



Media Release

For Immediate Release: Issued on 4 November 2016 by the Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

Ref: ES/16/01

Paris Agreement Now in Force: Good News for Biodiversity

Bonn (IPBES News) – “Climate change is one of the most important factors impacting biodiversity, so the entry into force today of the Paris Climate Change Agreement is really good news”, said Dr. Anne Larigauderie, Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), welcoming the announcement on Friday morning by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) that the Paris Agreement has now officially come into force.

Speaking about the complex but critical relationship between climate and biodiversity, Dr. Larigauderie added: “The sustainable use of our natural resources, especially biodiversity, goes hand in hand with any successful effort to slow climate change. They are two sides of the same coin and both are key to ensure the sustainable future we all want. Successful climate action must never be at the expense of biodiversity, because stabilizing the climate is only possible over the long-term by ensuring the health and protection of biodiversity and ecosystems”.

Adding her voice to the sentiments of the UNFCCC Executive Secretary, Patricia Espinosa, Dr. Larigauderie said: “We join the world in thanking and congratulating the UNFCCC and its member States for this exceptional milestone on the road to sustainability. This is indeed a moment for both celebration and clear assessment – for our part, IPBES commits to redouble our efforts to strengthen the knowledge foundations for better policy through science, for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term wellbeing of people and our planet.”

Note to Editors:

IPBES is an independent intergovernmental body, established by member States in 2012. It provides policymakers with objective scientific assessments about the state of knowledge regarding the planet’s biodiversity, ecosystems and the benefits they provide to people, as well as the tools and methods to protect and sustainably use these vital natural assets. To some extent IPBES does for biodiversity what the IPCC does for climate change.

ENQUIRIES & INTERVIEWS:

Rob Spaul - IPBES Head of Communications
media@ipbes.net +49 174 356 6551 www.ipbes.net

Follow Us: Twitter: @IPBES youtube.com/ipbeschanel www.facebook.com/ipbes