the media –
not an official record

Office of Communications
53-70, Jingumae 5-chome
Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-8925
Japan

Tel.: +81-3-3499-2811
Fax: +81-3-3499-2828
E-mail: media@unu.edu
Website: <http://www.unu.edu/>

UNU-IAS To Hold Seminar on “Mainstreaming Biodiversity into the Millennium Development Goals”

Event: First UNU-IAS Biodiplomacy Discourse Seminar
Theme: “Mainstreaming Biodiversity into the Millennium Development Goals”
Speaker: Dr. Ahmed Djoghlaf, Executive Secretary, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and United Nations Assistant Secretary General
Date/Time: 25 January 2007 (Thursday), 14:30–16:00
Venue: UNU-IAS, 6F, Pacifico Yokohama
Organizer: United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS)

- The first UNU-IAS Biodiplomacy Discourse Seminar (which commemorates the beginning of the second decade of UNU-IAS operations) will address key questions relating to biological diversity and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), such as:
 - Is the achievement of a world with less poverty, hunger and disease; increased opportunities for education; a healthier environment; and fair and equitable development a near reality, or merely a distant dream?
 - What is being done to implement the global agreement to protect and sustain the environment?
 - What is the role of biological diversity in reducing global hunger and poverty, and how does it contribute to achieving the MDGs?
- The seminar will consider Japan’s role and responsibilities as planned host of the 10th Conference of Parties (COP-10) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 2010.
- The CBD COP-10 in Japan will come at a critical time for world’s environmental agenda and sustainable development assessment process:
 - At the CBD COP-6 (2002), Environment Ministers pledged to cooperate on reducing the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010 in a way that also contributes to development and poverty reduction.
 - At the CBD COP-8 (2006), Environment Ministers agreed to negotiate and finalize by 2010 an International Regime on Access and Benefit Sharing (for genetic resources).
- Media representatives are cordially invited to attend this UNU-IAS Seminar. The language of the seminar will be English; interpretation will not be provided.

To confirm your attendance, please contact Atsuko Kawamori, UNU-IAS (tel.: 045-221-2306, e-mail: kawamori@ias.unu.edu).

About the UNU-IAS Biodiplomacy Programme

The UNU-IAS Biodiplomacy Programme is a flagship programme of UNU that focuses on creating enabling mechanisms for global policy development and implementation. Through this Programme, UNU-IAS has made significant contributions to the global biodiversity agenda, including facilitating (through the 2006 Ministerial Meeting of Environment Ministers in Brazil) inclusion of a recommendation to the UN General Assembly that it consider CBD 2010 targets to reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity within the MDG framework.

MEDIA ADVISORY