



Mr Ladislav Miko  
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Protecting the Natural Environment  
Environment Directorate-General  
European Commission  
B-1049 Brussels

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**EU Biodiversity Communication**

Dear Ladislav,

We are writing in our capacity as Co-Chairs of the EEAC Biodiversity Working Group to congratulate you and your team for all the time and effort that have gone in to preparing the Biodiversity Communication and its associated Road Map. It is an excellent document, which clearly explains the actions that are required from all the services of the Commission and Member States in order to meet the target of halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010. Well done!

In order to meet the Gothenburg target, it is essential that the necessary actions are implemented to achieve the targets and objectives listed in the Road Map. Political will and leadership are vital to ensure that these targets are met. One key requirement is to ensure that there is adequate funding for nature conservation in important European financial instruments, e.g. the European Fisheries Fund, Rural Development Regulations, Common Fisheries Policy and Common Agricultural Policy. We hope that the process of developing the Communication and securing the commitment of other Directorates-General to the targets will be followed through in day-to-day decisions about priorities and funding. DG Environment has, of course, a key role to play in this.

Practical engagement with the public and political decision-makers is also critical to gain their support and involvement in meeting the 2010 target. The Commission should therefore develop an effective and adequately funded communication, education and public engagement programme (in cooperation with the IUCN Countdown 2010 campaign) to emphasise the importance of biodiversity to the quality of life and prosperity of European citizens.

Effective implementation of the Biodiversity Communication will clearly be a challenge both for the Commission and Member States and we wish you well. If there is any further help and support that the EEAC Biodiversity Working Group can offer in this task, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Collins'.

Sue Collins  
Co-Chair  
English Nature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Antonio Domingos Abreu'.

Antonio Domingos Abreu  
Co-Chair  
Portuguese National Council on Environment  
And Sustainable Development (CNADS)