

March 2010

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l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

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de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY COMMISSION

TWENTY-THIRD SESSION

Thimphu, Bhutan 9-11 June 2010

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

“Forests – our heritage, our future”

Tuesday, 8 June 2010

Pre-session events

1300 – 1800

- Pre-session workshop: “Forests: Moving Beyond GDP Contributions to Gross National Happiness Considerations”

The pre-session workshop will focus on raising awareness of the concept of Gross National Happiness (GNH) as a complement to traditional approaches used in tracking economic performance. The workshop will explore ways by which forestry’s contribution to society can be more fully appreciated and realized, beyond commercial transactions and market values. It will also explore aspects of policy, institutions and business that will strengthen forestry development through GNH approaches.

1200 – 1900

- Registration for the 23rd Session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission

Wednesday, 9 June 2010

23rd Session of Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC)

0800 – 0900

- Registration at the Royal Banquet Hall

0900 – 1200

- **Opening ceremony**

Introductory and welcome addresses

- **Item 1:** Adoption of the agenda (Document: FO:APFC/2010/1)

- **Item 2:** Election of officers

Nomination and election of chairperson, vice-chairpersons and rapporteur.

For reasons of economy and ecology, this document is produced in a limited number of copies. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring it to the meetings and to refrain from asking for additional copies, unless strictly indispensable.
Most FAO meeting documents are available on Internet at www.fao.org

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- **Item 3:** State of forestry in the Asia-Pacific region: forestry in transition
Brief introduction to key forestry developments in the Asia-Pacific region in the past two years followed by discussions on national perspectives and progress on forestry development. Delegates will be invited to update the Commission on current forestry issues and challenges of regional significance and recent measures being undertaken.
(Document: FO:APFC/2010/2)

1330 – 1700

- **Item 4: In-session seminar:** Asia-Pacific forests – now and in the future
 - Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010
 - Asia-Pacific Forestry Sector Outlook Study (APFSOS)

The in-session seminar will highlight newly released findings from the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010 of relevance for the Asia-Pacific region and the Second Asia-Pacific Forestry Sector Outlook Study (APFSOS). This seminar will assess the current state of forestry in the region and focus on possible scenarios for forestry development in coming years. Discussion will concentrate on opportunities for regional collaboration aimed at achieving desirable future scenarios for forestry.
(Document: FO:APFC/2010/3)

1900 – 2030

*Reception hosted by FAO***Thursday, 10 June 2010**

0900 – 1200

- **Item 5:** Forests and biodiversity: conservation and sustainable use of our forest treasures

Building on the attention and momentum of the International Year of Biodiversity, the Commission will address recent issues related to forest biodiversity and climate change, and benefits from sustainable use of forest biodiversity. The session will also consider mechanisms and activities related to preparation of the *State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources*. Co-organized in collaboration with the United Nations Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) and other partners.
(Document: FO:APFC/2010/4)
- **Item 6:** Progress in improving forest law enforcement and governance in the region

Based on the stocktaking of FLEG activities in the region conducted at the request of APFC, consideration will be given to the activities and progress in improving forest law enforcement and governance in Asia and the Pacific. National, regional and international FLEG initiatives will be examined, with a view toward achieving greater collaboration and synergies. (Document: FO:APFC/2010/5)

- 1330 – 1530
- **Item 7: Heads of Forestry Dialogue**

Heads of forestry will have an exclusive opportunity to discuss two of the most critical issues facing forestry in the region: forests and climate change and financing of sustainable forest management. Through a facilitated dialogue, heads of forestry will share their perspectives and experiences, and propose mechanisms for future collaboration.
(Document: FO:APFC/2010/6)

 - a. **Forests, climate change and REDD: beyond Copenhagen**

Discussion will focus on forests and climate change issues, with particular consideration given to reduced emissions from deforestation and degradation (REDD+), monitoring, verification and reporting (MVR), national forest monitoring and assessments, enhancement of carbon stocks, carbon markets, bioenergy and adaptation.
 - b. **Harnessing new opportunities for financing sustainable forest management**

Heads of forestry will have an opportunity to share experiences and insights on how to effectively tap new and innovative mechanisms for financing sustainable forest management, as well as how to make forestry more attractive for traditional investment.
- 1600 – 1700
- **Item 8: APFC and FAO-supported activities in the region**

Brief presentation of APFC and FAO-supported activities and global initiatives during the past two years will be provided (including follow-up to recommendations of the 22nd session of the Commission), followed by discussions on possible new initiatives and guidance for future work.
(Document: FO:APFC/2010/7)
- 1900 – 2100
- **Networking event: Open forum**

Representatives of organizations and projects are invited to present and discuss activities in an informal setting.

Friday, 11 June 2010

- 0900 – 1200
- **Partners sessions and events**

APFC partner organizations are invited to organize concurrent events on various topics of regional interest. The full schedule of events will be made available in due course, prior to the session.
- 1330 – 1530
- **Item 9: Information items**
 - a. Summary report from the pre-session workshop “Forests: Moving Beyond GDP Contributions to Gross National Happiness Considerations”

Brief report of the outcome and key points from the pre-session workshop. (Document: FO:APFC/2010/INF.4)

- b. Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN)
Report on the activities of the APFISN since the last APFC session. (Document: FO:APFC/2010/INF.5)
- c. International Year of Forests – 2011
Information will be provided on preparations for celebrating and supporting the International Year of Forests.
- d. 20th Session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO)
Information will be provided on the 20th session of COFO to be convened in October 2010.

- **Item 10:** Regional issues identified by the Commission for the attention of the FAO Regional Conference and the Committee on Forestry (COFO)

Discussion and agreement on key policy and technical issues for Asia-Pacific forestry to be referred to the 30th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (September/October 2010) and the 20th session of COFO (October 2010).

- **Item 11:** Other business:

- a. Report of the 6th Meeting of the APFC Executive Committee
A short summary of the key conclusions and recommendations of the 6th APFC Executive Meetings, convened in November 2010. (Document: FO:APFC/2010/INF.6)
- b. Discussion of any other matters that members wish to bring to the attention of the Commission.

- **Item 12:** Date and place of the next session

Information and discussion on arrangements for the 24th session of APFC and the Second Asia-Pacific Forestry Week.

1600 – 1700

- **Item 13:** Adoption of the report
Review and adoption of the draft report of the 23rd session of APFC.

- **Closing of the 23rd session**

1900 – 2130

Dinner and cultural events hosted by the Government of Bhutan

Saturday, 12 June 2010

- Field excursions

Informal farewell cocktail