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Food and Agriculture
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Продовольственная и
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NORTH AMERICAN FOREST COMMISSION

THIRTY-SECOND SESSION

Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada

25 - 27 September 2023

Report of the Communicators' Network Working Group

Queries on the content of this document may be addressed to:

NAFC Secretariat
Forestry Division

NAFC32-Secretariat@fao.org

I. WORKING GROUP COMPOSITION

Chairperson	Country	Organization
Ernesto Ladrón de Guevara Alafita	Mexico	National Forestry Commission
Members' name	Country	Organization
Talha Sadiq	Canada	Natural Resources Canada-Canadian Forest Service
Jennifer Hayes	United States of America	United States Forest Service
Korey Morgan	United States of America	United States Forest Service
Maria DeCristofaro	FAO	FAO
Yamín Ivette Marín Rosales	Mexico	National Forestry Commission

II. LIST OF ACTIVITIES COMPLETED DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS

Activity	Location	Date
Videoconference meeting – Introductions, review of past efforts, frame-setting	<i>Virtual</i>	<i>14 October 2022</i>
Videoconference meeting – Charter and workplan development	<i>Virtual</i>	<i>9 December 2022</i>
Videoconference meeting – Charter and workplan development, membership discussion	<i>Virtual</i>	<i>16 February 2023</i>
Videoconference meeting – Network launch and workshop planning	<i>Virtual</i>	<i>21 July 2023</i>

III. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS

Activity	Location	Date	Status (done/ongoing)
Relaunch meeting of the North American Forest Communicators Network	<i>Zapopan, Jalisco, Mexico</i>	<i>13-15 December 2023</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
North American Forest Communicators Network 2023 Annual Workshop	<i>Zapopan, Jalisco, Mexico</i>	<i>13-15 December 2023</i>	<i>New</i>
Finalize the working group charter	<i>Virtual</i>	<i>December 2023</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
Grow the directory of network members	<i>Virtual</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
Create a digital platform for the network	<i>Virtual</i>	<i>Spring 2024</i>	<i>New</i>
Annual working group meeting	<i>Location TBD</i>	<i>Spring 2024</i>	<i>New</i>
Virtual workshop to share successful experiences and best practices in forest areas of the three countries	<i>Virtual</i>	<i>Spring 2024</i>	<i>New</i>

Strengthen linkages with other NAFC working groups to disseminate actions and achievements	<i>Virtual</i>	<i>Continuous</i>	<i>New</i>
North American Forest Communicators Network 2024 Annual Workshop	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Fall 2024</i>	<i>New</i>
Working group (follow-up) meetings	<i>Virtual</i>	<i>2024 (TBD)</i>	<i>New</i>

IV. REQUEST FOR FUNDING

1. There is no new funding request. The workshop proposal for 2023 was submitted for funding to the North American Forest Commission's Bureau of Alternates (BoA), highlighting that the resources requested would facilitate the establishment of the communicators' network and enhance overall participation. In June 2023, the BoA approved the request, and the planning for the workshop is currently underway.

V. CLOSING REMARKS

2. The activities carried out by the North American Forest Communicators Network (NA-FCN) mark a significant milestone in efforts to foster communication and collaboration on forestry-related topics among Canada, Mexico, and the United States of America, together with FAO.
3. The collective endeavor to strengthen communication capacities and information sharing on forest-related issues, benefits, and opportunities is an essential step towards strengthening sustainable forest management in the region.
4. Through annual workshops, the NA-FCN aims to revitalize the network of communicators and equip them with the necessary tools to effectively communicate the importance of sustainable forest practices. The support and approval received from the BoA for this endeavor further reinforces the relevance and potential impact of the initiative.
5. Alongside the workshop planning and invitation of relevant stakeholders to join the network, the three countries will collaborate to finalize the charter and define the mission and scope of the network. Although this has been discussed in the past, the group would like to consider the input derived from the workshop, in December 2023, to finalize it. The aim is to have a well-defined work plan for the next two years by the upcoming inter-sessional period of the North American Forest Commission.