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Agenda

Launch of the Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law

&

Conference on Biodiversity Governance

24-25 April 2012

GRT Grand Hotel, Sir Thiyagaraya Nagar, Chennai

Tuesday, 24 April 2012

09:30  10:00  Assembly and registration

10:00  11:15  INAUGURAL SESSION & LAUNCH

10:00  10:10  Welcome Remarks Dr. Balakrishna Pisupati, Chairman, National Biodiversity Authority

10:10  10:20  Special Remarks Ms. Ann Ollestad, Norway’s Ambassador to India

10:20  10:35  Special Remarks Dr. Tishyarakshit Chatterjee, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India

10:35  10:50  Release of Special Publication “Lessons from Biodiversity Governance”

10:50  11:05  Special Address Mrs. Heidi Sorensen, Permanent Secretary, State Minister of Environment, Government of Norway

11:05  11:15  Vote of Thanks C A Reddy, Secretary, National Biodiversity Authority

11:15  11:45  Coffee
11:45  13:15  **Panel discussion on “Biodiversity Governance: Lessons”**

*Chair: Dr. Tishyarakshit Chatterjee, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India*

**Panellists**

Ms. Heidi Sorensen, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Government of Norway

Dr. Govindan Parayil, Vice-Rector, United Nations University

Dr. S Ayyappan, Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Extension, Government of India

Prof. Bharat H Desai, Jawaharlal Nehru Chair in International Environmental Law, Jawaharlal Nehru University

13:15  14:15  **LUNCH BREAK**

14:15  16:15  **Panel discussion on “Experiences from Biodiversity Governance for Rio + 20”**

*Chair: Prof. Govindan Parayil, Vice-Rector, UNU-IAS*

**Panellists**

Ms. Alexandra Solovieva, Deputy Country Director, UNDP India

Ms. Vedis Vik, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Environment, Government of Norway

Dr. Ram Boojh, Senior Specialist, Natural Resources, UNESCO

Dr. P L Gautam, Chairperson, PPVFRA

16:15  16:45  **Tea Break**

16:45  17:30  **Discussion on approaches to deal with biodiversity governance, law and policy**
Chair Prof. Bharat H Desai, JNU

19:00 21:00 Cultural Programme  Bharata Natyam Dance Recital (‘Kalaimamani’ Krishnakumari Narendran and Group) followed by Dinner  
(Venue : GRT Grand Annex)

Wednesday, 25 April 2012

09:30 11:00 Panel Discussion on “Responding to governance challenges”

Chair: Dr. Darshan Shankar, FRLHT

Panellists

Mr. Kabir S Bavikatte, National Biodiversity Authority

Mr. Rajneesh Dubey, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India (tbc)

Mr. Sunil Kumar, Vice President, Royal Bank of Scotland Foundation, Mumbai

Mr. Ritwik Dutta, Legal Expert.

11:00 11:30 Coffee

11:30 12:00 The Centre for Biodiversity Policy and Law – Overview presentation

12:00 12:45 Messages for UNCSD and CBD COP 11 meetings – Discussion

12:45 13:00 Wrap-up and closing remarks