

To the Mayor of Joondalup

Mayors Conference

“Local Action for Biodiversity”

**Parallel event to the Conference of the Parties
of the UN-Convention on Biological Diversity
26-28 May 2008, Bonn, Germany**

Dear Colleague,

In May 2008, Germany and the City of Bonn will host the upcoming 9th Conference of the Parties to the UN-Convention on Biological Diversity.

Cities play a key role in biodiversity. Their experience, their knowledge and their support may significantly contribute to global debates and strategies. Your involvement in the project “Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB)” is a wonderful example of this commitment. We hope that the activities of your city within the LAB project will be an essential input to the conference programme.

Mayors are already involved – in the World Mayors Council on Climate Change (having expanded its responsibility because of the interlinkage of issues) as well as in a steering group, established in Curitiba in March 2007 and including the Mayors of Montréal, Johannesburg, Curitiba, Nagoya and Bonn.

The Mayors Conference “Local Action for Biodiversity” serves as a platform for discussion, as well as a strategically relevant milestone for demonstrating this commitment. The event will take place from 26-28 May 2008 in Bonn, concurrent to the UN conference (CBD COP 9), which is being hosted by the German Federal Government from May 19 to 30, 2008. The Conference is organised jointly by the City of Bonn, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability and the Service-Agency Communities in One World / InWEnt,

following a tradition started in Bonn in 1999, namely to gather local leaders alongside the meeting of national governments. I would be honoured if you would accept my personal invitation to participate in this conference and join our efforts to improve biodiversity in the urban context.

The Mayors Conference will bring together local leaders from cities advanced within the field of urban biodiversity. The conference shall interact with representatives of national governments and international experts from organisations such as IUCN, UNEP and ICLEI, with donors of local government projects, NGO representatives, the media, and high-level representatives from the German Federal Government. Not only will it offer the opportunity to meet with State delegates participating in COP 9, but also the prospect of raising voices vis-à-vis the international community debating global strategies on biodiversity. A contribution of local governments will be included in the agenda of the High Level Segment.

I have sent this invitation to some 50 senior representatives of cities that have shown a special interest and commitment in the field of urban biodiversity, amongst them mayors from all the cities that are part of the "Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB)" Project. May I encourage you to also bring a young municipal leader from your city, best a young council member, to this event in order to enable the next generation of leaders to understand the relevance of conserving our natural resources, especially biodiversity.

This invitation is also addressed at a selected group of partners to local governments. Please note the conference dates in your calendar and let me know at your earliest convenience if you will be able to join us. If you are unable to attend, I would be grateful if you appointed a senior representative to attend in lieu.

Thanks to the financial support from the German Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), your conference fees will be covered and you are invited to be our guest at all conference related-meals.

For further information, please contact ICLEI's International Training Centre (see registration form attached) or visit the conference website: www.iclei.org/biodiv-bonn2008.

I would like to encourage us to convene at the conference as forerunners and leaders, and to influence the debate so that the crucial role of local governments and their partners in the management of urban biodiversity may be demonstrated.

I look forward to meeting with you in Bonn next year.

Kind regards,

Bärbel Dieckmann
Lady Mayor, City of Bonn

Attachments

Conference Announcement

Registration form

MAYORS CONFERENCE LOCAL ACTION FOR BIODIVERSITY

Parallel event to the Conference of the Parties to the UN-CBD
Bonn, Germany, 26-28 May 2008



ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CONFERENCE

URBAN BIODIVERSITY ON THE INTERNATIONAL AGENDA

Mayors and other key decision-makers of leading local governments in urban biodiversity from around the globe are invited to convene and exchange their experiences and initiatives for Urban Biodiversity.

This conference offers a unique opportunity for a selected group of local leaders to showcase good practice and express collective commitments for extending "Local Action for Biodiversity". The conference also offers a chance to discuss national and international framework conditions needed to ensure Urban Biodiversity is protected, and to seek political and financial support for local action.

LOCAL LEADERS MEET WITH INTERNATIONAL ACTORS

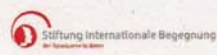
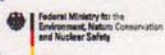
As the Mayors Conference is in parallel to the High Level Segment of the COP of the UNCBD, local leaders can use this opportunity to have their voices heard in the international community through networking with key representatives from national governments and UN representatives. An intervention on behalf of local governments will be part of the High Level Segment.

Participants are invited by the Lady Mayor of Bonn Bärbel Dieckmann, representing outstanding examples of leadership for bringing Urban Biodiversity into action.

LOCAL ACTION FOR BIODIVERSITY (LAB)

Local governments to an increasing extent cooperate globally to advance biodiversity at the local level. A special global initiative is the Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB) Project launched in 2006 by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability and IUCN, the World Conservation Union. Initiated by the Cities of Cape Town and eThekweni (Durban), the project forms the first step in a broader ICLEI Biodiversity Programme.

LAB is pioneering through coordinating the sharing of experiences, successes and challenges from a diverse group of participant cities around the world. LAB is also preparing for a next phase to include many more cities in these joint efforts. LAB cities will report on their activities and achievements. www.iclei.org/lab



DRAFT PROGRAMME AND THEMES

COP9 CBD 19-30 May 2008		MAYORS CONFERENCE LOCAL ACTION FOR BIODIVERSITY <small>Parallel event to the Conference of the Parties to the UN-Convention on Biological Diversity</small>			High Level Segment COP9 CBD	
	Sunday 25	Monday 26	Tuesday 27	Wednesday 28	Thursday 29	Friday 30
Morning	Arrival of participants	Excursion/ Study Tour	Opening	Biodiversity for Adaptation and Resilience Building Local Strategies towards Biodiversity	Local Governments intervention at High-Level Segment	Closing day
Afternoon		Excursion/ Study Tour	Biodiversity for Economic Sustainability and Well-Being Biodiversity and Municipal Services	Local Commitments and Contributions to International Biodiversity Closing	Interaction with delegates to the CBD COP-9	

Draft as of November 2007

LANGUAGES

The main languages of the conference will be English and Spanish. Whispering translation for other languages will be considered in exceptional cases.

LOCATION AND VENUE

The Mayors Conference will run concurrent to the UN Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity in the UN City of Bonn, Germany. The venue for the Mayors Conference is the Welsaal in the German Federal Foreign Office (Auswärtiges Amt).

LOGISTICS & REGISTRATION

For detailed information regarding all aspects of logistics for this event, particularly registration and accommodation, please refer to www.iclei.org/biodiv-bonn2008.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR CHANGE

The Mayors Conference is the local government gathering on the occasion of the ninth Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Bonn. It builds up on the Curitiba meeting held from 26-28 March 2007 in Curitiba, Brazil. Similar and successful events in Bonn where local leaders met on the occasion of a UN-event, include Desertification (1999), Local Renewables (2004), and Early Warning (2006).

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

ICLEI International Training Centre (ITC)
Leopoldring 3, D-79098 Freiburg, Germany
Phone: +49 - 761 / 368 92 - 20
Fax: +49 - 761 / 368 92 - 29
E-mail: biodiv-bonn2008@iclei.org

LOCAL LOGISTICS

Service-Agency Communities in One World / InWent GmbH
Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 40, D-53113 Bonn, Germany
Phone: +49 - 228 / 44 60 16 - 34
Fax: +49 - 228 / 44 60 17 - 64
E-Mail: heike.wuelfing@inwent.org



Please return to ICLEI's International Training Centre (ITC)

E-mail: biodiv-bonn2008@iclei.org

Fax: +49 – 761 / 36 89 229

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete in English (type or print in block letters). All fields are required.

Mr. ☐ Ms. ☐ Title _____

First name _____ Last name _____

Organisation (*in local language*) _____

Organisation (*in English*) _____

Job title/Function (*in local language*) _____

Job title/Function (*in English*) _____

Street _____ Postal / Zip code _____

City _____ Country _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

(Country code/city code/phone number)

(Country code/city code/fax number)

E-mail _____ Website _____

Your assistant (the person we might communicate best with)

First name _____ Last name _____

Job title/Function (*in English*) _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

(Country code/city code/phone number)

(Country code/city code/fax number)

E-mail _____

Special needs: ☐ Vegetarian meals

☐ Wheel chair access

☐ Other special needs: _____

Registration

☐ I will attend the Mayors Conference, Local Action for Biodiversity, 26 – 28 May 2007 in Bonn, Germany. I agree to be included in the list of participants.

☐ I wish to receive the official UN accreditation for the CBD COP 9

My passport number is: _____

Issued in: _____ Date (dd.mm.yyyy): _____

Valid until: _____ Nationality: _____

☐ I wish to receive accreditation for the High Level Segment.

I can speak the following languages : _____

Further comments:

I hereby register as a participant for the Mayors Conference, Local Action for Biodiversity, 26 – 28 May 2007 in Bonn, Germany

Date: _____ **Signature (type or sign your name):** _____

Mayors Conference: Local Action for Biodiversity 2008

Registration and Confirmation Information

The deadline for registration is 15 April 2008.

*Note: Please keep this page for your records. For updated information please visit:
www.iclei.org/biodiv-bonn2008*

Registration for the Mayors Conference

The participation is upon invitation by the Lady Mayor of Bonn, Ms Bärbel Dieckmann. The deadline for registration is 15 April 2008. As places are limited we advise you to indicate your interest as early as possible. For your registration for the Mayors Conference you will receive a confirmation from ICLEI.

Registration includes the admission to the event, participation in all sessions, including the workshops and study tours, conference materials, two lunches, coffee breaks, one evening reception.

Accreditation for the COP 9

Through the registration for the Mayors Conference you can ask ICLEI to facilitate the official accreditation process to attend the Conference of the Parties to the UN-CBD (COP 9).

If you wish access **COP 9**, you need to fill out all required data, which will be forwarded to the CBD Secretariat for accreditation. For the accreditation to COP 9 you will get a confirmation letter from the CBD Secretariat. People asking for the official UN accreditation are kindly asked to check some days before the event if the permission has been agreed. Please know that the details of the procedure are currently still in consideration.

Attending the High Level Segment of the COP requires an additional permission from the German Government. Please indicate your wish to attend this High Level Segment on the registration form and ICLEI will contact the responsible ministry. Confirmation for this will be provided to you by the ministry or by ICLEI.

Visa

Please check [www](http://www.germany.info) (German foreign ministry) for visa requirements. Let us know, please, if you need an official invitation letter.

Local logistics and accommodation

Our partner InWent is responsible for local logistic, such as visa, accommodation and local transport. For accommodation, please check www.iclei.org/biodiv-bonn2008 or contact Ms Wuelfing. Please make the necessary accommodation arrangements as soon as possible – May is a busy tourist season in Bonn.

Conference Secretariat

ICLEI's International Training Centre (ITC)
Leopoldring 3
D-79098 Freiburg, Germany
www.iclei.org/biodiv-bonn2008

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