

# Summary Report of the 4<sup>th</sup> CPF Network Meeting

24 September 2003

Quebec, Canada

## 1. Opening of the meeting

The fourth meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests Network was co-chaired by Ms. Kanta Kumari, Secretariat of the Global Environment Facility, and Mr. William Street, International Federation of Building and Wood Workers. The co-chairs opened the meeting by welcoming everybody. About 40 people participated in the meeting.

In his remarks, Mr. Hosny El-Lakany, Assistant Director-General of FAO Forestry Department and the Chair of CPF highlighted the willingness of CPF members to reach out to stakeholders and engage them in CPF initiatives. The CPF Network is serviced by the Secretariat of the UN Forum on Forests. Mr. Pekka Patosaari, Coordinator and Head of the Secretariat, highlighted in his remarks the important linkages between the CPF Network and the multi-stakeholder dialogue in the sessions of UNFF.

## 2. Overview and background of the establishment of the CPF Network

The UNFF Secretariat provided an overview and background of the CPF Network since this was the first meeting for several participants. The CPF Network is an informal network open to all interested individuals and international, regional and national organizations, institutions, instruments and processes, such as regional processes, development banks, environmental and development non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples' organizations, the scientific community and private sector entities. It now number almost 200 participants.

The CPF Network has been established to facilitate a meaningful interface and information sharing among a wide range of partners in support of the work of UNFF, including implementation of the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF). The CPF Network brings together a broad range of expertise, resources and perspectives that can enrich the dialogue and enhance collaborative action to promote sustainable forest management.

The objectives of the CPF Network are:

- Facilitate stakeholders' involvement in CPF's work in support of UNFF.
- Enhance communication among a wide range of stakeholders; and
- Further enhance collaboration and cooperation among organizations, institutions, instruments and processes working on forest-related matters.

## 3. Preparations for UNFF 4 and the ad-hoc expert groups

UNFF Secretariat provided a brief update on the agenda of UNFF 4 (Geneva, 3-14 May 2004), and preparations for the session. CPF members are drafting the official documents on the following topics to be addressed at the session:

- Social and cultural aspects of forests;
- Forest-related scientific knowledge;
- Traditional forest-related knowledge;
- Monitoring, assessment and reporting, including concepts, terminology and definitions;
- Criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management.

Mr. Street, as one of the focal points for the major groups, informed the meeting participants about the preparatory process for the multi-stakeholder dialogue at UNFF 4. Groups are preparing their position papers by 4 February 2004. Major groups have also been invited to submit voluntary reports on their

contribution to the implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action<sup>1</sup> to the UNFF Secretariat by 8 November 2003, at the same time as countries have been asked to submit their national reports, so as to enable inclusion of the information in the preparation of the Secretary-General's reports for UNFF 4. Participants in the CPF Network were encouraged to contact major group focal points to provide input to the multi-stakeholder dialogue and documents prepared by major groups for UNFF 4.

The UNFF Secretariat also informed participants on the establishment of UNFF ad hoc expert groups. Two groups will meet in Geneva in December 2003. The group on Approaches to Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting is scheduled to meet 8-12 December and the group on Finance and Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies will meet 15-19 December. For more information on the ad hoc expert groups and the fourth session of the UNFF, please visit the UNFF web site: [www.un.org/esa/forests](http://www.un.org/esa/forests).

#### **4. CPF Network activities and contributions to CPF initiatives**

FAO provided an update on some of CPF's joint initiatives, including the on-line CPF Sourcebook for funding sustainable forest management [www.fao.org/forestry/cpf-sourcebook](http://www.fao.org/forestry/cpf-sourcebook). The Sourcebook has recently been updated based on considerable input, comments and suggestions from CPF members and CPF Network participants. It is being translated in French and Spanish and it is also available (in English) in the National Forest Programme Facility's CD-ROM. All CPF Network participants were encouraged to use the Sourcebook and to further disseminate information to their own networks. A CPF Sourcebook flyer has been prepared and copies can be obtained by contacting FAO, at Edward.Kilawe@fao.org.

IUCN presented preliminary ideas for a new joint CPF initiative. The proposal is to establish a learning and knowledge sharing mechanism, which could facilitate action learning in implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action at the national and sub-national levels. The proposed learning and knowledge-sharing mechanism would consist of:

- a networking tool for exchanging experiences and lessons learned across different levels
- a searchable information clearinghouse to support the networking tool

CPF members are discussing the initiative and seek to involve CPF Network participants as soon as the overall framework has been further developed. Participants in the meeting welcomed this new initiative and mentioned on-going initiatives that could contribute to it. Several participants stressed that there is a clear need to reach out to people on the ground who are directly involved in implementation of IPF/IFF proposals for action but often are not aware of policy development at the international level.

#### **5. Brief report on matters of interest to other CPF Network participants**

CPF Network participants supported the proposal that at each meeting they would have an opportunity to report on matters of interest to other participants, such as meetings held and planned, as well as other activities that are relevant to the work of UNFF. This will be a standing agenda of future CPF Network meetings.

#### **6. Next CPF Network meeting**

Participants agreed to organize the next CPF Network meeting in conjunction with the fourth session of UNFF in May 2004.

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<sup>1</sup> As per Para 22 of the UNFF Plan of Action