

CPF JOINT STATEMENT

**UNFF Sixth session
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Presented by
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CPF on the web: <http://www.org/forestry/cpf>

CPF Statement at the Opening of UNFF-6

Madame Chair,
Distinguished delegates,

It is a great honour and pleasure for me to make this statement on behalf of the 14 member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.

CPF members wish to reiterate their sincere appreciation to the Member States of the United Nations Forum on Forests for their support and guidance to this partnership. Because of your support CPF's contributions to enhance the forest agenda for the people and environment are being widely recognized.

More than ever, member organizations are committed to work together to contribute to the objectives of the international arrangement on forests set by UNFF. A demonstration of this is the increasing number of common activities and joint programming efforts between member organizations.

Within available resources of member organizations, CPF has responded positively to specific requests by UNFF. At this important session, CPF would welcome identification of specific tasks that the United Nations Forum on Forests wishes CPF to undertake. Having such clear guidance, CPF would be in a position to develop a programme of work for joint initiatives commensurate with the level of resources the Governments are prepared to commit.

Madame Chair, many CPF members have been asked about their view on CPF's future. Collectively, we would like to emphasize the following outputs:

- better coordination of support to national and regional efforts for implementation of internationally agreed actions on forests
- wider recognition of contributions of forests and forestry to reduction of rural poverty
- support to countries' efforts to prevent deforestation and forest and land degradation
- strengthened inter-sectoral linkages
- contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals
- continued collegial environment for cooperation

We are also committed to enhance collaboration with civil society partners, both as CPF and as individual organizations.

In closing, Madame Chair, CPF members look forward to a positive outcome of this session and firm decisions on the future of the international arrangement on forests – an arrangement that would raise the profile of forests and forestry in national policy agendas and within the UN system; enable effective policy guidance; and provide more support to action on the ground.