# THE COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP ON FORESTS' (CPF) FRAMEWORK TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE UNFF

### February 2002























### **Executive Summary**

The Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) was established in April 2001 to support the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and to enhance cooperation and coordination among its members. This was in response to an invitation issued by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to the heads of relevant forest-related organizations in October 2000, at the time the UNFF was established.

The UNFF, at its first session held in New York on 11-22 June 2001, welcomed the establishment of the CPF and invited the CPF to prepare a "work plan" to be presented at UNFF 2, as well as to deliver a "report on progress" at each session of UNFF. The CPF's Framework to Support the Work of the UNFF, or CPF Framework, responds to both of these calls. The CPF Framework has been prepared as a collaborative effort by all CPF members, with the assistance of the UNFF Secretariat.

The Framework summarizes the goals and objectives of the CPF and the UNFF's resolutions at its first session regarding the CPF. It highlights the major current and planned activities of the CPF and its member organizations in support of the UNFF's i) multi-year programme of work (MYPOW); ii) plan of action, in particular as regards facilitating the implementation of the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) and Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF); and iii) mandate regarding monitoring, assessment and reporting. The Framework also indicates the initiatives undertaken and mechanisms established to facilitate cooperation and coordination among CPF members as well as with other partners. Finally, the Framework identifies success criteria to review the effectiveness of the CPF's work.

In less than one year, since its establishment, the CPF has: met five times; developed a Policy Document that describes its objectives and working modalities; launched various joint activities and supported two country-led initiatives; initiated efforts to coordinate the many efforts already being carried out by CPF members in support of UNFF and to identify areas for further collaboration; and initiated the establishment of the CPF Network, a mechanism to enhance communication with other stakeholders. The commitment of the CPF members to support the work of the UNFF, as expressed in the statements of CPF members to UNFF 1, is being realized through increased collaboration and coordination among its members in various UNFF-related activities.

The CPF Framework is an evolving document. It will be revised annually to report on progress and to provide information on planned CPF activities in support of the UNFF.

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### 1.0 Introduction

The "Framework for Contribution of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to the Work of the UNFF", hereafter referred to as the "CPF Framework", represents both the CPF "work plan" as well as its "report on progress", invited by the United Nations Forum on Forests at its first session.

The CPF Framework demonstrates CPF members' commitment to strengthening collaboration and coordination, including through joint programming, in areas pertaining to the UNFF's work. In many instances, where the mandates of individual organizations are complementary, two or more members collaborate on specific activities. In other cases, CPF members perform tasks on their own, when it is deemed that these fall exclusively within the scope of their particular organization. The Framework describes how the CPF operates and how it aims to most effectively, achieve its goal of facilitating the work of the UNFF through individual and joint action by its members.

The CPF Framework has been prepared as a collaborative effort by all CPF members, with the assistance of the UNFF Secretariat. The CPF Framework is an evolving document. It will be revised annually to report to the UNFF on progress and to provide information on planned CPF activities in support of the UNFF.

### 2.0 Background

### 2.1 Establishment of the CPF

In October 2000, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) established the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and also invited the heads of relevant international organizations to form a Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) to support the work of the UNFF and to enhance cooperation and coordination among its participants. Furthermore, ECOSOC recommended that the CPF be formed on the basis of the previous informal, high-level Interagency Task Force on Forests (ITFF).

The ITFF was established in 1995 to support the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) (1995-97) and, subsequently, the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF) (1997-2000). The ITFF consisted of eight international forest or forest-related organizations<sup>1</sup>. It was chaired by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), as the Task Manager of Chapter 11 of Agenda 21<sup>2</sup>.

The ITFF member organizations supported the IPF/IFF process by assisting in the preparation of the reports of the UN Secretary-General on various IPF/IFF programme elements; contributing to the implementation of IPF/IFF proposals for action; supporting country-led initiatives under IPF and IFF; and enhancing coordination on forest-related

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ITFF members were: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD); Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR); Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (DESA); Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); and, World Bank.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex III.

matters among its members. Furthermore, several CPF member organizations<sup>3</sup> supported the IPF/IFF Secretariat through secondments of experienced professional staff.

In response to ECOSOC's recommendation, the CPF was established at its inaugural meeting, which was held on 4-5 April 2001 in Rome. The initial membership of the CPF consisted of the eight members of the ITFF. The CPF membership has been subsequently strengthened by the addition of three new members: the Secretariats of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Currently, the CPF consists of the following member organizations:

- Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);
- Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR);
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);
- Secretariat of the Global Environment Facility (GEF);
- International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO);
- Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (DESA);
- Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD);
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP);
- Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC);
- World Bank.

### 2.2 Endorsements of the governing bodies of CPF member organizations

The member organizations, institutions and instruments of CPF are directly responsible to their respective governing bodies, which guide and endorse their work programmes and approve their budgets. The CPF members' support to UNFF, therefore, is determined by their work programmes and their budgets. Endorsement by their governing bodies to support the work of the UNFF gives the CPF member organizations the mandate to provide such support. The securing of additional resources will enable CPF to provide more support to the UNFF.

To date, the governing bodies of FAO (FAO Conference, November 2001), ITTO (International Tropical Timber Council, May 2001 and November 2001), UNEP (Governing Council, February 2001) and CIFOR (Board of Trustees, March 2001) and GEF Council (December 2001) have welcomed the establishment of the UNFF and have endorsed the participation of these organizations in the CPF.

CPF member organizations will regularly inform their respective governing bodies of developments in the work of the UNFF and the CPF, and seek their continued endorsement of the work. Consistent messages by governments/members in the governing bodies of the various CPF organizations will help the member organizations to strengthen their support to the work of the UNFF and avoid duplicating each others' work.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> CIFOR, DESA, FAO, ITTO, UNDP and UNEP

### 2.3 Objectives and functions of the CPF

Soon after its establishment, the CPF prepared a policy document, which outlines its mission, objectives, functions and working modalities. The policy document was made available at the first session of UNFF. <sup>4</sup>

As consistent with the ECOSOC resolution, the CPF has two main objectives: i) to enhance cooperation and coordination among its members, and ii) to support the work of the UNFF.

CPF's main functions related to its support to the UNFF consist of:

- Providing support to the UNFF's multi-year programme of work (MYPOW);
- Contributing to the UNFF's plan of action, in particular to the implementation of the IPF and IFF proposals for action; and
- Contributing to monitoring, assessment and reporting in the UNFF.

The CPF's overall goals are to promote sustainable management of all types of forests, and to strengthen long-term political commitment to this end.

# 3.0 Resolutions of the UNFF at its first session concerning the CPF

At its first session, the UNFF adopted resolutions on its multi-year programme of work (1/1); (ii) plan of action (1/2); and (iii) work with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF)(1/3) <sup>5</sup>. The UNFF also welcomed the establishment of the CPF and it emphasized the roles of the CPF, both in supporting the work of the UNFF and in enhancing cooperation and policy and programme collaboration. The UNFF invited the members of the CPF to participate in each session of the UNFF, and invited the executive heads of the CPF member organizations to actively participate in the ministerial segment at UNFF 2.

In the resolutions of its first session, UNFF also invited the CPF and its member organizations to undertake the following specific tasks:

- (i) Facilitate and support the multi-year programme of work of the UNFF (paragraph 7 (a) of resolution 1/3), including by supporting the intersessional work of the UNFF (paragraph 9 (a) resolution 1/3);
- (ii) Support the UNFF plan of action, in particular by facilitating and supporting the implementation of the IPF and IFF proposals for action, including to:
  - consider what contributions CPF can make collectively and individually for supporting implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action and how to best respond to areas of particular importance to countries and to priority areas at the sub-regional, regional and global levels (paragraph 13 of resolution 1/2);

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The CPF Policy Document is available on UNFF's website: http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/forests.htm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> United Nations Forum on Forests: Report on the organizational and first sessions (E/2001/42/Rev.1)

- contribute actively to the implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action, including through their technical and financial resources (paragraph 11 of resolution 1/3);
- facilitate and/or assist the efforts of Governments to implement the IPF/IFF proposals for action (paragraph 7 (b) of resolution 1/3);
- continue implementing those IPF/IFF proposals for action specifically targeted to CPF members (paragraph 7 (c) of resolution 1/3);
- identify and mobilize various financial opportunities in agencies, mechanisms, institutions and instruments for supporting the implementation of the plan of action in developing countries (paragraph 12 of resolution 1/2);
- invite the governing bodies of the member organizations of the CPF to identify practical means for mobilizing their diverse strengths and resources to support the implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action (paragraph 1 of resolution 1/3).
- (iii) Assist the UNFF in monitoring, assessment and reporting, including to:
  - assist the UNFF in monitoring, assessment and reporting on progress towards its objectives (paragraph 8 of resolution 1/3);
  - facilitate efforts to achieve a common understanding of forest-related terms, concepts and definitions (paragraph 9 (b) of resolution 1/3);
  - reduce duplication in the reports required from countries by CPF member organizations (paragraph 9 (c) of resolution 1/3);
  - make easily accessible information on: financial resources, environmentally sound technology, to support national-capacity building for forest-related information collecting and reporting in developing countries (paragraph 4 of section B of resolution 1/1 and paragraph 9 (d) of resolution 1/3);

### Futhermore, the UNFF invited CPF to:

- present a concrete and coordinated proposal to assist the implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action (paragraph 11 of resolution 1/2);
- make proposals and commitments for implementation at each session of the Forum (paragraph 26 of resolution 1/2);
- develop a work plan, as well as success criteria, to review the effectiveness of its work (paragraph 10 of resolution 1/3);
- report on CPF's progress in supporting the UNFF at each session of the UNFF (paragraph 7 (d) of resolution 1/3);

The CPF Framework has been developed in response to these requests by the UNFF listed above. The following sections outline measures taken to date and proposed actions to be taken to fulfill CPF's two main objectives and identifies corresponding success criteria.

# 4.0 CPF's progress and planned activities related to enhancing collaboration and coordination

# 4.1 Mechanisms for improved communication and collaboration among members, including CPF's focal agency system

As a first step toward facilitating collaboration and coordination, CPF has set up a system for ensuring efficient communications among its members. Each CPF member has designated a CPF focal point through which communications are channeled.

The CPF ensures close communication also through periodic meetings, as needed, and through active communication by e-mail. Since its establishment, the CPF has held five meetings: 4-5 April 2001 in Rome, 10/16 June 2001 in New York, 6-7 August 2001 in Rome, 8-9 October 2001 in New York, and 9 November 2001 in Yokohama, Japan. The CPF also held a meeting with representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and indigenous peoples organizations (IPOs) on 13 June in New York, during the UNFF 1 session.

The CPF has established a focal agency system in the CPF that is designed to enhance coordination and cooperation among its member organizations. Consistent with the ITFF practice in supporting the IPF/IFF programme of work, the CPF members have agreed upon the designation of focal agencies (Table 1) for the UNFF elements (as identified in the UNFF MYPOW and plan of action), taking into consideration each member's mandate, competence, available resources and comparative advantage. The focal agency for an UNFF element facilitates and coordinates CPF members' activities related to the MYPOW and the plan of action, specifically those activities related to implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action, concerning that element.

The focal agency will work in cooperation with other organizations and strengthen partnerships, both among the CPF members and between the CPF and other partners. A crucial role of the focal agency will be to strengthen the coordination of activities in order to mobilize the best possible resources and expertise, and to avoid duplication and minimize overlap in the work of the CPF member organizations. The focal agency would also play an important role in channeling requests for information and assistance related to an element to the appropriate sources.

Table1. CPF focal agencies

UNFF Elements	Focal Agency
Formulation and implementation of national forest programmes	FAO
Promoting public participation	DESA(international) UNDP (national)
Combating deforestation and forest degradation	UNEP
Traditional forest related knowledge (TFRK)	CBD
Forest-related scientific knowledge	CIFOR

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The summary reports of these meetings are available on the UNFF website: http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/forests.htm

UNFF Elements	Focal Agency
Forest health and productivity	FAO
Criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management	FAO/ITTO
Economic, social and cultural aspects of forests	
(Economic aspects of forests)	World Bank
(Social and cultural aspects of forests)	CIFOR
Forest conservation and protection of unique types of forests and fragile ecosystems	UNEP
Monitoring, assessment and reporting; and concepts, terminology and definitions	FAO
Rehabilitation and conservation strategies for countries with low forest cover	UNEP
Rehabilitation and restoration of degraded lands, and the promotion of natural and planted forests	FAO
Maintaining forest cover to meet present and future needs	DESA
Financial resources	World Bank/ GEF
International trade and sustainable forest management	ITTO
International cooperation in capacity-building, transfer of and access to environmentally-sound technologies for the support of sustainable forest management	FAO

# 4.2 Mechanism for facilitating CPF collaboration with other partners: the CPF Network

The CPF has initiated the establishment of an informal network to facilitate the participation of and cooperation with a wider set of stakeholders supporting the work of the UNFF and promoting sustainable forest management. The CPF Network aims to serve as an informal and flexible mechanism to facilitate stakeholder involvement in CPF's work and to enhance communication and cooperation among organizations, instruments and processes working on forest-related matters.

The proposal to establish a CPF Network was made in the CPF Policy Document and discussed at the CPF-NGO/IPO meeting held during UNFF 1. A concept paper, which outlines the objectives, functions and possible working modalities of the Network, has been prepared in consultation with the CPF members and many interested stakeholders. It has been circulated widely and will be made available at UNFF 2. The establishment of the informal CPF Network is proposed to take place at the first meeting of the CPF Network, to be held in conjunction with UNFF 2.

### 4.3 Planning of CPF's activities: development of the CPF Framework

The development of the CPF Framework represents an effort by the CPF to plan its activities in support of the UNFF. The CPF Framework indicates various activities carried out through collective initiatives by all CPF members, joint activities on which two or more members are working, and examples of major individual activities by the respective CPF members.

As a first step in identifying potential joint and collective CPF activities and coordinating individual activities, a "narrative" on each UNFF element was drafted by the respective focal agency, with inputs from the other CPF members. These narratives, which provide information on the activities of the CPF members, have been used for the drafting of the CPF Framework and will form a basis for further strengthening of joint and collective activities by the CPF members. The narratives are included in the CFP paper, "Narratives on CPF Members' Activities Related to the UNFF Elements". <sup>7</sup>

The Framework is a mechanism to help increase collaboration and coordination among the CPF members. The annual updating of the Framework will facilitate the identification of new potential areas of collaboration between members and will help avoid duplication of effort. Joint efforts (including joint planning meetings on certain areas of UNFF work, such as on financial resources and forest biological diversity) will be strengthened beginning in 2002, leading to more focused collaboration and intensified coordination.

# 5.0 CPF's progress and planned activities in support to the UNFF's MYPOW

Support to the UNFF's MYPOW consists of activities to facilitate the deliberations at UNFF sessions and support to intersessional activities.

### 5.1 Support to UNFF sessions

Continuing the practice established during the ITFF, CPF member organizations have agreed to prepare drafts and/or provide inputs to the reports and notes of the UN Secretary-General, as well as background reports, to facilitate the UNFF's deliberations in each of its sessions. Contributions of the CPF member organizations to the preparation of substantive documentation for the UNFF sessions are made according to the agreed CPF focal agency system (see Table 1 above).

Based on guidelines provided by the UNFF Secretariat, the CPF members prepared the first drafts of several of the reports and notes of the Secretary-General to UNFF 2 (see Table 2). All drafts were circulated to CPF member organizations for their comments and inputs before submission to the UNFF Secretariat.

**Table 2**: List of draft documents prepared by CPF members for UNFF 2

CPF member	Report/Note of the Secretary-General
UNEP	<ul> <li>Report of the Secretary-General on combating deforestation and forest degradation (E/CN.18/2002/)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Report of the Secretary-General on forest conservation of unique types of forests and fragile ecosystems (E/CN.18/2002/)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Report of the Secretary-General rehabilitation and conservation strategies for countries with low forest cover (E/CN.18/2002/)</li> </ul>
FAO	<ul> <li>Report of the Secretary-General on rehabilitation and restoration of degraded lands and the promotion of natural and planted forests (E/CN.18/2002/)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Report of the Secretary-General on national forest programmes</li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The paper will be made available at UNFF 2

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	(E/CN.18/2002/)
	<ul> <li>Report of the Secretary-General on monitoring, assessment and reporting, including concepts, terminology and definitions (E/CN.18/2002/)</li> </ul>
ІТТО	<ul> <li>Note by the Secretary-General on trade and sustainable forest management (E/CN.18/2002/)</li> </ul>

All CPF member organizations participated actively in the first session of the UNFF. Similarly, they will participate in and make available their technical expertise to UNFF 2, as well as at future UNFF sessions. All CPF members plan to participate in the policy dialogue between Ministers and Heads of CPF member organizations, which is part of the Ministerial segment of UNFF 2.

### 5.2 Support by CPF members to intersessional activities of the UNFF

CPF member organizations' support to UNFF's intersessional work is primarily related to the following:

- Participating in, organizing and/or co-sponsoring other intersessional activities, such as country led-initiatives, other expert level meetings, and UNFF presessional regional/sub-regional briefings/discussions; and
- Upon request, assisting and participating in the ad hoc expert groups of the UNFF.

In the UNFF1-UNFF2 intersessional period, CPF members supported the following initiatives:

- FAO, ITTO and CIFOR supported and participated in the country-led initiative by Japan, the "International Expert Meeting on Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting on Progress toward Sustainable Forest Management", held in Yokohama, 5-8 November 2001.
- The CBD Secretariat, DESA, FAO, GEF and ITTO participated in the Workshop on Forests and Biological Diversity (Accra, 28-30 January 2002), which was hosted by the Government of Ghana, financed by the Netherlands and coorganized by the Secretariats of the CBD and UNFF. The meeting identified a general basis for collaboration between the UNFF and CBD and proposed some collaborative activities, recognizing some specific roles for CPF member organizations in these activities.
- CIFOR and ITTO, along with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the World Conservation Union (IUCN) and the Governments of Costa Rica, the United Kingdom and South Korea organized the International Expert Meeting on Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR), held in Costa Rica on 27-28 February 2002.

In the UNFF2-UNFF3 intersessional period, CPF members will be providing support to the following initiatives:

• The country-led initiative, the Expert Meeting on the Role of Planted Forests in Sustainable Forest Management, sponsored by Argentina, Australia, Canada,

Chile, Malaysia, New Zealand, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States, and supported by FAO, CIFOR and ITTO, is to be held in Wellington, New Zealand on 24-30March 2003.

- The International Conference on Criteria and Indicators (CICI-2002) will be hosted and organized by the Government of Guatemala, in cooperation with FAO, ITTO and the Governments of Finland and the United States in Guatemala City, 22-26 July 2002. CICI is a self-standing conference, but contributes to the work of the UNFF.
- The World Bank, in close collaboration with FAO and country partners, will
  organize a consultation on financing sustainable forest management and
  conservation in 2002. This meeting will lay the ground for a broader meeting with
  potential investors in 2003.
- The "FAO Expert Consultation on Global Forest Resources Assessments: linking national and international efforts" ("Kotka IV"), will be hosted by the Finnish Forest Research Institute. The meeting will be held in Kotka, Finland on 1-5 July 2002. The meeting will take stock of the outcome of the recently finalized global Forest Resources Assessment 2000 (FRA 2000) and will discuss future global assessments and their linkages to national forest inventories.

In the UNFF3-UNFF4 intersessional period, CPF members will provide support to at least the following initiative:

- Country-led initiative on Decentralization, Federal Systems on Forestry and National Forest Programmes, supported by CIFOR.
- Country-led initiative on forests on forests and poverty reduction, supported by CIFOR.

### 5.3 Support to the UNFF Secretariat

Just as several ITFF members provided professional staff to the IPF/IFF Secretariat, some CPF members are supporting the UNFF by seconding senior professionals to its Secretariat, which services both the UNFF and the CPF. The interagency UNFF Secretariat is currently in a transition phase between the IFF Secretariat and a fully operational UNFF Secretariat and is, to a large extent, composed of staff on secondment from CPF members. Currently, DESA, FAO and UNEP are each providing a senior professional to the UNFF Secretariat, and other members have expressed the intention to do so. This unique arrangement has several advantages, including: relatively rapid deployment of experienced staff; a *de facto* interagency coordination function within the Secretariat; and the ability of the UNFF Secretariat to draw on the full institutional capacity of the CPF member organizations.

# 6.0 CPF's progress and planned activities in support to the UNFF's Plan of Action

CPF contributes to the implementation of the UNFF's plan of action, in particular the IPF/IFF proposals for action, in various ways and at various levels, including national, regional and global. Between them, the CPF members are engaged in activities related to all UNFF elements. Due to their different mandates and competencies, not all CPF members are engaged in all UNFF elements, but, collectively, their activities complement each other. Members are carrying out many activities individually, are collaborating in a number of initiatives, and have launched some collective CPF activities.

This section highlights some of the major recent (i.e. within the past two years), ongoing or planned activities of the CPF, organized under the UNFF elements, with the exception of monitoring, assessment and reporting, which is covered in section 7. An emphasis is placed on describing collective and joint activities. More detailed information, particularly related to CPF members' individual activities for each of the 16 elements, is provided in CPF's "Narratives on CPF Members' Activities Related to the UNFF Elements".

Some of the activities in which CPF cooperation and collaboration has been intensified recently include: an initiative to develop a Sourcebook for Financing Sustainable Forest Management aimed to describe potential sources of funding for developing countries; launching a process to harmonize forest-related definitions; enhancement of work on criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management; and support to national forest programmes.

### 6.1 Formulation and implementation of national forest programmes

The IPF and IFF agreed that national forest programes -- which are holistic, comprehensive, multisectoral, participatory and country-led approaches to sustainable forest management at the national level – are appropriate frameworks for addressing forest sector issues and for orienting international cooperation in the forest sector. Most countries are supporting an ongoing national dialogue on forests and forest policy, while many are implementing or updating their national forest programmes. Yet many face constraints, including difficulties in achieving cross-sectoral coordination, political support, financial sustainability and adequate stakeholder participation.

All CPF members support national forest programmes in a general sense, through their assistance to countries in forest policy development, capacity building and efforts to implement sustainable forest management. Two major recent initiatives by CPF members, however, are specifically targeted at support to national forest programmes:

 PROFOR, hosted for the past four years by UNDP and as of January 2002 by the World Bank, is currently working in five countries (Cameroon, Costa Rica, Guyana, Malawi and Vietnam). Its work is aimed at strengthening national capacity in planning, implementing and financing sustainable forest management, and at generating knowledge on national forest programme processes and on critical thematic issues. • The National Forest Programme Facility is a response to IPF and IFF proposals for action calling for support to the implementation of national forest programmes. Hosted by FAO, it is a partnership of bilateral donors and international organizations supporting national forest programmes. In addition to collaboration between CPF members, the Facility's partnership extends to national development cooperation agencies and the European Commission. It aims at sharing knowledge and at strengthening capacities to empower civil society to improve governance, alleviate poverty and provide enabling conditions for sustainable forest management. The Facility has begun operations. It is providing support to national forest programme processes and is maintaining an international forest information platform. The latter will draw upon knowledge and information from CPF partners and other sources and through formal and informal networking arrangements, including a special arrangement for cooperation with PROFOR and the World Bank.

The two programmes, PROFOR and the National Forest Programme Facility, aim to complement and mutually support each other.

### 6.2 Promoting public participation

CPF members work at two levels to encourage public participation: at the international level to provide for stakeholder participation in forest-related policy dialogues; and at the national level to support country efforts in advancing participatory processes in forest policy, planning and management. DESA facilitates the participation of major groups in intergovernmental processes of ECOSOC, through multi-stakeholder dialogues, panels and roundtables. CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC also encourage input of civil society in their deliberations. At the national level, CIFOR promotes participatory action research to promote collaborative management involving local communities and other forest stakeholders. FAO promotes public participation through support to the development and implementation of participatory processes and their integration into national forest programmes, including within the framework of the National Forest Programme Facility. Similarly, the World Bank promotes public participation, both through support to forest policy development and in forest management, whereas UNEP promotes it through support to environmental policy review and analysis. GEF requires stakeholder consultation during the preparation of GEF projects and encourages stakeholder participation in project implementation. ITTO encourages the participation of various interest groups in the activities of the organization. CIFOR's research focuses on effective participation of communities and benefits to communities from sustainable forest management.

### 6.3 Combating deforestation and forest degradation

The ITTO Objective 2000 supports countries' commitment to moving as rapidly as possible towards achieving exports of tropical timber and timber products from sustainably managed sources through international cooperation and national policies and programmes and involving the Bali Partnership Fund as an additional financial mechanism. A number of recent initiatives (World Bank supported the Forest Law Enforcement and Governance Conference, held in Bali, Indonesia in September 2000, and the FAO-sponsored meeting on Policy Options for Improving Forest Law Compliance in January 2002) have helped raise awareness of the impacts of illegal

activities in the forest sector. Efforts by ITTO, CIFOR and FAO to encourage improved forest management practices, including reduced-impact logging, are also significant (see section 6.6), as are CPF members' activities related to criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management (see section 6.7).

### 6.4 Traditional forest related knowledge

Activities of CBD and GEF are directly relevant to this element. The CBD's article 8(j) provides that each contracting Party shall respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, and encourages equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices. A working group has been established by CBD to address the implementation of this article. The importance of taking into account traditional forest-related knowledge in sustainable forest management (e.g. in harvesting non-timber forest resources or in developing adaptive community-management systems), is addressed in the new draft work programme on forest biological diversity, prepared by the SBSTTA at its seventh meeting in Montreal, November 2001. Promotion of fair and equitable sharing of benefits resulting from the utilization of forest genetic resources and associated traditional is also recognized. The biodiversity operational programmes of the GEF, as a financial mechanism to the CBD, are directly responsive to article 8(j).

### 6.5 Forest-related scientific knowledge

CIFOR, the focal agency for this UNFF element, works to improve the scientific basis for sustainable forest management and to strengthen national capacities in forest-related research. The areas of CIFOR's research programme include: underlying causes of deforestation, forest degradation and changes in human welfare; forest, society and people; sustainable forest management; local people, devolution and adaptive comanagement of forests; plantation forestry on degraded or low potential sites; biodiversity and managed forests; forest products and people; research impacts; priorities and capacity evaluation; policies, technologies and global changes. FAO provides support to networks in forest research, education and extension and carries out forest policy related research. The UNFCCC works closely with the IPCC, which studies the causes and impacts of climate change, including those related to forests. ITTO supports research and development studies and projects to improve understanding of the market place, efficient production processing, industrial utilization and better forest management. UNEP monitors environmental trends through environmental assessments and early warning systems.

### 6.6 Forest health and productivity

This is considerable collaboration between CPF members in the areas of wildfires and reduced impact logging. FAO and ITTO organized an International Expert Meeting on Forest Fire Management (Rome, March 2001), which led to the establishment of an international network (including with CIFOR and IUCN) of forest fire experts and to intensified collaboration on forest fire management. A group of international and non-governmental organizations, included FAO, IUCN and WWF, supported a conference, "Communities in Flames" (Indonesia, July 2001) to explore approaches to promote participation of local communities in fire management and forest fire prevention. Three CPF members (UNEP, FAO and the World Bank) are involved in the Working Group on

Wildland Fires, recently established by the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction. FAO's guidelines on forest fire management in boreal and temperate zones complement ITTO's related work in tropical forests. FAO collects and disseminates information related to forest pests, diseases and wildfires, as well as responds to emergency requests from countries for their control. It published a Global Forest Fires Assessment 1990-2000, including profiles on more than 50 countries. FAO, ITTO and CIFOR are all working on efforts to encourage improved forest management practices, and are collaborating together on developing and refining guidelines on reduced-impact logging.

### 6.7 Criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management

The IPF and IFF recognized criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management as a valuable framework for: characterizing sustainable forest management; defining the goals of national forest programmes; and as an important tool for monitoring and reporting on the state and trends of forests and forest management and for assessing progress towards sustainability. Currently, there are nine international processes, involving some 150 countries in the development and implementation of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management. However, the degree of development and implementation of criteria and indicators varies significantly among countries and among the nine processes. There is a need to further develop and implement criteria and indicators in many countries and to enhance collaboration and compatibility between the processes.

Several CPF members (primarily FAO, ITTO, CIFOR and UNEP, as well as CBD and GEF), together with other partners such as IUFRO and IUCN, have been involved in the work on criteria and indicators over the past decade. The major emphases include support to: the development of regional processes focused on national level criteria and indicators; the development and use of criteria and indicators at the forest management unit level; and collaboration on criteria and indicators between countries and between processes. Specific activities of various CPF members include the following:

- ITTO, a pioneer in this field, has been working with its member countries for more than a decade on the development of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests (revised in 1998). It has developed national and field level implementation manuals, and provided training workshops and field testing of the manuals on how to apply the criteria and indicators. It has also developed a format for reporting on progress towards sustainable forest management using the ITTO Criteria and Indicators, collaborating with other processes and agencies to ensure that the format would also be useful for the future work of the UNFF.
- FAO provides continuing technical and financial support to a number of processes, including the Dry-Zone Africa, Near East, Tarapoto, Lepaterique, and Dry Forests in Asia. FAO assists in the development of practical guidelines on the measurement and assessment of criteria and indicators and their testing and field level implementation. FAO has also supported low forest cover countries'

<sup>8</sup> African Timber Organization, Dry Forest Asia, Dry Zone Africa, ITTO, Lepaterique, Montreal, Pan-European, Tarapoto, and the Near East Processes

work on criteria and indicators, as well as networking and field activities on criteria and indicators within the framework of the networks of model and demonstration forests in Asia, Africa and the Americas.

- UNEP has also provided support to the Dry-Zone Africa and other processes, including regional initiatives by SADC and CILSS countries.
- CIFOR has focused primarily on assisting in the development of criteria and indicators at the forest management unit (FMU) level. It has assisted a number of developing countries in field-testing of criteria and indicators for the FMU level, and in support of this work, CIFOR published the criteria and indicators tool box series in 1999.
- The CBD and GEF are involved in supporting the development of indicators for biological diversity. Indicators are cross-cutting issues in the work programmes of CBD. The draft work programme on forest biological diversity recommended by SBSTTA at its seventh meeting in November 2001 suggests activities related to the development and implementation of international, regional and national criteria and indicators based on key regional, sub-regional and national measures within the framework of sustainable forest management.

CPF members are also collaborating to strengthen international work on criteria and indicators and to increase cooperation and coordination among the processes. FAO and ITTO will co-sponsor the International Conference on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management (CICI), which will be held on 22-26 July 2002 in Guatemala City. The meeting is hosted by the Government of Guatemala and supported also by the Governments of the United States and Finland. The main objectives of CICI-2002 are to: strengthen the elaboration and application of criteria and indicators towards sustainable forest management; promote policy commitment with respect to criteria and indicators as tools for sustainable forest management; and strengthen institutional capacity and political commitment for sustainable forest management. The conference is held on the recommendation of the FAO/ITTO/UNEP/CIFOR/IUFRO Expert Meeting on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management held at FAO Headquarters, Rome in November 2000 and will build on earlier initiatives, such as the FAO/ITTO Expert Consultation on Harmonization of Criteria and Indicators (Rome, 1995) and the government-led initiative, the Intergovernmental Seminar on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management (Helsinki, 1996).

The focus of future work of the CPF in support of criteria and indicators processes will be on supporting the national development and implementation of criteria and indicators processes and to streamline international reporting.

### 6.8 Economic, social and cultural aspects of forests

The World Bank has proposed to develop collaborative activities between CPF members related to policy, market and institutional problems that prevent the full value of forests values to be fully realized. Activities may include an analysis of market failures that prevent sustainable forest management; monitoring of macroeconomic and cross-sectoral impacts; activities to encourage good governance; efforts to enable civil society

participation in forest management and monitoring; development of a diverse business sector (including small business enterprises).

# 6.9 Forest conservation and protection of unique types of forests and fragile ecosystems

A number of CPF members are engaged in activities related to this element, including the following:

- GEF has contributed more than US\$500 million towards forest conservation and protection of unique types of forests and fragile ecosystems for country-driven requests, in response to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The projects, which are being carried out in over 50 countries, are implemented through the World Bank, UNDP, UNEP and in-country executing agencies.
- CBD has addressed protected areas in its programme of work on forest biological diversity, which was adopted by the fourth Conference of the Parties in Bratislava, May 1998. Protected areas and sustainable use of forest biological diversity are in many ways addressed in the draft programme of work on forest biological diversity, recommended by SBSTTA in November 2001. Also the need to assess the comprehensiveness, representativeness and adequacy of protected forest area networks is recognized, as well as the need their proper management, and if needed, establishing restoration to complement the network of protected areas.
- Various CPF members are involved in large scale ecological corridors for forest conservation, including one in meso-America supported by GEF, the World Bank and UNDP, among others, and the World Bank's corridor project in rain forest regions in Brazil.
- ITTO has supported the establishment and management of transboundary protected tropical forest areas.
- CIFOR, ITTO, UNDP, UNEP, the World Bank, FAO, in cooperation with WWF, IUCN and other NGOs, support field activities, capacity building and policy development in conservation and protected area management.
- UNEP and its World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) play an important role in collection and dissemination of data on protected areas, and FAO's FRA 2000 provided information on the area of forest under protected area status.

# 6.10 Rehabilitation and conservation strategies for countries with low forest cover

The Tehran Process, which was established at the expert meeting on special needs and requirements of developing countries with low forest cover and unique types of forest, held in Tehran in October 1999, provides an important framework for CPF members' cooperation and collaboration among low forest cover countries (LFCCs). The UN Convention to Combat Desertification, and its action programmes to combat desertification, provide key mechanisms for addressing issues of countries with low forest cover. Collaboration between CCD, CBD and UNFCCC on actions related to forests is expected to increase. CPF members' activities in LFCCs include support for the development of national forest programmes and related policies in LFCC (FAO, UNEP), sustainable management of natural forests and restoration of forest cover (FAO), and for efforts to increase public participation in forest and land management (FAO); and research on the sustainable utilization of Miombo woodlands (CIFOR). In

addition, FAO together with the LFCC Secretariat, UNEP, the International Centre for Research in Agroforestry, and various regional and sub-regional organizations are supporting the development and implementation of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management in dry zones of Africa, Asia and the Near East. In an associated effort, case studies are currently being prepared in several LFCC to evaluate the role of planted forests, trees outside forests and the significance of non-wood forest products.

# 6.11 Rehabilitation and restoration of degraded lands, and the promotion of natural and planted forests

UNEP and the Secretariat to the UNCCD are collaborating on Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands (LADA), a project to provide standardized information and methodologies for land degradation assessment at national, regional and global levels. GEF and FAO are also supporting the effort. Funding has been secured to expand the scope of the assessment to address cross-cutting issues of land degradation, in response to recommendations made at a workshop held in Rome in December 2000. ITTO is publishing guidelines on the rehabilitation of degraded tropical forests and forest land, and is assisting member countries to enhance capacities in these areas

Recent, on-going and planned initiatives of CPF members, working together with the involvement of other international organizations such as IUCN, WWF and International Center for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF) with regard to planted forests, include the following:

- International Conference on Timber Plantation Development, Philippines, November 2000, sponsored by the Philippines, ITTO and FAO;
- Planning of an International Expert Meeting on the Role of Planted Forests in Sustainable Forest Management in New Zealand in 2003; work by FAO, UNEP, ICRAF and regional and international organizations to enhance the role of planted forests, trees outside forests and non-wood forest products in low forest cover countries:
  - Research by CIFOR on plantation forestry on degraded or low potential sites;
- FAO's work in developing technical approaches to promoting the sustainable management of forests and biological diversity, including in fragile ecosystems; and
- GEF's Integrated Ecosystem Management Program, launched in March 2000, which addresses natural resource management in an integrated and cross-sectoral approach.

### 6.12 Maintaining forest cover to meet present and future needs

Maintaining forest cover is closely related to many of the other UNFF elements, principally those on: combating desertification and forest degradation; forest health and productivity; forest conservation and protection; rehabilitation and conservation strategies for countries with low forest cover; and rehabilitation and restoration of degraded lands, and the promotion of natural and planted forests. CPF activities related specifically to meeting future needs, include projections and outlook studies. The major such efforts include FAO's series of global and regional outlook studies, UNEP's Global Environmental Outlook report, and the Millenium Ecosystem Assessment, a collaborative undertaking by the Secretariats of the CBD, UNCCD, Ramsar Convention, the World Bank and the World Resources Institute and others.

### 6.13 Financial resources

The international dialogue on sustainable forest management is influenced, on one hand, by the "global agenda" that includes concerns about deforestation and forest degradation, climate change, loss of biological diversity and, on the other hand, by local expectations and needs related to economic development and poverty alleviation. It has been difficult for the two perspectives to meet and to bridge the gap between the political expectations and the overall financial means available. The CPF has the potential to play an important role by supporting the UNFF dialogue on financing, making information available on existing sources of external financing, seeking new or alternative financing mechanisms for sustainable forest management, and stimulating discussion on how to utilize existing resources more effectively. In addition, the CPF could assist in helping countries create a conducive investment climate, related to good governance and a more developed institutional setting.

Recent, on-going and planned CPF activities include the following:

- CIFOR organized the International Workshop on Financing Sustainable Forest Management, with co-sponsorship of several countries, held in Oslo from 22-25 January 2001. The workshop provided a basis for further dialogue in UNFF on financing SFM. It drew attention to the factors that create an enabling environment for investment by the public and private sectors. This workshop builds upon on the Croydon Workshop on Financing of Sustainable Forest Management (Croydon, September 1999), organized by UNDP, and an earlier initiative during the IPF, Workshop on Financial Mechanisms and Sources of Financial Assistance and Technology Transfer for Sustainable Forest Management (Pretoria, June 1996), co-sponsored by UNDP.
- The CPF is developing a Sourcebook on Financing for Sustainable Forest
  Management, as a collective activity currently facilitated by FAO. The
  Sourcebook is intended to facilitate information dissemination on available
  funding to assist developing countries. It is an interactive database on sources of
  external financing (e.g., from bilateral and multilateral development agencies,
  foundations, etc.), which will be continuously updated.

The World Bank plans to launch an initiative on new and innovative financing sources, with input from other CPF members. The World Bank will prepare a paper that identifies key investment requirements and potential partnerships that can foster new and innovative financing sources. It will cover the following issues: i) the nature and size of the current and potential financial sources; (ii) the importance of utilizing the existing financial resources more effectively; (iii) the conditions that must be met to attract new capital (especially private); and (iv) prospective new opportunities to attract financing of global values. Together with ITTO, and in close collaboration with FAO and country partners, the World Bank is planning on organizing a consultation on financing sustainable forest management and conservation in 2002. This meeting will lay the ground for a broader meeting with potential investors in 2003. Based on the paper mentioned above and the recommendations of the 2002 meeting, the World Bank, in conjunction with the other CPF members, will prepare a work programme that specifies the concrete steps of the work of CPF in financial resources and the reporting to UNFF.

### 6.14 International trade and sustainable forest management

ITTO, as an intergovernmental organization dedicated to the promotion of international trade in tropical timber, the sustainable management of tropical forests and the development of tropical forest industries, undertakes many activities related to this element. These include studies on timber and non-timber markets and marketing, studies and projects related to processing and forest industries, activities related to timber certification and sustainable timber production and trade, and an annual review and assessment of the world timber situation.

FAO's related activities include collection and publication of forest product trade statistics; studies on forest processing, marketing and trade; training workshops on multilateral trade negotiations, including those related to forests; and inclusion of forest trade information it its "State of the World's Forests" and outlook studies. An effort will be carried out, commencing in 2002, to explore opportunities for enhanced collaboration and collective activities.

# 6.15 International cooperation in capacity-building, transfer of and access to environmentally-sound technologies for the support of sustainable forest management

This is an overarching area of work, which is an essential pat of the CPF member organizations' work related to all other UNFF elements. CPF members' activities related to this element include: CIFOR's dissemination of results of forest-related research and efforts to strengthen research capacity in developing countries; FAO's support to regional research networks and efforts to strengthen forest education and extension systems; FAO and ITTO's efforts to promote access to and transfer of technologies in support of sustainable forest management, conservation and development; UNEP's work to disseminate information on and facilitate adoption of environmentally sound technologies in developing countries; and DESA's and UNDP's assistance to developing countries in capacity-building related to socio-economic development.

# 7.0 CPF's Contribution to Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting in the UNFF

At its first session, the UNFF invited CPF to undertake various specific tasks related to monitoring, assessment and reporting, as outlined in section 3. These relate both to: (i) assisting the UNFF in developing a mechanism for monitoring, assessment and reporting on progress towards meeting its objectives; and (ii) facilitating the implementation of IPF/IFF proposals for action related to monitoring, assessment and reporting. The "Report of the Secretary-General on Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting, including Concepts, Terminology and Definitions" to UNFF 2 addresses both of these. The following section outlines CPF's activities in support of these efforts.

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<sup>9</sup> E/CN.18/2002/8

# 7.1 CPF activities related to the development of a monitoring, assessment and reporting mechanism in the UNFF

CPF members were involved in a recent country-led initiative related to monitoring, assessment and reporting in the UNFF. FAO, ITTO and CIFOR supported and participated in the country-led initiative by Japan, the "International Expert Meeting on Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting on Progress toward Sustainable Forest Management", held in Yokohama, 5-8 November 2001. Both FAO and ITTO prepared papers for the expert meeting. The results of the meeting, which are being made available to UNFF2, provide useful input to the UNFF deliberations on this subject.

The UNFF, in its resolutions, has invited the CPF to play a very active role in assisting the UNFF in monitoring, assessment and reporting. As reported above, the CPF members have already taken concrete steps to facilitate efforts to achieve a common understanding of forest-related terms, concepts and definitions; initiated efforts to reduce reporting burden; and collected and made forest-related information more easily accessible. The CPF will actively contribute to the *ad-hoc* expert group on monitoring, assessment and reporting, which will be established at UNFF 2. Considering the tasks already undertaken by the CPF related to monitoring, assessment and reporting and CPF members' experience and technical expertise in this regard, the *ad-hoc* expert group might benefit from having CPF members participate as members of the expert group. Furthermore, CPF members, if invited, could provide support to the *ad-hoc* expert group by preparing background documentation or other inputs, as necessary.

# 7.2 CPF activities related to implementing IPF/IFF proposals for action on monitoring, assessment and reporting

IPF, IFF and UNFF have recommended that various actions be taken on monitoring, assessment and reporting on forests. CPF members' related efforts include: carrying out global forest resources assessments; enhancing development and use of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management; harmonizing and streamlining reporting requirements among CPF member organizations; enhancing common understanding of forest-related terms, concepts and definitions; and assisting in strengthening national capacity for collection, analysis and dissemination of forest-related data and information. Many CPF members have significantly expanded their activities and increased collaboration among themselves in the past few years in all the areas listed above.

The major activities of CPF members related to the IPF/IFF proposals for action and the UNFF 1 resolutions (other than on criteria and indicators which are discussed in section 6.2) are summarized below. Many activities also involve partners other than CPF members.

### Concepts, Terminology and Definitions

FAO, in collaboration with the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO) and other partners, developed a core set of harmonized definitions for forest and forest-related terms for the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2000 (FRA 2000).

An Expert Meeting on Harmonizing Forest-related Definitions for Use by Various Stakeholders, was organized by FAO, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

(IPCC) and CIFOR together with the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO) on 23-25 January 2002 in Rome. It launched a process to review, improve and harmonize forest-related definitions, which are used for various purposes and international agreements (e.g., UNFCCC, CBD, UNCCD). The meeting recommended that the follow-up work on harmonizing forest-related definitions be continued under the umbrella of CPF.

FAO is also collaborating with IUFRO on the development of a Glossary of Frequently Used Concepts and Terms in the field of forest genetic resources, as well as on terminology related to forest biological diversity, non-wood forest products and climate change.

### National and international forest assessments

The Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA 2000) carried out by FAO in cooperation with its member countries, donors and partners, was completed in 2001. It provides up-to-date information on the extent and condition of the world's forest resources in 212 countries and on a broader set of forest values than any of the previous FRAs. Planning for the next global forest resources assessment and related activities in national capacity has commenced.

### Harmonized approaches to data collection, analysis and reporting

A single reporting format, the ITTO/UNECE/FAO/EUROSTAT Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire, has been developed by these organizations to streamline the collection of country data on forest products production, consumption and trade.

Work on harmonized approaches to reporting is also under way in the criteria and indicators processes. For example, ITTO, using its criteria and indicators, is developing, in collaboration with other processes, a format for reporting on assessing progress towards sustainable forest management, with a view to also facilitating the future work of the UNFF.

Convention secretariats and other international organizations are working on harmonizing national reporting on biological diversity. This effort is carried out under the auspices of the Environmental Management Group and is facilitated by UNEP, including by its WCMC.

### **Databases**

Many CPF members have long been active in providing data related to forests, and will continue to do so in the future. FAO maintains extensive databases on forests, based on mandates given and requests made by its member countries. The databases include the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2000 (FRA 2000), FAO Yearbook of Forest Products, and FAO Non-Wood Forest Products Database. These and other forest-related data and information bases are available through a Forestry Information System (FORIS), which is a web-based tool to store and organize global forest information. FAO's State of the World's Forests, which is published every two years, provides current information on the status of forests and the forest sector that draws upon information from many of the above-mentioned sources. FAO, through the National Forest Programme Facility, is consolidating a database for national forest programme implementation, including support to the CPF initiative on the Sourcebook on Financing Sustainable Forest Management.

Databases managed by other CPF members include: the ITTO Annual Review and Assessment of the World Timber Situation; UN-ECE/FAO – Timber Bulletin; UNEP-WCMC Protected Areas Database; and the CPF initiative on the Sourcebook on Financing Sustainable Forest Management. In addition, DESA (Secretariat of the Commission on Sustainable Development) and the Secretariats of CBD, UNCCD and UNFCCC develop and maintain systems for countries to report on their implementation of the agreed actions. All of these databases and national reports are available on the websites of the respective organizations.

### **Capacity Building**

CPF members are carrying out various activities to assist developing countries in building capacities to monitor, assess and report on forests. For example, FAO and the European Commission facilitate projects to strengthen national capacities to collect, analyze and produce improved information for policy making in the forest sector in Africa, the Caribbean, Asia and Latin America. ITTO has funded 35 projects for the development of national forest statistical information systems in 18 member countries.

### 8.0 Reporting and assessment of CPF's progress

The present report provides information on many of the ongoing and planned activities of the CPF and its member organizations in support of the work of the UNFF. The CPF plans to report to the UNFF on an annual basis through the updating of the CPF Framework.

The UNFF invited the CPF to develop success criteria to review the effectiveness of its work, and to present these success criteria at UNFF 2 (Para 10 of the UNFF 1 resolution 1/3). The CPF's success should be judged against its progress in carrying out its two major objectives, including the three major functions under the second objective. The following criteria of success are proposed for each:

- 1) Objective 1: enhanced collaboration and coordination among CPF members
  - Annual updating of the CPF Framework carried out
  - Attendance at and number of meetings held, including joint planning meetings
  - Joint and collective activities undertaken
  - Concrete steps taken to eliminate overlap and duplication of work by CPF members
  - Consistent messages given to the CPF members by their governing bodies related to their respective work programmes and their support to UNFF and CPF
  - CPF Network functioning efficiently in support to the implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action
- 2) Objective 2: provision of support to the UNFF through 2a) the MYPOW
  - Participation of CPF members in the preparation of Secretary-General's reports for UNFF sessions
  - Support to intersessional meetings provided by CPF members
  - Secondments to the UNFF Secretariat by CPF members made
  - Strengthened political commitment toward sustainable forest management
- 2b) the Plan of Action: facilitating the implementation of IPF/IFF proposals for action

- IPF/IFF proposals for action targeted at international organizations or CPF carried out
- IPF/IFF proposals for action targeted at countries supported by CPF members
- Internal and external resources devoted to implementation of IPF/IFF proposals for action increased

### 2c) monitoring, assessment and reporting

- Assistance given to UNFF to develop the UNFF's MAR function, including a reporting system for the UNFF
- Progress made in reaching a common understanding of forest-related definitions
- Steps taken to streamline reporting requirements of CPF members in order to reduce the reporting burden on countries
- Increased quality and accessibility of forest-related information made possible by CPF members

These criteria will be used by CPF to assess its success as an input to the review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests to be carried out at the fifth session of UNFF.