

**REPORT**  
**WORLD BIODIVERSITY CONGRESS, 2014**  
**COLOMBO, SRI LANKA.**



## THE WORLD BIODIVERSITY CONGRESS, 2014 WAS HELD IN COLOMBO, SRI LANKA FROM 24TH TO 27TH NOVEMBER, 2014



Delegates from 21 countries and Dignitaries were welcomed with Traditional Drum Beating Dance of Sri Lanka



The Congress was inaugurated by Honourable Secretary Wildlife, Government of Sri Lanka, Mr Udeni Wickramasinghe in the august presence of Prof. Sarath Kotagama- Scientific Adviser to the Ministry of Wildlife Resources Conservation, Dr Balakrishna Pisupati - Fellow, Fridtjof Nansen Institute in Norway and Dr Faizi S - Ecologist specializing in international biodiversity policy, based at Trivandrum, India.



## WBC2014 WAS JOINTLY ORGANIZED BY

Global Scientific Research Foundation, Bangalore, India  
Field Ornithology Group, Sri Lanka,  
Colombo University, Sri Lanka.  
Rajarata University, Anuradhapura, Sri Lanka.



Delegates from 21 countries and Dignitaries were welcomed with Traditional Drum Beating Dance of Sri Lanka



### Welcome address by Professor Sarath Kotagama

**Professor Sarath Kotagama** welcomed the delegates to WBC 2014 and to Sri Lanka on behalf of Government of Sri Lanka. In his welcome address he introduced about the rich cultural heritage and Biodiversity of Sri Lanka, its relevance, appropriateness to organise WBC in Sri Lanka, and initiatives of their Government. He wished for meaningful deliberations and to come out with valuable suggestions and recommendations.



**Presidential Address by  
Dr. Anita M., President WBC 2014, Colombo**

**Dr. Anita M, President WBC2014** in her welcome address briefed about the Objectives, theme, and expectations from the deliberations of the Congress.

She said that the major objective of WBC 2014 is to formulate a vision and alternate strategic plan for the conservation of biodiversity in the context of prevailing concept of Natural Heritage with the Theme, "Integrating Bio-conservation with Natural Heritage". The multifaceted sub themes which will be deliberated upon and discussed in the Congress both in Plenary and in Parallel sessions with Oral and Poster Presentations in the three days will bring in new thoughts and insights which can lead to New initiatives for addressing the underlying causes of biodiversity loss, reduce the pressures on biodiversity, safeguard biodiversity at all levels, enhance the benefits provided by biodiversity, and provide for capacity building.

Scientists and Policy makers from Sri Lanka, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Russia, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Cameroon, Georgia, Malaysia, Germany, Serbia , Saudi Arabia and UAE participated in the congress.

She thanked Key note Speakers and Other agencies for their support in organizing the conference.

## Abstract Release



Dr. Yashoda Bai, Organizing Secretary proposed the Vote of thanks to all Dignitaries, delegates and media personnel for making the inaugural a great success.



## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

### 1. Prof. Sarath Kotagama



**Advisor**, Ministry of Wild Life Resources, Sri Lanka, Head Department of Environmental Sciences and Founder Field Ornithology Group of Sri Lanka.

In his Keynote Prof Kotagama, said that The Government of Sri Lanka has launched its Policy for Wildlife with the theme, "Wildlife is our Life" which was later recognized by CBD as "Biodiversity is our Life". He highlighted the clear connection between Biodiversity and Wildlife as the life line of the Nation apart from aesthetic, spiritual and economic reasons. The Sri Lanka economic statistics was evidence for the theme.

### 2. Dr. Balakrishna Pisupati



**Former Chairman** National Biodiversity Authority of India. **Chief Biodiversity**, Land Law and Governance Unit of UNEP, Nairobi, Kenya. **Senior Fellow** the Fridtjof Nansen Institute, Norway. Delivered Keynote talk on **What is Biodiversity Worth?**

In his Keynote Dr. Balakrishna focused on local, national, regional and global initiatives currently underway to capture the potential of biodiversity and ecosystems for human well-being and sustainable development ranging from designing a set of global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to value-addition to biodiversity by local enterprise development at national level. The Presentation cited specific examples of emerging ideas ranging from conservation psychology to crowd-sourcing for conservation action and ensuring protecting the biodiversity and sustainably managing the ecosystems to become a people-cantered movement across the world where citizen science and public policy plays a critical role.

### 3. Dr. S. Faizi



**Ecologist, Member, Expert Group** on Biodiversity and Development of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), **Chairperson, Board of the CBD Alliance, Consultant (Biodiversity): UNDP, Expert Member - Plachimada High Power Committee .** Delivered Keynote talk on **Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication: Why is it an Efficient Paradigm?**

In his Keynote Dr. Faizi brought forward the Efforts of CBD and mentioned that the World Commission on Environment and Development had surmised that poverty is both a cause and effect of environmental degradation, the world has been slow in responding to the need for integrating biodiversity for poverty eradication, even as poverty gets entrenched and biodiversity degradation is accelerated. It is a pandemic irony that areas rich in biodiversity also happen to be locations acute in poverty and deprivation. This has been largely a function of

the modern conservation regime that denies access for the local communities to biodiversity on the one hand and the iniquitous model of development on the other. The lecture examined the global biodiversity management scenario, the CBD parlance in particular, and stated that the biodiversity for poverty eradication paradigm is the most effective approach to address the twin crises of biodiversity degradation and escalating rural poverty, and he proposed options for the way forward.

## THEMES OF THE CONFERENCE

- Session I : Biodiversity Conservation, Sustainable Utilization and Management Of Traditional Knowledge
- Session II : Avian and Mammalian Biodiversity
- Session III : Bio invasion and Bioenvironmental; Impact of Climate Change And Biodiversity
- Session IV : Sustainable Agricultural Production and Agro ecosystems; Pest Management
- SESSION V : Biotechnology and Genetic Resources
- SESSION VI : Insect Biodiversity and Beekeeping for Sustainable Development
- Session VII : Oceanic and Marine Biodiversity
- Session VIII : Business and Biodiversity; Bio Informatics & GIS; Global Health and Food Security.
- SESSION IX : Plant, Soil and Forest Biodiversity

## A Special Session on Business and Biodiversity

The Special Session on Business and Biodiversity provided a platform for companies to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into their environmental and sustainability management systems by participating in the development of biodiversity business cases and practical business opportunities for action. Through this commitment they could contribute to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to halt the dramatic loss of ecosystems, species and genetic diversity







November 24 - 27, 2014, Colombo, Sri Lanka



## BUSINESS AND BIODIVERSITY: INITIATIVES WORLDWIDE

*'Streamlining Biodiversity in Business'*

25<sup>th</sup> November 2014 from 2:00 to 4:30pm at the Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo

### Keynote Speaker:

#### Mr. Mohammad Rafiq

Director - Long Run Initiative, Zelta Foundation  
Former Senior Vice President - Rainforest Alliance  
Former Director - Business and Biodiversity Programme, IUCN



### Presentations by:

- **Mr. Dilhan C. Fernando** – Director, Ceylon Tea Services PLC
- **Mr. Praveen Gnanam** – Special Projects Coordinator, Tokyo Cement Company (Lanka) PLC
- **Mr. Kiran Cooray** – Chairman, Jetwing Hotels Ltd. together with  
**Mr. Chaminda Jayasekera** – Resident Naturalist, Jetwing US Dymna
- **International Resource Persons**



Pre-register by writing to [businessandbiodiversity@chamber.lk](mailto:businessandbiodiversity@chamber.lk)  
by **21<sup>st</sup> of November 2014**

For inquiries call Harshini on 07767623991 or Lajana on 5588833

More information at [www.wbc2014.lk](http://www.wbc2014.lk) and [www.business-biodiversity.lk](http://www.business-biodiversity.lk)



**Dr. Annupama, Scientific Secretary  
Delivered Resolutions and Recommendations  
which emerged from WBC-2014.**

The World Biodiversity Congress 2014 was triggered off with thought provoking Key note talks by U N experts, Plenary lectures with technical sessions covering a wide range of topics on biodiversity, Oral and Poster presentations. Scientists and policy makers from different countries participated in the Congress, and had the privilege of deliberating the issues of conservation of biodiversity, bringing new visions and insights. Several recommendations emerged from the deliberations of the Congress

**which are as follows:**

1. As the twin crises of Biodiversity loss and poverty are escalating, Biodiversity for Poverty eradication should be adopted as a means to arrest and revert the crisis; countries, multilateral agencies and other stakeholders should incorporate the concept of Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication in their future plans and give priority for its effective implementation so as to create a win-win situation for both biodiversity conservation and poverty eradication.
2. Considering the importance of Biodiversity for poverty eradication, the conference of parties to CBD should declare the year 2016 or a future year as the 'International Year for Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication'.
3. We welcome the coming into force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) and calls upon the CBD process to effectively implement the compliance mechanism so that the accelerating tide of the Bio piracy can be stemmed without further delay. Any laxity in the enforcement mechanism can render the protocol weak and defeat the purpose of the protocol and the convention itself.
4. We welcome the emerging trend of the business community promoting Biodiversity conservation measures and call upon the business sector to incorporate environment concerns into their mainstream activities. Such an approach alone can ensure the future of Biodiversity and also the sustainability of business in the long run.
5. The indigenous people like India's Adivasis are the historical custodians of Biodiversity and it is important to return the management of Biodiversity's to such communities or to build a strong and effective partnership with them for the sustainable management of Biodiversity.
6. Recognizes that Integrated Pest Management is the most acceptable concept of Bio control.
7. Recognizes integrated co-management system approach is recommended for sustainable Forest Management.
8. Recommends that the quarantine must be strengthened to have a check on Illegal trade.
9. Recommends that Export license should be provided to export from Sri Lanka for fastening the process.
10. Recommend to maintain the regional Genetic Material Conservation Board.

## VALEDICTORY



FOLLOWING OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTORS  
OF THIS CONGRESS, WERE HONOURED



Young Scientist Award to  
**Ms. Saripah Bakar**  
from Malaysian Cocoa Board, Malaysia.



Senior Scientist Award to  
**Mr. Milivoje Kravac,**  
Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia,  
Belgrade, Serbia.

## SPECIAL AWARDS



**Dr. Sharad Mahadeo Galande and  
Dr. Sattappa B. Kharbade**  
Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth,  
College of Agriculture, Pune – 411 005,  
Maharashtra, India.



**Dr I.A.I Sandunika**, Department of  
Biological Sciences, Faculty of  
Applied Sciences, Rajarata University  
of Sri Lanka



**Dr. Stephen Devenesan**, Professor of  
Entomology, AICRP on Honey bees &  
Pollinators Vellayani Centre,  
Department of Agricultural  
Entomology, College of Agriculture,  
Kerala Agricultural University, Vellayani  
695 522, Kerala, India.



**Dr. Jayanta Tarafdar**, Department of  
Plant Pathology, Bidhan Chandra  
Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Kalyani-741 235,  
West Bengal, India.



Dr. P.C. Sharma, Professor of Biotechnology, Dean, University School of Biotechnology, & Director (Research and Consultancy), Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Dwarka, Sector-16C, New Delhi – 110078, India.



Dr. M.A. Rahim, Professor, Department of Horticulture, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Bangladesh.



Best Poster Award to Dr. K.S. Raghunandan, Apidology Laboratory, Department of Studies in Zoology, University of Mysore, Karnataka, India.



Best Oral Award to Dr. R.K. Pandey, Senior Scientist & Head, Forest Ecology Environment Division, Madhya Pradesh State Forest Research Institute, Polipathar, Jabalpur- 482008, Madhya Pradesh, India.



**The Lifetime Achievement Award to  
Dr. Abraham Verghese**  
Director, National Bureau of Agricultural  
Insect Resources, Bellary Road,  
Bangalore - 560 024, Karnataka, India.

CULTURAL PROGRAM



## TECHNICAL TOUR

**Hiyare** - Drive along a twisting road to Udugama from Galle, and you will stumble upon one of the best kept secrets of the South. The Hiyare forest reserve, a lush 600-acre picture-post cardrain forest, located only 17 km from the city, is a veritable paradise for wildlife enthusiasts, with its pristine beauty and wealth of flora and fauna. This reservoir is a major source of drinking water to the city of Galle. The catchment zone of the reservoir consists of about 600 acres of a rather well preserved lowland rain forest and its conservation is therefore of significance. Further, Mahadola, which is a major stream that enriches the river, originates here.



**Galle** – said to be the famous Tarshish of the Bible where King Solomon obtained gems and spices, this "Living" UNESCO World Heritage Site is the port where the Portuguese first landed in Sri Lanka in 1505. Captured and fortified by the Dutch who ruled maritime Sri Lanka in the 17th and 18th centuries, the city still retains the air of old Holland. Within the well preserved 90 acre fort and ramparts built in 1663 are old Dutch churches and monuments with armorial bearings, and imposing crested and monogrammed gateway dated 1669, many well preserved old Dutch houses and narrow alleys still bearing Dutch names. The New Oriental Hotel, built for a Dutch governor in 1684, a colonial gem now converted to the internationally renowned Amangalle Hotel and several other excellent boutique hotels are testimony to the importance of this location.



## Acknowledgments

GSRF would like to acknowledge and place on record the gratitude to the following people and organizations for the support in making WBC 2014 a meaningful and memorable Congress:

1. Prof Sarath Kotagama, Scientific advisor, Ministry of Wildlife Resources , Sri Lanka and Patron, WBC 2014, for supporting from the conceptual to concluding stage whose experience and kindness made us to successfully organize the Congress.
2. The team of Dr. Sriyani, Senior Lecturer, Rajarata University and her students for their Support.
3. The Walker Tours, Sri Lanka under the guidance of Mr. P. Yohan, Mr. H. Prabath and Mr. Ranil who provided us logistic support to the Congress. We are ever grateful to them for unblemished services to delegates.
4. Travel Direct, New Delhi, India for providing Logistics from India
5. Redindian Technologies, Hyderabad, India for creating Website and providing other net support
6. Surarchit Printers, Bangalore, India for printing the Conference materials



# UNITY IN CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY



Looking Forward to Meet You in



**SERBIA , 2015**