

**Collaborative Partnership on Forests
Summary report**

In Attendance:

19 April

FAO: Jan Heino (Chair),
Rosalie McConnell,
Rikiya Konishi
ITTO: Amha Bin Buang
IUCN: Carole Saint-Laurent
IUFRO: Peter Mayer

Secretariats
CBD: Tim Christophersen
GEF: Dirk Gaul
UNCCD: J. Kamugisha-Ruhombe
UNFF: Jan McAlpine, Peter Csoka,
Mita Sen
UNFCCC: Maria Sanz-Sanchez

UNDP: Charles McNeill
World Bank Patrick Verkooijen

By invitation: Boen Purnama (UNFF8
Bureau Chair)

23 April

CIFOR: Robert Nasi
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Rosalie McConnell,
Michael Martin,
Rikiya Konishi
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Mita Sen
UNFCCC: Maria Sanz-Sanchez

By invitation: Tiina Vähänen (UN REDD
Secretariat)

Regrets: ICRAF, UNDP, UNEP, World Bank

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1. Opening and Welcome

In his opening remarks the Chair noted that for the past year or so the partnership had entered into a new era of collaboration and was confident that this momentum would be maintained at UNFF8 and beyond. In this regard, he mentioned the idea of developing a work programme to cover the next 2 or 3 years which would focus on the strategic interests of the Partnership, building on the strengths and comparative advantage of individual members.

2. Preparations for UNFF8

Bureau Chair Dr. Boen Purnama briefed participants on the UNFF8 programme of work. The Director of the UNFF Secretariat stressed that the role of the CPF in implementing SFM would be an important consideration during this session and suggested that the various panels and side events in which CPF members were involved would give the Partnership a visible presence throughout the 2 weeks. She also noted that an unprecedented level of cooperation would be needed in the follow-up to UNFF8.

3. CPF Statement to UNFF8

Based on comments received from members, the draft statement was finalized for the Chair's delivery during the opening plenary.

4. Request for meetings with Chairs of UNFCCC bodies

The UNFCCC Secretariat informed that a meeting with the SBSTA chair was almost confirmed and that it was still exploring possibilities to meet with the Chairs of AWG-KP, AWG-LCA and of the Adaptation Fund. She mentioned that, while the SBSTA Chair was open to also include those CPF members attending Bonn negotiations, discussions with the other Chairs would probably be bilateral.

On a related matter, the Chair will be given the opportunity to make a statement on behalf of CPF during one of the plenary sessions on the first day of SBSTA (1June).

ACTION: UNFCCC Secretariat to confirm date and time of meetings with Chairs of UNFCCC bodies.

5. Forest Day 3

At the request of CIFOR who couldn't attend the meeting on 19 April, the Executive Director of IUFRO briefed CPF members on the revised draft plan for Forest Day 3 (FD3) at COP 15. He pointed out the key areas where agreement needed to be reached: the financial formula, keynote speaker(s), and timelines, roles and responsibilities of CPF members as co-hosts. Members expressed their views on the list of potential keynote speakers, the topics of the sub-plenary and learning sessions, and the possible addition of a third sub-plenary on forest degradation. Other suggestions included the need to focus FD3 on issues in the sector that reached beyond Copenhagen and the climate change agenda, for example, capacity-building, access to benefit sharing, and progress toward SFM, including aspects related to monitoring, assessment and reporting.

Because some members indicated they were not in a position to contribute financially to FD3, it was decided to approach key potential donors who were attending UNFF8 to determine their interest in providing assistance for the event.

ACTION: CPF members to provide comments to CIFOR on the topics of learning sessions by 30 April; Chair, in collaboration with CIFOR and other interested members, to approach donors for financial assistance for FD3

6. Upcoming forest-related events – May to December 2009

Members discussed possible CPF involvement in various upcoming meetings, including the Commission on Sustainable Development (May), UNFCCC sessions (June, August and November), the Second World Congress on Agroforestry (August), UNCCD COP9 (September) and the XIII World Forestry Congress (October). It was noted that, while forests have not been prominent in the CCD discussions, an opportunity exists to highlight their role in land degradation and desertification. In this regard, the report of the CPF initiative on Forest Degradation would be ready in time for COP9. It was also mentioned that a meeting planner has been added to the Global Forest Information Service with a view to reducing overlap and promote complementarity when scheduling events.

Looking beyond 2009, the Chair indicated that the 20th session of COFO will take place in October 2010 rather than in March 2011 as a result of FAO changing its cycle of statutory body meetings, consistent with recommendations arising from the reform process. Regional forestry commissions will therefore meet in uneven years so that outcomes can inform and be considered at COFO, Council and Conference. An additional advantage of this new timetable is that agenda items and deliberations can complement and add value to topics scheduled for discussion at future UNFF sessions.

FOLLOW-UP: For further discussion during the next CPF strategic dialogue

7. CPF Strategic Dialogue

The Chair proposed convening a strategic meeting (similar to the Bonn dialogue in February 2008) to develop a work programme for next 2-3 years, looking beyond climate change to issues such as the impact of the financial crisis on sustainable forest management, multi-functionality of forests, cross-sectoral collaboration, water and other areas of potential future collaboration. Suitable timing was discussed and the Chair undertook to circulate options for members to consider.

ACTION: Chair to circulate options for timing and location of the strategic dialogue.

8. Next meeting

To be determined when responses have been received regarding the availability of members.