

## WORLD SUMMIT OF REGIONS

“Climate change: Regions in action”

Saint-Malo, 29/30 October 2008

### SESSION 1

**Biodiversity - Agriculture - Forest Management**

29.10.2008 - 2.30pm/6.00pm

**Coordinators: Western Cape (South Africa) - Kaunas (Lithuania)**

*On land and at sea, scientists forecast a massive decline in biodiversity and far-reaching changes to agriculture across the world among the consequences of climate change. In this change, forests will play a key role through their CO<sub>2</sub> intake and source of renewable raw materials. Which initiatives do regions use to adapt to the new climatic context? How can the last old-growth forests and the people who live there be protected?*

**Chaired by:** Mr Mark Gordon, Director, Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, Provincial Government of Western Cape

**Moderators:** Mr Frederic Adrian Osborn, President, European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) Sustainable Development Observatory; and Ms Anna Bobo Remijn, EESC NAT Section

**Rapporteurs:** Mr Frederic Adrian Osborn, President, EESC Sustainable Development Observatory; Dr Vitas Marozas - Head of Forestry Division, University of Agriculture of Lithuania

**Mr Alain Retière:** UNDP, Coordinator of Climsat: *Using satellite imagery and participatory GIS to involve local communities in the protection of biodiversity and adaptation to changing climatic conditions: experiences, limitations and potential for future*

#### Regional experiences presented:

- **Alentejo (Portugal):** *Biodiverse legume-rich sown pastures and their contribution to carbon sequestration and environmental improvement in the Alentejo Region*, Mr David Gomes Crespo, Comissão de Coordenação e Desenvolvimento Regional do Alentejo
- **Khulna (Bangladesh):** *Agricultural Adaptation in Southwestern Coastal Bangladesh: Peoples, Sundarbans (mangrove forests) and Biodiversity Protection in a Changing Climate*, Mr Mehdi Azam, Research Officer, PRODIPAN (Khulna District)
- **Aragon (Spain):** *Forestry management and climate change in Aragon*, Mr Alfredo Boné Pueyo, Minister for the Environment, Government of Aragon
- **Kaunas (Lithuania):** *Forestry adaptation and climate change in Lithuania*, Dr Vitas Marozas, Head of Forestry Division, University of Agriculture of Lithuania
- **Western Cape (South Africa):** *Biodiversity under the test of climate change in the African Far South*, Dr Guy Midgley, Chief Specialist Scientist, Ecology and Conservation Kirstenbosch Research Center, South African National Biodiversity Institute
- **Alaska (United States):** *The impacts of global warming on the survival of the North Alaskan hunting population*, Mrs Priscilla Wohl, Executive Director, The Northern Forum
- **State of Mexico (Mexico):** *Importance of biodiversity in the State of Mexico (undertaken actions for preservation)*, Mr Victor Rodrigo Correa Moreno, Head of the Institutional Relations Department, Environment Secretariat, Government of the State of Mexico
- **Tuscany (Italy):** *The effects of climate change on biodiversity and agricultural cycles: Tuscany's response to challenges*, Mr Marco Betti, Minister for the Environment of Tuscany Region

