

## **MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION**

**between**

**the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity**

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**and the**

**Alliance for Zero Extinction**

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (“SCBD”) and the Alliance for Zero Extinction (“AZE”), collectively referred to as “the signatories”,

*Recalling* the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, namely the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources;

*Recalling also* that the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting in October 2010 will adopt a revised and updated Strategic Plan for the period 2011 to 2020, including a revised biodiversity target;

*Recognising* that the AZE is a global initiative comprising biodiversity conservation organizations aiming to prevent extinctions by identifying and safeguarding key sites where species are in imminent danger of disappearing;

*Considering* that the signatories mutually recognise the vital role of civil society organisations such as AZE members in supporting the Convention’s implementation;

Have reached the following understanding:

### **Article 1: Objective**

The objective of this Memorandum is to establish a collaborative framework between the SCBD and the AZE with a view to promoting greater implementation of the Convention, specifically with regard to preventing species extinctions and maintaining ecosystems and habitats at key sites for endangered species.

## **Article 2: Areas of Cooperation**

The signatories will cooperate in the following areas:

- a. AZE's use of its expertise to support implementation of the revised and updated CBD Strategic Plan particularly regarding the target of zero extinction of species;
- b. AZE's assistance to CBD Parties with integrating the zero extinction target into national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- c. AZE's establishment of a forum on best practices and lessons-learned back-to-back with meetings of the CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) starting with SBSTTA 15 and present the results to COP starting with the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
- d. AZE's assistance in the implementation the CBD's work programme on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA), in particular International Day for Biodiversity, International Year of Biodiversity and the International Decade on Biodiversity;
- e. Invitations to AZE to participate as an observer in relevant CBD meetings including the meetings of the Conference of the Parties; and
- f. Any other matters of mutual interest.

## **Article 3: Focal Points and Steering Committee**

The signatories will identify their respective focal points for the implementation of this Memorandum and a steering committee will be established with a view of preparing a joint work programme to coincide with the Convention's work plan. The steering committee will need to meet as often as possible and at least once year.

## **Article 4: Financial Aspects**

Activities under this Memorandum are subject to the availability of funding.

## **Article 5: Dispute Settlement**

Any dispute between the SCBD and the AZE arising out of the interpretation or execution of this Memorandum shall be settled amicably through consultation or negotiation.

## **Article 6: Entry into Effect, Amendment and Termination**

- a. This Memorandum will enter into effect upon signature by the signatories.
- b. Any amendment or modification of this Memorandum shall only be made upon agreement between the signatories by means of an amending or supplemental agreement.
- c. This Memorandum may be terminated by either signatory subject to a prior written notice of six months.
- d. No part of this agreement places any legal obligation on its parties.


For the Secretariat of the Convention on  
Biological Diversity

For the Alliance for Zero Extinction



Dr. Ahmed Djoghla  
Executive Secretary

Date:



Mike Parr  
Chairman

Date: May 16, 2010

*Witnesses:*

Tom Brooks

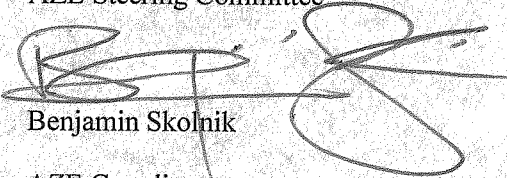
Date

AZE member representative, NaturServe

Leon Bennun

Date

AZE Steering Committee



Benjamin Skolnik

AZE Coordinator

5/19/2010  
Date