



**MESSAGE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

MR. BRAULIO FERREIRA DE SOUZA DIAS

on the occasion of

**THE PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE THE WINNERS OF MIDORI
PRIZE FOR BIODIVERSITY 2014**

8 September 2014

I regret that it is not possible for me to be with you in person at this important announcement but would like to contribute a few words through this written message.

The Secretariat of Convention on Biological Diversity is privileged to serve as co-organizer of the MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity with the AEON Environmental Foundation. I would like to convey my thanks to the Foundation for its commitment to this special prize and to thank my fellow judges and all others involved in its organization.

As judges we had a difficult task. A great many outstanding candidates with remarkable careers and achievements were nominated. I would therefore like to extend my sincere congratulations to the winners of the 2014 MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity: Dr. Kamal Bawa from India, Dr. Alfred Oteng-Yeboah from Ghana and Dr. Bibiana Vilá from Argentina. I look forward to meeting each of them at the award ceremony next month in the Republic of Korea.

Each of our winners has made an outstanding contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and to sustainable development. Their work has contributed in very real ways to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity. It supports our collective efforts towards the biodiversity targets set by the world community in 2010 and in so doing, to the wellbeing of this and future generations.

I hope that the recognition provided by the MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity will serve as a fitting reward for the dedicated service of each of the winners and that it will serve to inspire others to emulate their great achievements.

Thank you for your kind attention.



**Convention on
Biological Diversity**

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