On January 14, 2013 from 4:00pm to 5:30pm the Embassy of France in Washington, D.C. will host a panel discussion on the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) prior to its first plenary meeting being held in Bonn, Germany from January 21-26, 2013. The IPBES is meant to serve as an interface between the scientific community and policymakers by assessing scientific information related to biodiversity and ecosystem services, helping prioritize and catalyze efforts to generate new scientific knowledge and supporting policies and implementation.

French President Jacques Chirac called for the creation of such an interface for biodiversity, similar to the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), during the international conference “Biodiversity: Science and Governance,” held in January 2005 in Paris, and France has strongly supported this platform ever since. The creation of the IPBES was approved in December 2010 by the General Assembly of the United Nations and its secretariat will be in Bonn.

This panel discussion will be introduced by Frédéric Doré, Minister Counselor at the Embassy of France and it will gather:

- Thomas Lovejoy (Moderator)
  Biodiversity Chair, Heinz Center for Science, Economics and the Environment
- Amy Fraenkel
  Director, UNEP Regional Office for North America
- Mary Beth West
  Director, IUCN Office in Washington, DC
- Peter Raven
  Chair, U.S. National Committee for DIVERSITAS
- Christine Dawson
  Director, Office of Ecology and Conservation, U.S. Department of State
- John Fitzgerald
  Policy Director, Society for Conservation Biology

This event is co-sponsored by IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and UNEP. Please see the attached program below for more details on the panel and rsvp to Daiva.Kacenauskaite@unep.org at UNEP if you wish to attend.

For more information on the IPBES, please visit: http://www.ipbes.net/

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View online: https://www.france-science.org/Intergovernmental-Platform-on.html