Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) panel discussion at the Embassy of France on November 14, 2013

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The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Office for North America and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), in partnership with the Embassy of France, organize a panel discussion in Advance of the Second Plenary Meeting of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) on November 14, 2013 at 3:30pm. The discussion will be followed by a short wine and cheese networking reception.

Please RSVP at rona5@unep.org or 202-621-5036

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:

- Jörg Kinnen, Counselor for Energy and Environment, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Host Country of the IPBES Secretariat
- Frank Hawkins, IUCN Washington DC Office
  IPBES Stakeholder engagement strategy
- Christine Dawson, Department of State
- Thomas Hammond, Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) to the Global Environment Facility
- Ann Bartuska, Member of the IPBES Multidisciplinary Expert Panel
- Lars Laestadius, World Resources Institute
- Jeffery Pettis, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Pierre-Michel Forget, National Museum of Natural History, Paris
- Kai Chan, University of British Columbia, Canada