**XX Meeting of the Forum of the Ministries of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean**

28-31 March 2016, Cartagena, Colombia

**Decision 10. Mainstreaming Biodiversity for Sustainable**

**Development in Harmony with Nature**

The Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean,

**Recalling** that the Nineteenth Meeting of the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Los Cabos, Mexico in 2014, reaffirmed the commitment and the need for action to address the causes of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation;

**Recognizing** that the Convention on Biological Diversity is the most important global instrument to promote and ensure the conservation of biodiversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources;

**Recognizing** that the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity targets provide a universally accepted framework for action on biodiversity, and noting that enhanced efforts are required to achieve the targets by 2020;

**Observing that**, significant progress has been made to achieve the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and the Aichi Targets, this progress will not be sufficient to deliver results by 2020, therefore additional accelerated efforts are required to meet with these commitments;

**Reiterate** **that**, the effective implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and the Aichi Targets depends among others, the improving the creation of capacities, of technical and scientific cooperation, and the effective strategy of mobilization of resources;

**Bearing in mind** that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development includes goals and targets that are aimed at promoting the sustainable use of ecosystems, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss, for the integral and sustainable development, to end poverty in all its forms applying integrated approaches;

**Also bearing in mind** that biodiversity, and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and the protection and restoration of ecosystems, offers opportunities to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of several of the Sustainable Development Goals, in an effective and cost efficient manner.

**Also considering** that biodiversity, in its quality as a transversal element of sustainable development, has a fundamental role in the implementation of the Agenda 2030, in particular in components of social and economic dimensions such as hunger, poverty, human health, food security and the provision of water and sustainable energies;

**Taking into account** that synergies will be necessary to implement the Agenda 2030, the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and the Aichi Targets, in order to strengthen their mutual implementation.

**Decide**

1. **To support** the Government of Mexico in the successful hosting of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the eighth meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the second meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to be held in Cancun, Mexico from 2 to 17 December 2016 with the slogan: "Mainstreaming biodiversity for well-being" including by participating in the High-level Segment, contributing with pledges for action, and the work towards an effective Ministerial Declaration.
2. **To promote,** at the COP 13 of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the adoption of decisions that favour the implementation of policies and measures oriented to the integration of holistic and integrated approaches towards mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in different productive sectors, and other sectors linked to environmental planning, in order, to ensure compliance with the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan and the Aichi Targets, the operationalization of the strategy on resource mobilization, as well as Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.
3. **To promote,** communicational strategies to facilitate the understanding by productive sectors, civil society and organized comnunities on biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and services, with a view of facilitating their participation in the achievement of the Strategic Plan 2011-2020, the Aichi Targets and the Sustainable Development Goals.
4. **To develop** a Regional Cooperation Programme on Biodiversity to support the building of national capacities, with the aim of supporting the implementation of the Agenda 2030, to promote mainstreaming of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the agriculture and cattle raising, forestry, mining, exploitation of hydrocarbons, energy, fisheries and tourism sectors, that contribute among others, to end poverty, end hunger, integral sustainable development, improved living conditions and the enjoyment of a healthy environment.
5. **To support** ongoing work on the elaboration of a Caribbean Biodiversity Strategy for SIDS, as an important means of enhancing the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, including the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets in the Caribbean basin.
6. **To consider**, in the regional cooperation programme, measures to encourage active participation of other actors, local governments, the private sector, indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society and social movements, as well as new forms of social organization according to national realities, for the effective biodiversity mainstreaming and Integral Sustainable Development and achieve conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, where applicable, thereby contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the updated National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans.
7. **To promote** within the framework of this forum, the strengthening of legal and institutional frameworks for mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in different sectors, where applicable, and the identification and exchange of good practices for the mainstreaming of biodiversity and integral sustainable development.
8. **To boost** the adoption and implementation, in the region, of the Nagoya Protocol, taking into account the visions of each country, strengthening national, sub-regional and regional technical and research capacities promoting the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.
9. **To promote** the adoption and implementation, in the region, of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol.
10. **To promote** efforts to strengthen synergies in the implementation of the Biodiversity Strategic Plan 2011-2020 of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Strategic Plans of Biodiversity-related Conventions.
11. **To consider** decision making that imply financing the implementation of programmes on ecological restoration of degraded ecosystems that generate connectivity with protected areas, and restore ecosystem functioning, in the provision of basic ecosystem services.
12. **Invites** to coordinate actions to boost an interactive dialogue, to live in harmony with nature, at the 13th Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity.