



PRESS RELEASE

Strong pact for the financing of protected areas in West Africa: 6 Ministers of environment and donors committed in Nagoya.

***Nagoya- Japan – October 28th** -A roundtable of donors for the financing of protected areas in West Africa will be organized in the first half of next year. The announcement was made Thursday October 28 by the minister representing the Prime Minister of Guinea Bissau in the name of his peers of the sub region. It was in the marge of the 10th conference of the parties to the CBD on a special event organized by the Regional Program for the conservation of coastal and marine zone in West Africa (PRCM) and the Lifeweb initiative of the secretariat of the Convention on Biological diversity. Ministers of environment of the Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Cap Verde, Mauritania, Guinea, and a representative of their colleague of Senegal undertook to strongly support this initiative followed-up in that by the development partners such as Germany, the Netherlands , France, Spain, Global environment Fund (GEF) European Union, WWF International , Wetlands International Africa,*



Ministers and partners after the ceremony

All the ministers who took the floor showed the assets and results obtained in regards to conservation but all recognize that there is still much to be done. Thus Guinea announced that it will extend its coverage rate of protected areas currently from 8% to 25% by 2020. Cape Verde announced the creation also of new protected areas. Guinea Bissau will extend its network of coverage rate currently from 15% to 24% by 2012. Mauritania intends to take its marine protected areas rate of its marine zone currently from 30% to 40% in 2011. From 4% of coverage rate in protected areas, the Gambia will pass to 17% by 2020. Senegal confirmed its engagement for the conservation of the biodiversity beyond even of its borders with the project of green Great wall which crosses 11 countries.

The ministers committed themselves to preserve the biodiversity and taking part in the financing through their national budgets but they count much on the development partners.

Representatives of development partners such as KFW of Germany, the Spanish Co-operation the European Union, the GEF, the Netherlands,, pledged to support this initiative. It is up now to PRCM and theLifeweb initiative of the CBD, main facilitators of this process to lead to good port the preparations of this roundtable which will be held in one of the countries in West Africa.

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