

श्रीमती जयंती नटराजन
Smt. Jayanthi Natarajan



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NEW DELHI-110 003

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Excellency,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the eleventh Conference of the Parties (CoP-11) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the sixth Meeting of the Parties serving as CoP (CoP-MoP 6) to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety will be held at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre, Hyderabad in the State of Andhra Pradesh in India from 1-19 October, 2012. These meetings are being held in accordance with decision X/46 of CoP-10 to the CBD. The Government of India will also host the High Level Segment to CoP-11 at the same venue from 17-19 October, 2012.

As the first CoP in the UN Decade on Biodiversity, and coming after a highly successful CoP-10 held in Nagoya under the sagacious leadership of Japan, there are high expectations from CoP-11 as the first milestone for assessing the progress in implementation of the Nagoya compact comprising of Nagoya Protocol, Strategic Plan, and Strategy for Resource Mobilisation.

Among the plethora of a few hundred of international treaties, the CBD stands apart as the one convention which is at the heart of human well-being. India, despite the tremendous demographic pressure and developmental imperatives, is undertaking all possible measures to meet the three objectives of the CBD. In the current global scenario of continuing economic distress, it makes even more sense to ensure that the goods and services provided by biodiversity are accounted for in the planning processes. The slogan of CoP-11 coined by India: 'Nature protects if She is protected', should encourage each one of us to do our bit in protecting the biodiversity on which we so completely depend for our survival.

Political will and support are crucial for implementation of the measures to meet the objectives of the Convention. Recognising your leadership role, I invite you to attend the High Level Segment of CoP-11 in Hyderabad on 17-19 October 2012. While the structure of this segment will be communicated to you in due course of time, I intend to discuss the following five key issues so as to advance the agenda of CoP and CBD:

1. Biodiversity and Livelihoods
2. Integration of value of Biodiversity in National Planning and Accounting Process
3. Strategic Resource Mobilization
4. Coastal and Marine Biodiversity
5. Operationalisation of Nagoya Protocol

I shall be happy to receive any suggestions from you in this regard.

I shall count on your participation in the High Level Segment. Looking forward to receiving you in Hyderabad, India in October 2012.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Jayanthi Natarajan)