NAGOYA DECLARATION
On Parliamentarians and Biodiversity

We, the Parliamentarians participating in the GLOBE & CBD Parliamentarians and Biodiversity Forum held on the occasion of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in Nagoya, Japan, on 25th – 26th Oct 2010,

Regret the failure by the international community to meet the 2010 biodiversity target at a global level and within our own countries and regions,

Express our deep concern at the continuing acceleration of biodiversity loss, ecosystem degradation and the far-reaching environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts of this; despite the scientific evidence to support action and the availability of policy tools to halt these trends

Recognise the essential role of parliamentarians in influencing the decisions of governments and translating the consensus reached internationally into tangible actions at the national level, giving environmental issues a more prominent position in their domestic political mainstream, integrating it more closely into the national policy-making and legislative processes and in particular into budgetary frameworks,

Call for a transition to a new global economy where the true values of biodiversity, ecosystem services and natural capital are carefully integrated into policy making processes at all levels of government, the private sector and civil society, as proposed in the GLOBE Natural Capital Action Plan, and recommend that this is achieved by:

Incorporating the valuation of natural capital into the framework of government accounts,

Instructing all government departments to prepare inventories of the natural capital and ecosystems that fall within their ambit or are affected by their policy decisions,

Creating a ministerial position within the Finance Ministry to work with the department of environment in assessing the value of natural capital in departmental inventories and regulating the use of the country’s natural wealth,

Ensuring that the national Finance Ministry develops a set of Natural Capital Accounts that is accompanied by an annual report that outlines the status of biodiversity, ecosystem services and natural capital, as appropriate,

Encouraging national audit offices to adopt the natural capital approach when examining the effectiveness and efficiency by which government departments use their resources and apply cost benefit analyses.

We declare that the CBD COP10 is a critical juncture for international efforts to achieve sustainable development and harmony between the environment, the economy and society and identify four critical elements for the successful implementation of the Convention as follows:

Support and approval of a new strategic plan for the CBD, which includes realistic global targets, has a clear focus on implementation and is in line with the recommendations made by the GLOBE International Commission on Land Use Change and Ecosystems,
Greater financial support for the GEF as the financing mechanism of the Convention,

The establishment of an Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Protocol under the CBD, which allows for the equitable sharing of the benefits that arise from using genetic resources between the users and providers of genetic materials.

Increased financial support for developing countries in order to ensure that the necessary measures can be implemented.

We welcome the inclusion of the strategic goals and targets in the strategic plan for 2020 and offer our political support to help achieve these through our participation in the ongoing workstreams of GLOBE International including offering our,

Support for Strategic Goal A. “Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming across government and society” through the GLOBE Natural Capital Initiative, which will raise political awareness (Target 1), integrate the value of natural capital into national accounts (Target 2), promote the reform of environmentally-damaging subsidies (Target 3), and call for sustainable production and consumption across government and business (Target 4), by creating an international leadership group of legislators to advance the GLOBE Natural Capital Action Plan through legislation and government policy changes,

Support for Strategic Goal B. “Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use” through the GLOBE Legislator Rainforest Initiative, which will address the degradation and fragmentation of natural habitats (Target 5) and sustainable management of forests (Target 7), by placing legislators at the forefront of developing national forest policies; and the GLOBE Marine Ecosystems Recovery Strategy, which will promote the sustainable management of marine fisheries, and address overfishing (Targets 6), promote sustainable aquaculture (Target 7), prevent pollution and nutrient loading in coastal zones and the open seas (Target 8), encourages the eradication of invasive species (Target 9) and minimize the multiple pressures on coral reefs (Target 10), by developing an international leadership group of marine legislators,

Support for Strategic Goal C. “To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding, species and genetic diversity”, through the programmes outlined above, which include a specific focus on the need for parliamentarians to support well-connected systems of effectively managed protected areas both in the terrestrial and marine ecosystems (Target 11),

Support for Strategic Goal D. “Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services”, through the programmes outlined above, which include a specific focus on all relevant stakeholders in policymaking (Target 14), and boosting ecosystem resilience to support climate change mitigation and adaptation (Target 15),

Support for Strategic Goal E. “Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity-building”, through the programmes outlined above, which include a specific focus on national policy instruments (Target 17), indigenous practices and traditional knowledge (Target 18), improving the base of scientific information (Target 19) and increasing human and financial resources for achieving the above targets (Target 20).

Nagoya, Japan, 26th October 2010