

## The Second Expert Meeting on Harmonizing Forest-related Definitions for Use by Various Stakeholders, FAO, Rome, September 2002

The meeting agreed on the following recommendations from conventions, bodies and processes to take into consideration for harmonization:

| <b>Comparative Matrix of Recommendations</b> |  |   |   |   |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| TERM   | CBD <sup>1</sup>                           | FRA/ FAO <sup>2</sup>   | ITTO <sup>3</sup>   | UNFCCC/IPCC <sup>4</sup>  | COUNTRIES   | ALL   |
| Forest                                       | include "temporarily unstocked" areas (13) | clarify term "predominantly forestry" (24)  | include reference to an established definition of forest (24) |   | adopt same threshold parameters for UNFCCC/KP and FRA reporting (1) | explore need to add additional parameters, supporting terms         |
|  |  | report separately areas that are "temporarily unstocked" (17)   |   |   |   | replace in all contexts the terms "forest land" and "forested land" |
| Non-forest Land                              |  | discuss with other bodies possible introduction of subclasses   |   |   |   | replace through the term "non-forest"                               |
| Other Land                                   |  | clarify method of land classification with combined land uses<br>clarify possible subdivision of term in subclasses             |   |   |   |   |
| Afforestation                                |  | further harmonization between UNFCCC and FAO required include assisted generation not involving direct seeding or planting (16) |   | remove the requirement for 50- year non-forest condition from second commitment period onwards (30)<br>further harmonization between UNFCCC and |   |   |

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|                      |   |   |   | FAO required  |  |   |
| Reforestation        |   |   |   | discard the term reforestation (30)   |  |   |
| Deforestation        |   | further harmonization between UNFCCC and FAO required   |   | further harmonization between UNFCCC and FAO required   |  |   |
| Natural Expansion    |   |   | add definition of natural expansion to set of definitions (25)  |   |  |   |
| Forest Improvement   |   |   |   |   |  | Adopt definition: The process of increasing the capacity of forest to provide goods and services (opposite to forest degradation) (3) |
| Forest Degradation   | Adopt definition: Forest degradation is the reduction of the capacity of a forest to provide goods and services (6); clarify, if this and the related definitions need qualifiers: ECOSYSTEM FUNCTION | Adopt definition: Forest degradation is the reduction of the capacity of a forest to provide goods and services (6) clarify, if qualifiers are needed | Adopt definition: Forest degradation is the reduction of the capacity of a forest to provide goods and services (6) | Exchange terms: distinguish "stock reduction" from "forest degradation". It is still possible to use the same generic definition for degradation and to add qualifiers for monitoring purposes (31) |  |   |
| Forest Fragmentation | clarify if certain aspects like habitat fragmentation are adequately  |   |   |   |  | Adopt CBD definition: Forest fragmentation refers to any  |

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|                   | covered   |   |  |  |  | process that results in the conversion of formerly continuous forest into patches of forest separated by non-forest (lands). |
| Forest Management |   | Adopt definition: FM is the process of planning and implementing practices for stewardship and use of the forest aimed at fulfilling ecological, economic and social functions of forest (19)<br>develop a typology for management objectives (18)        |  |  |  | clarify, if term unmanaged is not superfluous, since there are hardly any unmanaged forests                                  |
| Natural Forest    | clarify, whether attribute "indigenous" is necessary, whether "native" (CBD) is fully consistent with term "indigenous" (FRA), and whether the definition should rather refer to "forest stand" than to "forest". | clarify, whether "native" (CBD) is fully consistent with term "indigenous"(FRA), and whether the definition should rather refer to "forest stand" than to "forest" refer to the natural regeneration of forests and discard the wording "not planted"(20) | clarify, whether "native" (CBD) is fully consistent with term "indigenous"(FRA), and whether the definition should rather refer to "forest stand" than to "forest" |  |  |  |
| Primary Forest    | consider ITTO's definition of "primary forest" (12)   |   | delete in definition of "degraded primary forest" references to primary, old-  |  |  |  |

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|                   | clarify, whether the disturbance by non-native animals should be explicitly addressed                           |  | growth (28)   |  |   |  |
| Old-growth Forest | clarify if only limited to primary forest, or includes also secondary and semi-natural forest                   | clarify if only limited to primary forest, or includes also secondary and semi-natural forest  | clarify if only limited to primary forest, or includes also secondary and semi-natural forest   |  | clarify if only limited to primary forest, or includes also secondary and semi-natural forest |  |
| Secondary Forest  | clarify if definition should refer to species composition   |  | develop ITTO definition further: "Woody vegetation regenerated naturally on land that was cleared of its previous forest vegetation" (26) |  |   | clarify if definition should include notion of forest condition resulting from suppression of natural fire regime; |
| Planted Forest    | include "planted forest" as a separate category (7) discard the attribute secondary in "plantation forest" (11) | include "planted forest" as a separate category (7) clarify if subclasses are needed to reflect the management objectives and/or whether the species planted occur naturally on the site | include "planted forest" as a separate category (7) adjust definition to "forest that has been established by planting or seeding" (27)   |  |   |  |

<sup>1</sup> Convention on Biological Diversity

<sup>2</sup> Global Forest Resource Assessment/ Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations

<sup>3</sup> International Tropical Timber Organisation

<sup>4</sup> United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change/ Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change