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**UNITED NATIONS
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Zero Emissions Symposium Will Focus on “Conservation of Biodiversity”

Event: Zero Emissions Symposium 2008

Theme: “Conservation of Biodiversity by Zero Emissions Activities”

Date/Time: 26 November 2008 (Wed.), 9:30 AM – 5: 30PM

Venue: U Thant International Conference Hall (3F), United Nations University Headquarters,
Shibuya-ku, Tokyo

Organizers: United Nations University (UNU), UNU Zero Emissions Forum (UNU-ZEF)

- The Kyoto Protocol, which came into effect in 2005, was an important step forward for the international approach towards the issue on global warming. Now, a new, related issue — biodiversity — is arising. Biodiversity both affects, and is affected by, worldwide efforts to create and maintain a sustainable society, which is the goal of the zero emissions initiative.
- Our lives and livelihoods are dependent on healthy ecosystems (for food and other biological resources, water, oxygen, etc.); it is crucial, therefore, that we be fully aware of the importance of biodiversity in maintaining healthy ecosystems, and work to ensure its conservation. In recognition of the importance biodiversity, the Basic Law on Biological Diversity was enacted in May 2008, and the 10th Conference of Parties (COP10) of the Convention on Biological Diversity will be held in Nagoya in 2010.
- The 2008 Zero Emissions Symposium at UNU Headquarters Tokyo will examine the issue of zero emissions as it closely relates to the prevention of global warming, as well as go a step further to address the issue of biodiversity (healthy ecosystems). Participants will discuss how we can protect the global environment and will report on the advanced measures now being taken in various sectors.
- The morning session of the symposium will feature a special lecture on “Japan’s Strategy on Biodiversity” by Daisaburo Kuroda, Director General of the Nature Conservation Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Japan, followed by two keynote lectures: “Zero Emissions and ‘Satoyama’: Aiming at a Recyclable and Sustainable Society” by Kazuhiko Takeuchi, Vice-Rector, UNU, and “Present State of Biodiversity in the World” by Yasushi Hibi, Japan Program Director, Conservation International.
- The afternoon session will offer presentations on “Zero Emissions and Biodiversity from the Industrial Viewpoint” by Tatsuo Tani, Associate Director, Division General Manager, Corporate Environment Division Executive Chief Engineer, Ricoh, Co., Ltd., and “Industrial Strategy on Biodiversity” by Takaaki Tsukada, Executive Officer and General Manager, Environmental Engineering Division, Kajima Corporation. These will be followed by a panel discussion on “Civil Life, Business Activities, and Biodiversity”.
- The symposium will be held in Japanese only. There will be no interpretation.

To reserve a space at the Zero Emissions Symposium 2008, media representatives may contact Naoko Yano, UNU Office of Communications (tel: 03-5467-1311; e-mail: media@unu.edu).

MEDIA ADVISORY