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BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE

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Statement by Morten Jødal, Biologist, Norway

1. Live on Earth is in general restricted by cold climates
2. CO_2 is the gas of life. When increasing, primary production increases, as animal life
3. Plants prefer warmer climate, especially when CO_2 increases
4. Since year 1500, we have lost 860 species (IUCN). Only models claim there are thousands of species lost every year. They are wrong
5. Of the 860 species: Most were lost on islands
6. Of the 860 species: Most of them were animals, few were plants
7. Of the 860 species: Most were lost by predation, not by competition
8. Most species listed as regionally threatened, are at the edge of their distribution. Or, they are simply rare or very rare
9. The extinction rate is going down
10. We have lost some species, and reduced many populations
11. We only focus on what´s going wrong, and don´t mention new regional species, and increased populations
12. The main threats for biodiversity are:
    a) Loss of habitat
    b) Introduced species
    c) Hunting
    d) Pollution
    e) Climate change – NO!
13. Since 1820, when modern warming began, temperature has increased by 0,85 ^{o}C. Life in general has no problems in adapting to such a small change, over such a long period
14. The polar bear is doing extremely well, and profits on less summer ice in the Arctic
15. The polar bear survived the last interglacial period, which was 8 degrees warmer than today
16. 50 % of the plant species in smaller countries (like Germany and Norway), as well as on nearly all islands, are introduced.
17. On nearly all islands: There is a nearly perfect 1:1 relationship between native and introduced species (animals and plants)
18. We got nearly 12 000 new plant species in Europe the last 500 years (DAISE project)
19. Last point means that we are all experiencing a much larger biological diversity than any previous generation
20. Loss of species, or reduced populations, does not destabilize ecosystems. The opposite is a political and ideological idea
21. In nature, there is nothing called “natural”, or “unnatural”
22. We tend to believe that kind and nice species (bees) are doing bad, while species we don´t like (wasps, jellyfish or ticks) are doing good
23. The biological diversity is not threatened by our consumption. In rich countries, the big four carnivores (bear, wolf, lynx and wolverine) have increasing populations. In India, a middle income country, the tiger has stable populations, while the lions and

elephants in a poor continent like Africa have declining populations. Poverty is a threat of animal life, not consumption

24. New species evolve all the time, especially in the time of a new Pangea. Species evolve as a result of hybridization, geographical isolation and new ecological niches
25. My best guess: As a result of the new Pangea, there will be a double amount of species in one million years, which means: A new genesis

Conclusion: *Modern climate change has not exterminated any plant or animal species. We are definitely not in a sixth mass extinction. Quite the opposite: New species evolve all the time, at a higher rate than the extinction. The biodiversity prefers more CO_2, as they prefer warmer climates.*