

## MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION

This Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter the "Memorandum") is entered into by and between the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (hereinafter the "UNEP-WCMC")

And

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (hereinafter the "Secretariat"),

*Recalling* paragraph 3 of Article 18 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (hereinafter the "Convention") that provides for the establishment of a Clearing-house Mechanism (hereinafter the "CHM") to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation,

*Recalling* decision VI/18, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting, which requested the Executive Secretary to commission a review to assess the current and potential role of the CHM in promoting technical and scientific cooperation, including its role in facilitating the transfer of technology and know-how and capacity-building to support implementation of the Convention at the national level, and to report on this review to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting,

*Recognizing* the role of the UNEP-WCMC as a leading international institution on the management of data and information and capacity-building initiatives related to the promotion of the conservation, sustainable use and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources,

*Taking note of* the UNEP-WCMC Chevening Studentships in Biodiversity which aims to help young researchers to prepare for a role in national and regional policy development and decision-making to resolve biodiversity-related challenges,

Have agreed as follows:

### **Article 1** **Objective**

The objective of this Memorandum is to provide the necessary arrangements to assist UNEP-WCMC, within the framework of the UNEP-WCMC Chevening Studentships in Biodiversity, to undertake an assessment of the current and potential role of the CHM in promoting technical and scientific cooperation pursuant to paragraph 2 of decision VI/18 adopted by the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention. Under this objective the CHM will provide relevant information to the UNEP-WCMC to facilitate this assessment.

**Article 2**  
**Responsibilities of the UNEP-WCMC**

The UNEP-WCMC will:

- 2.1. Assess the current and potential role of the CHM in promoting technical and scientific cooperation;
- 2.2. Assess the potential role of the CHM in facilitating the transfer of technology and know-how and capacity-building to support implementation of the Convention;
- 2.3. Communicate with Secretariat, CHM and the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (hereinafter the "SBSTTA") National Focal Points, the CHM Informal Advisory Committee and other relevant stakeholders to gather information on CHM past and future activities pertaining to technical and scientific cooperation;
- 2.4. Seek information from the staff of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity concerning the present and future impact of the CHM on their respective thematic and cross-cutting programme areas with respect to technical and scientific cooperation;
- 2.5. Gather information from established international thematic focal points on collaborative initiatives with the CHM;
- 2.6. Gather information from other relevant international organizations, non-governmental organizations and initiatives on the role of the CHM in fostering technical and scientific collaboration;
- 2.7. Analyze and compile this information and draft a report to be presented as an information document at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

**Article 3**  
**Responsibilities of the Secretariat**

The Secretariat will:

- 3.1. Make available to UNEP-WCMC documentation on the CHM;
- 3.2. Facilitate communication between the Secretariat, CHM and SBSTTA National Focal Points and the UNEP-WCMC;
- 3.3. Facilitate contact with established international thematic focal points and the UNEP-WCMC;
- 3.4. Facilitate contact with other relevant international organizations, non-governmental organizations and initiatives and the UNEP-WCMC;
- 3.5. Facilitate, as appropriate, participation by UNEP-WCMC in relevant meetings, such as regional CHM and SBSTTA meetings;
- 3.6. Review and comment, as appropriate, documentation prepared by UNEP-WCMC in support of the assessment;

- 3.7. Prepare a report on this assessment for submission to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

**Article 4**  
**Settlement of disputes**

Any dispute between the Secretariat and the UNEP-WCMC arising out of the interpretation or execution of this Memorandum shall be settled by negotiation. If the Parties are unable to reach agreement, the dispute shall be settled through arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) as at present in force.

**Article 5**  
**Execution**

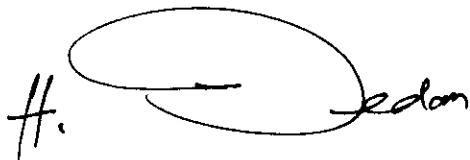
- a) The execution of this Memorandum will be effected through annexures relating to specific activities agreed upon by the Parties.
- b) Such annexures will form an integral part of of this Memorandum.

**Article 6**  
**Entry into force, amendment and Termination**

- a) The present Memorandum will enter into force upon signature by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Director of the UNEP-WCMC.
- b) Any amendment to this Memorandum will be effected only on the basis of written consent of the Secretariat and the UNEP-WCMC.
- c) This Memorandum may be terminated by either Party giving six-months written notice.

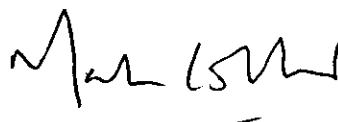
Signed this.....19.....day of.....December.....2002,

For and an behalf of the  
Convention on Biological Diversity  
(CBD)



Hamdallah Zedan  
Executive Secretary

For and on behalf of the  
United Nations Environment  
Programme World Conservation  
Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)



Mark Collins  
Director