

The Twelfth Conference of the Parties on Convention on Biological Diversity CBD COP-12

6 – 17 October 2014, Alpensia Convention Center, Pyeongchang



IFSA (Delegation) Report

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Background of CBD COP-12

The Twelfth Conference of the Parties on Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP-12) is one of the conferences held by the CBD Secretariat (Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat), as the realization of the Rio Earth Summit. In this conference, the Parties – the countries who have signed and have ratified the convention and have implemented the convention into their national policies – meet to discuss about international policies related to biological diversity and environment. The conference is held once in two years and provides as a platform for its participants to discuss related issues regarding to the topics of biological diversity, which has included forest diversity. The participants of the conference are the Parties, NGOs, and related organizations that also happen to be stakeholders internationally. The outcome of the conference is a series of decisions that have been discussed during sessions, such as Working Group and Plenary session. Beside those sessions, the participants also are able to join side events, which are provided by organizations that attend the conference and/or organizations from the host country.

CBD COP-12, which was held on 6 – 17 October 2014, at Alpensia Convention Center, Pyeongchang, Republic of South Korea, also became the foundation for other meetings which are related to CBD itself, The First Meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing (COP-MOP1)¹ and The Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP7)². Those meetings were served to two Protocols, Cartagena Protocol and Nagoya Protocol. Both protocols can be found in cbd.int. The result of CBD COP-12 is a series of decisions that the Parties called as “Pyeongchang Roadmap”. CBD COP-12 also became the witness of an important event in CBD history, a moment when Nagoya Protocol has entered into force on 12 October 2014, right in the middle of CBD COP-12.



Convention on
Biological Diversity

Logo of Convention on Biological Diversity



Logo of CBD COP-12, South Korea

¹ 13 – 17 October 2014

² 29 September – 3 October 2014

IFSA Participation in CBD COP-12

Representative of IFSA for CBD COP-12 were selected through a selection. The selection of delegates of IFSA for CBD COP-12 was started on 10 March 2014 and was ended on 22 March 2014. For the selection, required documents were motivation letter, letter of recommendation from the president of the LC where the participants came from, and curriculum vitae. Those documents sent to the head of CBD Sub-commission. The selection announcement were sent to the selected delegates on 15 April 2014. The result was there were nine delegates selected to be delegates of IFSA. Unfortunately, there were two of them who are not able to come and there was a person to be included in the delegates. The total number of delegates in final decision were eight delegates. Those eight delegates were representing Asia and Europe. Details for the delegates were at Appendix I of this report.

In CBD COP-12, IFSA participated as the observer. The duty of observers in the conference is to observe the conference and its activities, especially the plenary sessions. The observers have no right to deliver their interventions directly. They are able to deliver their interventions indirectly through the Parties and representative of selected organizations. IFSA is under the Education Party in CBD. That shows IFSA is able to deliver their intervention through one of organizations which is listed under the badge of Education. IFSA also had two side events where IFSA is one of the main speakers and one side event where IFSA is invited as the invited speaker. Those side events show the programs of IFSA regarding to biological diversity and introduce the organization to all stakeholders and parties in CBD COP-12.

Through CBD COP-12, the delegates gain more knowledge and information, mainly about the processes in international decision making and issues regarding biological diversity. The delegates also made contacts with stakeholders who become participants and parties in the conference. The delegates also build networking and friendship within the delegation and youth organizations (Korea Council for Biological Diversity and Global Youth Biodiversity Network). Specifically, the delegates are able to meet the parties from their own countries, which are Indonesia, The Phillipines, Germany, and Swedia. The networking shows opportunity for IFSA to be more heard in the conference through their media and also offers partnership in the future through joint program and activities.

Activities during CBD COP-12

Sunday, 5th of October 2014 *composed by Laura*

On Sunday the Global Youth Biodiversity Network met for their Youth preparatory meeting and Laura joined this meeting during the whole day which was full of valuable information about the CBD process and how things work behind the scenes. Following the schedule of the meeting with some additional information on what they did during this meeting.

11:00 ~ 11:45 - Welcoming the delegates (GYBN, KCBD, SCBD) & Icebreaker Introductory Round

11:45 ~ 12:00 - Introduction to GYBN and Youth Participation at CBD

GYBN wants to be the critical voice of youth in this policy process, reaching out to the policy makers to fulfill their commitment. Involved in their network are thousands of young people and youth organizations/NGOs from all over the world that take action for biodiversity. For more information, what they do and how they work, interested people can have a look at their website and also register to their mailing list and get information about their activities concerning biodiversity: www.gybn.org

According to the *Decision xi/8 on "engagement of other stakeholders groups and subnational authorities B. children and youth"* (<http://www.cbd.int/decision/cop/default.shtml?id=13169>) youth i.e. GYBN is officially able to actively involve in the process through for example interventions (= official statements of a party or of an observer organization; 2-3-minutes, concrete texts on how to change the wording but support of at least one party (member states of the Convention) is needed) on certain issues. But they also have a number of other activities in collaboration with the CBD Alliance*. IFSA delegates were also able and invited to join some of these activities. Here is the link to their blog where you can also find the texts of the interventions and what GYBN did during their first week: <http://gybn.org/2014/10/12/summary-of-gybns-first-week/>

12:00 ~ 12:30 - CBD Framework, Decision Making Process: An Introduction with Explanations concerning the negotiation process like agenda setting, SBSTTA etc.

12:30 ~ 13:50 - Lunch Break

14:00 ~ 14:30 - COP Agenda items overview - what is actually happening? For example: Plenary Sessions, Working Groups, Contact Groups on specific topics, side events and CEPA Fair.

14:30 ~ 16:00 - Working groups on agenda items: Here we first collected ideas on what topics we would like to prepare interventions and our recommendation for certain issues.

16:00 ~ 16:45 - How to influence the CBD process? - A talk by Christine Von Weissäcker. Basically her main advice was to be present, show that youth is interested and that the participants consider it important and, be active, show that they can contribute in a constructive way.

17:00 ~ 18:00 - Panel Discussion and insights into the process with Dr. Horst Korn (Germany, SBSTTA Focal Point), Chantal Robichaud of SCBD, and Malta Qwathekana (South Africa, Senior Policy Advisor). Tips and tricks and experiences by delegates.

18:00 ~ 20:00 - Plan for the COP12 / Teamwork and an overview on already prepared interventions, possible campaigns (dodo award, busy bee and speaking for a species campaign), side-events to prepare etc.

The evening we finished with a dinner at a Korean restaurant, getting to know each other and presenting ourselves with why we are here at the COP12 and what our interest and goals are.

*Convention on Biological Diversity Alliance = Civil Society Organisation's Alliance (including NGOs, Indigenous Peoples' Organisations and Local Communities)

Working together to implement the Convention at maximum, thus protecting biodiversity, and enhancing its regulations to prevent a further deterioration of the biodiversity crisis - in all its aspects. For further information visit <http://www.cbdalliance.org>.

Monday, 6th of October 2014 *composed by Juan*

On the first day of CBD COP-12, an opening ceremony was held to mark the beginning of CBD COP-12 (the Twelfth Conference of the Parties on Convention on Biological Diversity), which was held from 6th of October 2014 until 17th of October 2014 at Alpensia Convention Center, Pyeongchang, South Korea. Hem Pandee, the representative of the organizing committee of COP-11 (which was held in India) asked the Parties to finalize the targets that have been made before about resources mobilization and to remind sustainability development, ecosystem restoration, and reduction of poverty can be fulfilled by effective implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans or NBSAPs of each countries of the Parties. The chief of organizing committee of COP-12, Yoon Seong Kyu, Minister of Ministry of Environment of Republic of South Korea, underlined the findings in the Fourth Global Biodiversity Outlook or GBO-4 that shows slow development to

realization of Aichi Targets. The Minister hoped for the adoption of Pyeongchang Roadmap³ by the Parties and emphasized the need to disseminate the issues of biological diversity and to make them integrated into Post-2015 Development Agenda. Achim Steiner, the representative of UN Environmental Programme, was impressed by the quick pace of the Nagoya Protocol to enter into force and the efforts that were made by the developing countries, especially in financial subject in order to support the Protocol. In the opening ceremony, there was also the announcement of extent the position of Secretary General of CBD, Braulio Dias. He emphasized the significance of NBSAPs in mid evaluation period of the Strategic Plans. At night, the opening ceremony was continued with the combination of traditional dances and traditional music of the host country, South Korea, in playing its traditional drum sets.



Delegates attending the opening night ceremony (cr. A. A. Ayu Ratih)
from left to right: A. A. Ayu Ratih, Teresa Leifsdotter, Juan S. Simbolon, Laura
Hempelmann, Airana Nafira, and Dorin Lida

Wednesday, 8th of October 2014 *composed by Citra*

All delegates were separately working on observing Working Groups I and II to follow how the negotiation goes and which agenda did the parties was discussing on. My personal interest was in Working Groups II, as it is more about on negotiation among parties regarding on share of their problem, point of view, proposing solution and future plan arrangement related to agenda items. The agendas were Synthetic Biology (UNEP/CBD/COP/12/20, and INF/11 and 12), Biodiversity and Climate Change (UNEP/CBD/COP/12/21, and INF/13 and 15) and Ecosystem Restoration (UNEP/CBD/COP/12/22, and INF/18 and 19). As long negotiation process, I personally only able to stay at the cold room until the second agenda of the meeting, which is biodiversity

³ Pyeongchang Roadmap is the term for the decision that are made in CBD COP-12, Pyeongchang is a county in Gangwon Province, where the CBD COP-12 was held.

and climate change. First thing first, the Secretariat read on the agenda items and asked the parties to have a review and share their thought on related issues. The first agenda was explanation and discussion on Synthetic Biology. The discussion was started at 10.00 in the morning and ended at 15.00 in the afternoon.

1. SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY

Talking on Synthetic Biology, talking on how technology could provide large benefit on promoting the research, particularly on genetic concern.

- a. BRAZIL said that synthetic biology is not an emerging issue to be put on new concern. This proposal was supported by JAPAN, CANADA, ARGENTINA and CHINA.
- b. CANADA believes that living organism has a wonderful effect on genetic technology development, which is strongly related on Cartagena Protocol. Together with Japan and Brazil, Canada put their concern on developing the emerging issue on synthetic biology.
- c. COLUMBIA strongly highlighted that synthetic biology is across countries' problem which need to be concern by several forum. This issue needs to be included into countries' working agenda as it is requiring lots of research on application on improving technology and biotechnology information. Columbia emphasized their concern on this issue but they have no clue on controlling the management and tool to protect the technology. In thus, Columbia encouraged the parties to strongly help and support each other. Genetic resources play a big role in gathering information for developing countries as it is beneficial for them. In order to support this movement, benefit sharing and economy access (as mentioned in Cartagena Protocol) could close the gaps between countries and valuable information on accessing genetic resource will not be impossible. Together with MALAYSIA, Columbia stated that synthetic biology is the 'game-changer' and they have big concern on socioeconomic value.
- d. ARGENTINA supports Japan, Brazil and Canada proposal on emerging the issue on synthetic biology and biotechnology techniques. Argentina puts the same concern on how synthetic biology is important to be put parties' work agenda.
- e. CHINA suggested increasing financial input and capacity building in supporting the development on the issue of synthetic biology and they support the framework on clear relation between synthetic biology and sustainable use of environment.
- f. The EU and NORWAY supported the online forum, followed by an expert to clearly differentiate of genetic engineering and synthetic biology.

2. BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

The climate change has strong consideration on managing the REDD+ strategy in order to mitigate the rating ups of the climate change issue as well as rating downs of biodiversity.

- a. THE PHILIPPINES supported the implementation of REDD+ strategy to be main concern for all parties, especially on ensuring the economic and prosperity value of indigenous people and human resources.
- b. EL SALVADOR began their statement of editing on some parts of written agenda. El Salvador stated that biodiversity conservation has important role on restoring the lands as it is in line with the REDD+ strategy implementation and climate change mitigation. This issue related to the 15th of Aichi targets, which is implementing landscape on restoration program, including initiative from Germany.
- c. TURKEY and SINGAPORE only suggested some redaction change proposal on the agenda items
- d. ZAMBIA highly supported the draft decision on mitigation of climate change as they encouraged government to conduct the program of REDD+ as strong as possible in every step of biodiversity preservation process. This biodiversity protection in line with the safeguard project on indigenous people as well as the livelihoods.
- e. REPUBLIC OF KOREA encouraged all parties to work at the linkage between biodiversity and ecosystem to climate change as it is been discussed on the convention on climate change (UNFCCC conference).
- f. QATAR suggested the parties and secretariat to discuss this issue by the UNFCCC as it is the agenda of the convention. Qatar mentioned that biodiversity is more related to forest degradation, forest management, carbon sink and strengthening the REDD+ agenda. In thus, Qatar proposed the collaboration agenda item between UNFCCC and UNCBD to discuss more on the issue of biodiversity and climate change.
- g. As same as Qatar, THE EU emphasized the idea on the strong relation between biodiversity and climate change where any small change on biodiversity will be a big concern to all parties. It is crucial to mainstreaming the climate change mitigation for all project agenda as it is concerning on ecosystem protection. The EU firstly give a thankful expression to the secretariat by making connection among NBSAPP and additional adaptation program. Secondly, the EU fully supports the safeguard on biodiversity of REDD+ as related to the biodiversity Aichi targets.
- h. MEXICO has developed the public policy on climate change as well as the ecosystem of the country. Mexico has decision on UNFCCC regarding on REDD+ program and it prevents the overlap effort on supporting the ecosystem services and biodiversity protecting

- i. BRAZIL has also established their national strategy on mitigating climate change. They mentioned that collaboration work of UNFCCC and UNCBD will highly support the continuation of the following project. But indeed, the UNCBD needs to consider the decision has been made in the convention on climate change to avoid confusion. As the UNFCCC Kengkong Safeguard decision helps the developing countries to maintain human resources. So that there will be no confusion to conduct both decision on the UNFCCC and UNCBD convention
- j. BOLIVIA stated that they have a serious misgiving fact that there are strong linkage between climate change and biological engineering. Bolivia needs IPCC to consider this issue as they have main authority and central of information on conducting the climate change mitigation procedure. Bolivia also emphasized that the discussion should focus on sustainable development and considers the economic growth from carbon emission.

Thursday, 9th of October 2014 *composed by Juan*

IFSA delegates were attending the Working Group II from 10.00 AM to 01.00 PM KST. The theme for that day was Biodiversity and Biofuel (according to Item 28 of the provisional agenda). It started with the reading of the activities report of the Executive Secretary on the document of COP 12/23. The flow was started with suggestions, comments, and critics from the Parties.



Situation during Working Group II (cr. A. A. Ayu Ratih)

Most of the Parties agree to implement the decision about Biofuel in their own countries. European Union (EU) is one of the Parties that has been implemented the

decision and were able to deliver the progress report of the project and asked for the continuation of the project (refers to Document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/23 paragraph 20). The implementation of the decision includes the adjustment of the national policies and legislations related to the decision. While Brazil also had made the national report about the implementation in the country and also asked for the monitoring of the implementation and inclusion of youth in the monitoring and production of biofuel. India, is doing some efforts to promote biofuel in the country and also the implementation into their national policies and legislations. Apparently, there are few Parties that did not agree about the decision to implement biofuel into their national policies and legislations. Qatar, for example, said that the implementation would have bad impacts for the biodiversity itself, economic and social circumstances and global food security. The biomass used for biofuel comes from the agricultural sector, that also provides the need of the people, which is food. If the implementation must be done, there will be a high demand of the biofuel and will push the agricultural sector to produce more materials for biofuel, and less materials for food. The suggestion made by Qatar is considering methane as the alternative for biofuel, instead of biomass. With Qatar's intervention in mind, some of the Parties wants the Secretariat to do some researches of the implementation of biofuel, the uses, the impacts on every sectors, includes the food security, which is one of the goal of Sustainable Development Goals. The Secretariat feels the urgent to do the research on biofuel since no Parties have submitted the report about the direct positive impact of using biofuel in their countries (refers to Document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/23 paragraph 54). Guinea Bissau, Sudan, Tajikistan, Oman, and other Parties were asking for the researches. Mass production of biofuel also needs to be considered, to lessen the impact for biodiversity and other sectors, such as agricultural sector, food security, and the indigenous and local community (refers to Document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/23 paragraph 51 and added statement from Mexico, Guatemala, and El Salvador). Micronesia suggested for alternative ideas of biofuel, such as wind energy, solar energy, marine, and the waste of invasive species of plants. Those materials can be used for fuel but needed further research for the use of them for fuel. Canada made other suggestion, which is to improve the technology in biofuel production and considers ethanol as alternative for fuel.

The conclusions are:

- 1) Some of the Parties have implemented the decision into their national policies and legislations
- 2) On the other hand, others need more researches to convince them about the implementation and mass production of it. The research are needed in order to know and to lessen the negative impact on biodiversity, food security, forest, agriculture, and the indigeneous and local community.
- 3) The Parties reminded the Secretariat for Document UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/IX/2 and Document UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/X/37 for making the suitable decision for implementation of biofuel.

Friday, 10th of October 2014 *composed by Juan*

On that day, a discussion about Global Strategy on Plant Conservation was held. In document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/L.3, the Parties agreed upon the draft of the decision which had been made by the Secretariat and the target of GSPC that had been made. The Parties emphasized that few objectives of GSPC may not be reached in early implementation of the strategy. The Parties also asked the other parties to implement the GSPC into their national policies. With the agreement upon the decision, following action in order to the implementation of the strategy in national level is needed by the Parties, including the capacity building of the Parties. Communication, coordination, and uniforming of the understanding about the strategy are needed and guided by other stakeholders, which one of them is CITES committee in plants.

Saturday, 11th of October 2014 *composed by Dana, Dorin, and Citra*

One group of the delegation followed the invitation by KCBD and joined the weekend for a temple stay. On Saturday afternoon in this temple, together with several delegates (parties, NGOs etc.) from the COP, we gathered to listen to three speeches by Buddhist monks on diversity. One of them presented the Korean Buddhists Declaration for Life-Peace.



2014 Pyeongchang Buddhist Declaration for Life-Peace

— All Beings are Buddha in Their True Nature —

By viewing nature as a resource to be controlled and exploited, humans have largely destroyed the habitats of animals and plants, thereby driving them to the brink of extinction. This crisis comes back to us as in karmic form, posing in turn a threat to our very survival. The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has played a significant role in

preserving biodiversity. However, it should be noted that the Convention is ethically limited as it also assumes living organisms to be an exploitable resource for economic benefit

In Pyeongchang, the venue of the COP 12, Korean Buddhists are to repent for the life-destroying activities undertaken so far and instead strive to create the momentum to restore our oneness with all living organisms. By doing so, we should end the prevailing culture based upon violent domination over nature and build a civilization of the living, where nature and humans co-exist in peace.

Saving life in crisis is an urgent, universal task. The moment to commence the walk to this goal is now. We cannot afford the luxury of further delay. Through the daily activities of individuals as well as cooperation at the local, national and global levels, we should strive together to build a sustainable all-encompassing society of life.

Woljeongsa monastery in Pyeongchang, where COP 12 is taking place, is an ancient monastery extending back one millennium and containing the 40th Power of Vow, through which the Bodhisattva of Compassion aspired to purify the world by cooling all earthly fever. To seek the wisdom to live in harmony with all forms of life as well as cool the fever of Earth, Korean Buddhists promulgate the following 2014 Pyeongchang Buddhist Declaration for Life-Peace.

Every Life is A Universe.

The universe is the Indra's net, where each bead sheds light all over the world. All in one and one in all exist as a great life that cannot be parsed. A life as small as dust remains a creature that the entire Universe works in unison to make, and nowhere is there a small being that does not shine across the Universe. All forms of life are interconnected and interdependent, helping all in mutual survival. All manifestations of life are inherently and innately noble and precious, regardless of their necessity or usefulness for humans. Therefore, we cannot put a price-tag on them nor should we abuse them as a means for production or profit. Without justification, they should be neither harmed nor killed. Humans should always be prudent and humble in the face of nature and life.

All Lives are Equal.

Life embraces not only sentient beings but also non-sentient beings such as sunlight, air, wind, earth and water. Based upon causal relations, they have temporal continuity from the past to the present and to the future. Therefore, they are equal, without either superiority or inferiority, and not being distinguished by good or evil. We must consider fairness for life not only in the present but also in the future. We should realize that equality is complete only through the ethics of mutual care and respect.

We Should Create A Culture that Sanctifies the Preservation of Life.

Buddhism, as a religion of the forest, has long been in communion with the natural world. In Korean culture, forests or mountains without temples are hard to imagine. From its origins, Korean Buddhism viewed land itself as life and built temples to revive the spirit of the earth, thereby laying the foundation for the forests of national parks. As such, tradition and culture in harmony with nature is the source for biological diversity and ecological abundance. A culture that saves lives should be based on the power of local people. Therefore, we should not forget that the cultural efforts of indigenous and local people to preserve biodiversity paved the way to biodiversity conservation.

Humans are Responsible for the Peace of All Life.

The crisis facing the existence of life today is rooted in human civilization that has wrongfully divided and demarcated the world that inherently cannot be separated or disconnected from its nature. We, as members of humanity, have wrongfully perceived finite resources as infinite, ruling them as if we were lords of Earth. We should first repent for our having exploited all beings in existence to satisfy our desires. We should realize that we are able to live only by the grace of all living things and thus lead a "life of requital" to express appreciation for and return of their grace. All forms of life have the right to happiness and peace, and we as humans have a responsibility to uphold that right. We should restore the bonds that we have severed. We are responsible for establishing a sustainable eco-circular society by protecting the equality of and right to life.

<http://www.cbd.int/tk/culturaldiversity.shtml>

Some of the delegates were attending the invitation by the KCBD while the rest were attending the meeting with the IUNCBD on conducting the discussion on the preparation of the side event collaboration. But before then, we were attending the IPBES meeting at the Asia Room. The meeting was provided by the IPBES secretariat and the NeFO.

The meeting was conducted at 10.00 am at the JUZTCANS meeting room. Prof. Pierluigi Bozzi was the only representative from the IUNCBD organization who is able to fully support the idea of education importance as implementing the Biodiversity Aichi Target 1 (mainstreaming awareness). As IFSA representatives were Citra Gilang, Dorin Lida, Juan Samuel, Airana Nafira and Agung Ratih who were attending the meeting. The meeting was started by a brief explanation on the side event followed by Dorin Lida, the IFSA's responsible person. She explained the main purposes on conducting the side event with the topic of Global Understanding on Forestry Education has a strong relation on implementing the 1st target of Aichi, which is mainstreaming awareness on biodiversity. Dorin clearly explained that students and youth need to be fed by a clear description on biodiversity, particularly on forestry issues as the lung of the world. Putting strong education on every level of study would drive the student into a strong understanding that the forest needs to be protected in the early stage of an ecosystem. As IFSA students also we could help on the program by having collaboration with professional partners, as we are making with the IUNCBD organization.



Coordination meeting with Prof. Pierluigi Bozzi from IUNCBD (cr. A. A. Ayu Ratih and Juan S. Simbolon)

Prof. Pierluigi Bozzi appreciated our idea and he was fully supported the content by giving presentation on how the idea should be put on education in the perspective of university professor and coordinator on university network. He briefly explain his personal and organization mission on bridging students awareness on learning the biodiversity and related issue by encouraging the student international units network and together make collaboration and discussion with all students, especially in Africa and Europe as his major country. He suggested us also to make such a follow up plan after the CBD convention as the real action taken by student in collaboration with IUNCBD. For example, collecting materials of every organization, NGO and IGO provided in the COP to create a conclusion to put on the website of the IUNCBD so that the viewer (who is also student) could read and find their interest for the research topic. They will know what exactly is going on within parties in the convention, their problem, their seeking of solution and their contact for further explanation for materials they cannot find on the website.

As finalization, we conclude the meeting with the presentation of student perspective and activities have done by IFSA supported by Prof. Pierluigi Bozzi to deliver his thought on the important role of education as bridge of learning process for both formal and informal forum. The meeting was finished at 15.00 then the rest of us go back as there was holiday for parties.

Monday, 13th of October 2014 – “Nagoya Protocol Has Entered into Force”

composed by Juan

The Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity is an international agreement which aims at sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding, thereby contributing to the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components. It was adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its tenth meeting on 29 October 2010 in Nagoya, Japan (source: <http://www.cbd.int/abs/>). Nagoya Protocol manages all the processes, technologies, and funding that are needed for the Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) of biological diversity. For knowing more about the Protocol, it can be seen and download on <http://www.cbd.int/abs/doc/protocol/nagoya-protocol-en.pdf> or https://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/an_explanatory_guide_to_the_nagoya_protocol.pdf.

During the COP 12, the Protocol has entered into force on the 90th day after the date of deposit of the fiftieth instrument of ratification. This Protocol has been through a lot of processes and also changes in order to make a good and understable Protocol. The hope for this Protocol is it can be implemented into the national policies and legislations of the Parties that have been ratified the Protocol. So far, fifty four Parties are listed and have ratified the Protocol. To see the list of the Parties of Nagoya Protocol, please check on <http://www.cbd.int/abs/nagoya-protocol/signatories/default.shtml>. Before it has entered into force, there is a special house called The ABS Clearing House (<https://absch.cbd.int/>). The ABS Clearing House is a platform for the Parties to exchange information about ABS, to help the implementation of ABS (Nagoya Protocol), and to connect users and providers of genetic reseources and associated traditional knowledge. It is a key tool for the Parties to implement the Protocol to the national policies and legislations. The date of the Protocol into the force was 12 October 2014, in the middle of COP 12. It is a great opportunity for the delegates to witness this important event. Some of the Parties that have ratified the Protocol, like Republic of Korea and Indonesia, asked for the guidance in the implementation and capacity building for ABS. Africa said that all stakeholders within the countries are needed for the implementation and their roles are significant for the implementation. The funding and capacity building are the challenges that needed to be overcame. Because ABS has strong relationship with traditional knowledge, the Party of Indigeneous and Local Community (ILC) suggests for a transparency, conservation act, protection, implementation, and recognition towards genetic resources that gained through traditional knowledge. Cooperation between ILC and the Parties are needed in the implementation. ILC also asked for the inclusion of youth and women during the whole

processes of the implementation, because of their vital roles of custodian of traditional knowledge and one of the tools on preserving the traditional knowledge, especially related to genetic resources. Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, CBD Executive Secretary, asked the Parties of CBD to become the Parties of Nagoya Protocol for being a global instrument in the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

Related documents on that day:

Biodiversity summit and Gangwon Resolution <http://www.biodiversity-summit.org/eng/intro/04gangwon>

Gangwon Declaration

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2014/ntf-2014-111-hls-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/press/2014/pr-2014-10-12-nagoya-protocol-en.pdf>

Tuesday, 14th of October 2014 *composed by Dana*

The delegates organized a meeting with Madame Mita Sen, a Programme Officer in the UNFF Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Dorin Lida, Citra Qur'ani, Juan Simbolon, Teresa Leifsdotter and Dana Mejia attended the meeting while the others are attending either the plenary or other side events. The discussion is about the IFSA side event on Thursday (October 16) and the outline of Ms. Sen's presentation. As the title of the side event: Global Understanding in Forestry Education, the focal point is the important role of students in forest management.



Coordination meeting with Ms. Mita Sen, Programme Officer in UNFF Department of Economic and Social Affairs (cr. Dana Marie C. Mejia and Juan S. Simbolon)

After the meeting, they went to the side-events room. Some of the side-events are the following:

1. Symposium on Impact of Wildland Fire on Ecosystem and Biodiversity

A global fire map was presented to show the distribution of fire occurrences in the world. It can be seen that most of the wildfires occurs to the countries in the tropics. The cause and effect locally and internationally were also discussed. In the tropics, most wildfires are man induced. Slash and burn practices of the communities per se in which in a large scale can lead to the loss of biodiversity. It was also emphasized that there are no UN based protocol that discusses forest fire. Mr. Jon Leigh, a conservation specialist, said that artificial restoration might help for forest recovery but not the soil recovery.

In addition, Dr. Lim Joo Hoon of Korea Forest Research Institute led the introduction to the 6th International Wildland Fire Conference (IWFC) with a theme of "Fire of the past, Fire in Future" that will be held in Korea, October 2015.

References: www.cbd.int/session and www.wildfire2015.kr

2. Wetland Restoration

Mrs. Cristi Marie C. Nozawa from Birdlife International discussed why we need to take an initiative to care for the coasts. As stated in Achi targets 14 and 15:

By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and wellbeing, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous, local communities, the poor and vulnerable.

By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification

The CBD parties have committed on habitat restoration but, normally, when we say restoration the first thing that comes on our mind is ecosystem restoration. There are so many activities about forest restoration but few on coastal restoration. The coasts are very important. Migratory birds uses coastal path during winter. Mangroves serve as habitat for fishes and prevent the occurrence of storm surge.

She emphasized that we do not need to wait for more disasters before we start to care for our coasts. Restoration is not that complicated everyone can do it in a simple way. Restoration, however, is costly than protection so we should act now to minimize further coastal areas degradation.

References: www.birdlifeint.org and www.cbd.int



Citra Gilang attending one of side events in CBD COP-12 (cr. Dana Marie C. Mejia)

3. Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative

Mr. Choi Youngtae (Director of International Cooperation Division, Korea forest Service) introduced the topic. He identified lack of governance, lack of scientific evidence, lack of financial and human resources, and lack of policies and awareness as the challenges to forest ecosystem resources initiative. It was followed by a high-level dialogue from the ministers of countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and LAC.

Representatives from Uganda and Zambia both stated that they have a national plan for restoration of degraded forest. However, there is still a continuous forest loss despite of the many incentives.

Dr. Pak Heru Prasetyo (Minister of REDD+ Agency in Indonesia) started his speech by sharing his experience. As a new approach, REDD+, he was criticized and believed to be not effective. Restoration is cannot be achieved not by just planting trees. Now, restoration is viewed not by planting trees alone, but to making it grow. He also added that a goal should be cross-generational (100-year scope). He also emphasized that youth involvement is important and information dissemination should be done. For REDD+ or any initiative to be successful, we have to avoid the first incentive about restoration which is the financial return for protecting the forest.

Mr. Philip Dobie from the World Agroforestry Centre left a quotation: "If there's a will, there's a way". If everyone will share the green will of Korea, nothing is impossible. To conclude, restoration initiative is already known globally what is needed is more actions to succeed.

References: globalkfs@korea.kr and www.worldagroforestry.org

On the other hand, the Korea Forest Service launched the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative (FERI) in line with the Twelfth Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention of Biodiversity. FERI is created to assist parties in achieving Aichi Targets on Biodiversity 5, 11, 14 and 15:

By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.

By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascapes.

By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and wellbeing, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.

By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.

First introduced during COP-11 in Hyderabad, India, FERI will support “developing countries in assessing the potential costs and benefits of restoration; identifying and assessing areas with ecosystem and forest degradation; identifying areas with high potential for forest and ecosystem restoration; implementing appropriate restoration activities; and, managing the complex dynamics inherent in forest and ecosystem restoration”.

References: www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-12/information/cop-12-inf-19-en.doc



On Tuesday, 14th of October 2014, Biodiversity Summit for Cities and Subnational Governments 2014 was held (cr. Dana Marie C. Mejia)

Wednesday, 15th of October 2014 *composed by Ratih*

Some of IFSA's delegates attended the High-level Segment at 09.30 a.m in Convention Center, Auditorium (1st Floor). The meeting was opened by His Excellency Mr. Hongwon Chung, Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea and presided over by His Excellency, Mr. Seongkyu Yoon, Minister of Environment of the Republic of Korea. The theme of the meeting was Biodiversity for Sustainable Development.

After that, IFSA delegates attended the side event in Hall B, Room 1, NGO's Meeting Room. The side event was organized by Seosan City Government and Environmental Ecosystem Research Foundation (ERF), Government of Korea. They presented the status and importance of the wild bird habitat of Cheonsu bay; present the status of local cultures in relation to the migratory water birds of Cheonsu bay and ways to connect them with the enhancement of biodiversity; and offer field trips to major areas after the side event.

Then, they attended the side event in Hall F, Room 2, LMMC Meeting Room that organized by Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MOEF&CC), Government of India and Indo-German Biodiversity Programme, Deutsche Gesellschaft Fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GMBH, India Office. The theme of the side event is TEEB India Initiative – Implementing Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Drawing example from India, the side event presented how TEEB implementation at national and sub-national levels could support countries towards achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets. A presentation on the TEEB India Initiative (TII) and National Biodiversity Targets 2020 will be made, followed by release of interim TII report and a Panel discussion on making use of the TEEB findings to mobilize resources for achieving the Aichi targets by 2020.

They went back to the Guest House in Hoenggye at 8.30 p.m by Shuttle Bus and prepared for our side event on 16th October 2014.

Thursday, 16th of October 2014 *composed by Laura*

The High-Level Segment convened throughout the day and adopted the Gangwon Declaration on Biodiversity for Sustainable Development (<http://www.biodiversitysummit.org/eng/intro/04gangwon>); this was the draft, however there is no official version online yet: <https://www.cbd.int/hls-cop/gangwon-declaration-hls-cop12-en.pdf>). Working Group I addressed draft decisions on items under the Nagoya Protocol on capacity building, awareness raising, access and benefit-sharing clearing-house, and monitoring and reporting. Working Group I also considered COP draft decisions on retirement of decisions, biodiversity and human health, and support for implementation. Working Group II considered COP draft decisions on business and stakeholder engagement, engagement with sub-national and local governments, tourism development, synthetic biology, Article 8(j) and related provisions (terminology), biodiversity and climate change, and ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs). Also the Sustainable Ocean Initiative convened in the margins of the COP 12 High-Level Segment. As the impacts of agricultural production on biodiversity are immense and food production has the largest environmental impact of any human activity. Therefore the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity launched the “Initiative on Biodiversity Impact Indicators for Commodity Production” on World Food Day. The initiative includes partners such as WWF, IUCN, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, and others. The purpose of the initiative is to identify the major types of impacts on biodiversity caused by global agricultural production and to measure progress towards more sustainable production. (Source: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/press/2014/pr-2010-10-16-commodities-en.pdf>)

Besides that contact and informal groups met during the day. There was also a series of side events in the Rio Conventions Pavillion on the topic of “Transformative Initiatives in Biodiversity Mainstreaming and Financing”.

In the morning, Laura had an informal meeting with the growing “YOUNG SCIENTISTS @ BIODIVERSITY SCIENCE-POLICY INTERFACES Network”, talking about our different networks and finally ended up brainstorming if there could be a possibility for IFSA to cooperate with each-other.

During the day IFSA delegates spread out, visiting working groups, contact groups and side events and also did some last preparations for their own side event in the evening on “Global Understanding of Forestry Education”. Though they had high competition with other interesting side events, a freezing cold night and the Mexican reception, a couple of delegates joined this side event and actively contributed during discussion and finally encouraged IFSA to keep on doing their great work on the ground but also to become more

active on these high levels at COPs. After that, all IFSA delegates joined the Mexican reception, celebrating with the delegates that next COP-13 will be held in Mexico.

Friday, 17th, of October 2014 *composed by Teresa*

That day is the last day of the Conference and there are fewer people around the convention center. The first thing the delegates did is to meet up with Professor Bozzi to finalize some negotiations. The delegates then had an intervention to evaluate the overall activities. Everyone complimented Dorin Lida (Head CBD Sub-Commission 2012-2014) for the successful side-events. Other delegates suggested ideas to further improve the involvement of IFSA in CBD. Juan Simbolon's (Head CBD Sub-Commission 2014-2016) proposal of having a CBD working group in preparation for the next COP to be held in Mexico has been agreed upon.

On afternoon, President Yoon Seong-kyu organized the joint closing plenary. Summary reports of the negotiations with minor amendments were presented.

Representatives from delegations acknowledged the government and people of the Republic of South Korea for their effort and full support for the success of the Convention. Mexico, as the host of COP13, emphasized the need of attention to the link between biodiversity and human well-being.

CBD Executive Secretary Braulio Dias summed up the event and highlighted the meeting outcomes. He also noted that the Pyeongchang Roadmap as a success that "will enable us to turn many of the indicators in the GBO from yellow to green."

References: <http://www.iisd.ca/biodiv/cop12/>

Related documents on that day:

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/speech/2014/sp-2014-10-17-cop12-npmop1-en.pdf>

<http://www.cbd.int/doc/press/2014/pr-2014-10-17-cop-12-en.pdf>

<http://www.iisd.ca/download/pdf/enb09645e.pdf>

IFSA Side-Events

Tuesday, 7th October 2014 – “The Role of Youth in Mainstreaming Biodiversity: An IFSA Approach” *composed by Airana*



Speakers from IFSA Delegates for 1st Side Event (cr. A. A. Ayu Ratih)
from left to right: Laura Hempelmann, Airana Nafira, Juan S. Simbolon, A. A. Ayu Ratih

The first side event for IFSA was held on 7th October 2014 in the music tent, Alpensia Resort, Pyeongchang, Gangwon Province, Republic of Korea.



Airana Nafira (standing), as third speaker and to conclude the side event (cr. CBD Documentation)

Eight members of IFSA were sent to deliver the message on behalf of IFSA world and youth to contribute in saving the biological diversity. As forestry students, the delegates acknowledge that the forests are

composed of complex system that embrace the components that are dependent to each other.

As stated in the annex ([decision II/9](#)) from the Conference of the Parties Biological Diversity is recalled as :

“Forest biological diversity results from evolutionary processes over thousands and even millions of years which, in themselves, are driven by ecological forces such as climate, fire, competition and disturbance. Furthermore, the diversity of forest ecosystems (in both physical and biological features) results in high levels of adaptation, a feature of forest ecosystems which is an integral component of their biological diversity. Within specific forest ecosystems, the maintenance of ecological processes is dependent upon the maintenance of their biological diversity.”

According to the title of IFSA's first side event is *“The Role of Youth in Mainstreaming Biodiversity An IFSA Approach”*. The title as seen is a way in approaching the Aichi Biodiversity Target, which was written as Target 1 (Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming the biodiversity across government and society). The main focus of the presentation is to let everyone comprehend well that IFSA has conducted some activities that supports the 1st Aichi Target. The activities are classified in two ways, (1) is the way IFSA as an association to educate, exchange, and broaden knowledge internally (members) between the cultural difference and backgrounds, and (2) to share the knowledge that has been acknowledged by the members (explained by point 1) to the society.



Acting as the Master of Ceremony, Teresa Leifsdotter (cr. CBD Documentation)

The delegates have come to realize that the importance of communication is the focal point of succeeding the goal. However the delegates also open a discussion to the audience to comment and to share their thoughts about the challenge that we are facing, which is to convey the message in the language to the whole society (in general). The delegates are fully aware, that if the messages aren't compatible to the society language, then the

message will not be understood and thus it will not succeed the goal of including the biodiversity conservation for the society.

Literature :

[CBD] Convention on Biological Diversity. "What is Forest Biological Diversity"

(<http://www.cbd.int/forest/what.shtml>) [Accessed on Monday, 13th of October 2014]

Thursday, 16th of October 2014 – "Global Understanding in Forestry"

composed by Citra

Side Event of IFSA was started at 5 PM and was ended at 7 PM in Hall F, Alpensia Ressort. The speakers in the side event were Prof. Pierluigi Bozzi (Coordinator of International University on Cultural and Biological Diversity (IUNCBD) as the representative of Education), Mita Sen (Coordinator of Economics and Social of UNFF as the representative of international policy makers), and Dorin Lida (Head of CBD Sub-commission of IFSA 2013-2014 as the representative of students). Three of them would speak according to their own capacities regarding the importance of implementation of forestry knowledge and environmental studies in education level in order to teach students to love nature since early age. Prof. Pierluigi Bozzi emphasized that with the strong education about forestry and environment, will improve the knowledge of students, especially college students with critical and creative thinking and wide knowledge to face environmental issues. As a lecturer and coordinator of IUNCBD, he really supports IFSA to join UN Meeting because they can get the knowledge which he believes that would not be taught in academics world.



Delegates with participants of second side event (cr: CBD Documentation and A. A. Ayu Ratih)

While of that, Ms. Mita Sen, as representative of UN, spoke her opinion regarding to the importance of youth and students in every UN meeting in order to widen their knowledge, especially knowledge about public speaking and critical thinking. Proudly she delivered an appreciation to IFSA who actively participates in important world meetings and actively delivers their vision and mission of their attendance. She also appreciate the participation of IFSA in UNFF Meetings where creative ideas and thoughts of youth are needed.

Dorin Lida delivering her speech regarding to Global Understanding in Forestry Education
(cr. A. A. Ayu Ratih)

The important point of the side event is the speech delivery of representative of students regarding the importance of global understanding on forestry and environmental studies, which was delivered by Dorin Lida. She delivered programs of IFSA in LC Indonesia (Bogor) which are related to forestry teaching to early-age children. Statistically proved that children who are packed with practical forestry studies with stable guidance have produced high care and understanding regarding to importance of protecting forests and environment.

There were a lot of questions from the participants of side event, such as representative of Ministry of Environment of Indonesia and representative of Ministry of Environment of The Philippines, also representative of a well-known university in Germany. They showed their proud of IFSA regarding to real activities in academics and non academics sector. The representative of Ministry of Environment of Indonesia even offered a partnership with IFSA LC Indonesia to support their programs. This also opened a great opportunity to IFSA members to widen their wings in order to widen the targets of participants of their programs or national scale programs. Then the side event closed by the MC at 7 PM.



Delegates Feedback

Delegates were excited to present in COP-12. They were learning a lot about CBD, COP, and also related international decision making processes. They are able to learn about the negotiation between the Parties and how complex the process is. They know that the Parties are doing their best efforts in representing the people of their own countries, especially women, traditional and indigenous people, and youth. Delegates are also able to meet participants with interesting backgrounds and also to make a lot of friends and helping people. This conference encourages them to learn more about the negotiation and international policy making, especially convention on biological diversity, which is more related to their majors, forestry and environmental studies.

Delegates also shows their appreciation to the host country, Republic of Korea, with their warmth and humble in welcoming and serving the delegates as guests and also as family who came from far-away countries.

Delegates are concerned with the future delegations of CBD COPs. They ask for mini-discussion within IFSA members in order to prepare the future delegations with necessary knowledge regarding to international decision making processes, especially convention on biological diversity and COP. They also ask for strong commitment from future selected delegates to prevent loss of delegates in the future and more strict selection of delegates to prevent chosen delegates who only want to have a holiday instead of being delegates.

Outcomes and Recommendations for Future IFSA Delegations and Involvement

For future delegations, joining CBD COP will be an opportunity to build a partnership with professional partners and government of your own countries. These outcomes may be your stepping board for the future of IFSA World or your own LCs. The delegates also are asked to build an official partnership or joint programs with the parties, professional partners, and youth organizations for networking and improving IFSA and its human developments. For future recommendation of involvement of IFSA in COP, delegates need to build a partnership with previous delegations and ask them for possible organizations that can deliver thoughts and opinions of IFSA in plenary sessions. IFSA also needs to clarify the status of IFSA in CBD as representative in Education, since IFSA is more related to Youth (proved by partnership with GYBN) than Education (proved by joint side events with IUNCBD).

Future delegations also are needed to improve their basic knowledge about CBD, COP, and the processes regarding to COP. This knowledge will be a foundation for delegates and guidance to every activities regarding to COP and to understand the position of IFSA in COP and what activities IFSA can do in COP.

Closing

The involvement of IFSA in CBD COP-12 shows that youth and students are important in international decision making processes. Besides knowing the processes, the delegates also gain more knowledge, informations, and networking within plenary sessions and side events. This delegation also helps the delegates to gain needed information for their studies and job opportunity from professional partners and parties who happened to be participants of the conference.

The delegates would like to thank their supporters and sponsors for their financial support. Without them, the delegates would not have been able to take part in this conference, see, learn and come back with so many valuable experiences that they can share. Delegates especially express their gratitudes to Jihyang Julie YOO, an IFSA LC SNU member who arranged accomodations and necessities for the delegates. She also accompanied the delegates when they were in capital city, Seoul.

Delegates of CBD COP-12 hopes for a better delegation and active involvement in future COPs and related activities (for example IPBES Plenary) that can improve knowledge and informations of delegates of IFSA and members of IFSA.

Delegates of CBD COP-12 also asked for apologize if there is any mis-writing and wrong behavior during delegation and publication of the report. They also hopes that this report could be foundation for future delegation in COPs or any international making processes conference.



Delegates after IFSA 2nd Side Event (cr. CBD Documentation and A. A. Ayu Ratih)

back Row from left to right: Juan S. Simbolon, Laura Hempelmann, and Teresa Leifsdotter; Front Row from left to right: Citra Gilang Qur'ani, Dorin L. Kusumawardani, A. A. Ayu Ratih, Dana Marie C. Mejia, and Airana Nafira)

Appendix 1. List of delegates

1. Dorin Lida Kusumawandari – Institut Pertanian Bogor, Indonesia
2. Airana Nafira – Institut Pertanian Bogor, Indonesia
3. Citra Gilang Qur'ani – Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia
4. Juan Samuel Simbolon – Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia
5. Anak Agung Ayu Ratih – Universitas Lambung Mangkurat, Indonesia
6. Dana Marie C. Mejia – University of the Philippines Los Banos, The Philippines
7. Laura Hempelmann – Freiburg University, Germany
8. Teresa Leifsdotter - Umeå University, Sweden

For contact: Juan Samuel Simbolon (Head of CBD Sub-commission 2014-2016) at simbolon.juan@gmail.com.