

Statement on behalf of official participants of the International Conference on Science and Technology for Sustainability 2010, Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity

We, the official participants of the International Conference on Science and Technology for Sustainability 2010 “Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity”, hosted by the Science Council of Japan and held in Kanazawa, Japan from 16 to 17 December 2010:

Acknowledge the fundamental dependence of human well-being on the earth’s ecosystems, and the strong dependence of ecosystem functioning on the diversity of species they contain,

Recognize the continuing decline of biodiversity and loss of ecosystem services highlighted by the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA),

Seriously worry about the failure to meet the 2010 biodiversity target as agreed by the parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD),

Firmly believe in the need to improve the scientific understanding of the inter-linkages between biodiversity, ecosystem services and human well-being and the socio-economic costs and benefits both in monetary and non-monetary values for the conservation, sustainable use and equitable sharing of biodiversity and ecosystem services,

Endorse the outcomes of the third and final ad hoc intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder meeting on an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services, held in Busan, Republic of Korea from 7 to 11 June 2010 to strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services and offer a common science platform for all biodiversity and ecosystem services related Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs),

Welcome the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, the 2020 Aichi targets and the implementation plan for the 2020 strategic plan, and the whole decision at the 10th Conference of the Parties to the CBD held in Nagoya, Aichi, in October 2010,

Recognize that changes in biodiversity and ecosystem are ultimately driven in part largely by human cultural and social transformations.

Hereby recommend the following:

- 1) Improve the scientific understanding on why and how human societies change biodiversity and ecosystem services using multidisciplinary and trans-disciplinary approaches and evaluating individual and societal welfare of biodiversity and ecosystem services change;

- 2) Develop biodiversity indicators, monitoring/census technologies and programs including participatory approaches;
- 3) Evaluate/develop integrative approaches to sustainable land and ocean ecosystem management, including “Satoyama approach” with reevaluation of the use of modern scientific methods and knowledge in conjunction with traditional ecological knowledge to explore ways and means to increase the resiliency of coupled socio-ecological systems;
- 4) Develop science-based strategies for mitigating and adapting to climate change through biodiversity preservation and sustainable land and ocean use;
- 5) Improve scientific understanding of dynamic coupled socio-ecological-climate systems and their tipping points to predict the safe ranges of human influences;
- 6) Strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services by establishing the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and ensure the highest standards of scientific credibility and legitimacy are provided by the platform.

Prof. Izumi Washitani
The University of Tokyo
Chair of Organizing Committee
Co-chair of Concluding Session

Prof. Kazuhiko Takeuchi
The University of Tokyo
Co-chair of Concluding Session