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Signs of renewed confidence in Bonn, but action still urgent

Bonn, Germany, 11 June 2010 – (IUCN) Climate talks in Bonn healed some of the wounds left by the great disappointment of the Copenhagen Climate Summit last December. Following two weeks of talks under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), there is now renewed hope that the building blocks for a global climate deal can be adopted at the next summit in Cancun, Mexico at the end of 2010, says IUCN.

“Not only did the Copenhagen summit not meet its objective of adopting a legally binding agreement, it also damaged confidence in the whole process,” says **Claire Parker, head of IUCN’s delegation in Bonn.** *“IUCN very much welcomes the renewed spirit of cooperation and confidence governments showed in Bonn. However, the resumed efforts towards designing the architecture of the new climate regime are yet to yield concrete results.”*

While a final global deal on climate change is not yet in sight, climate action cannot wait. April 2010 was the warmest month on record for land and sea temperature combined. Much deeper cuts in greenhouse gas emissions than the ones currently on the table are needed to keep global warming below 2°C. Failure to do so will lead to irreversible damage to livelihoods and ecosystems on which we all depend.

Nature gives us solutions to reduce the negative impacts of climate change. Healthy ecosystems can help cope with climate impacts and store carbon.

After positive movements in Copenhagen, REDD (Reducing Deforestation from Forest Degradation and Deforestation) and REDD-plus (conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks) did not get the attention it deserved in Bonn.

“The adoption of a legally binding and ambitious international climate change regime is a crucial element in the global fight against climate change,” says **Ninni Ikkala, IUCN Climate Change Coordinator.** *“However, IUCN emphasizes that action on the ground, in rural communities and cities around the world, can and must be taken now, without waiting for international negotiations to reach a conclusion.”*

For more information or to set up interviews, please contact:

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About IUCN

IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature, helps the world find pragmatic solutions to our most pressing environment and development challenges.

IUCN works on biodiversity, climate change, energy, human livelihoods and greening the world economy by supporting scientific research, managing field projects all over the world, and bringing governments, NGOs, the UN and companies together to develop policy, laws and best practice.

IUCN is the world’s oldest and largest global environmental organization, with more than 1,000 government and NGO members and almost 11,000 volunteer experts in some 160 countries. IUCN’s work is supported by over 1,000 staff in 60 offices and hundreds of partners in public, NGO and private sectors around the world.

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