



## International Wildland Fire Summit Paper #4

### Strategy for Future Development of International Cooperation in Wildland Fire Management

#### Annex 1

July 21, 2003 Draft

The outcomes of the Conference and Summit and the work of the ILC are built on a series of actions and the sustained work of many groups, both formally and informally to promote and advance fire management activities throughout the world. Without an appreciation of the work that has gone on prior to this effort, the wildland fire community runs the risk of expending energy on redundant activities, or worse, missing opportunities to build and leverage the valuable work of others.

One of the actions envisioned for the Summit participants is an agreement to develop an **organizational structure** for international liaison in wildland fire issues. This Conference follows the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> conferences sponsored by the North American Forestry Commission (NAFC) – Fire Management Working Group (FMWG). NAFC is one of several forestry commissions established over 35 years ago by FAO. The work of the FMWG is a good example of how established organizations combined with the individual, or ad hoc, efforts have resulted in international agreements, bi-lateral programs among the member agencies, and, most notably, the three international conferences. With the success of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Conference and Summit as a benchmark, the ILC and the conference organizers envision an organizational structure that builds on the strengths of both the established organizations, and the creative energy of the ILC.

Examples of the established mechanisms include the United Nations programs and conventions, non-UN international organizations and programmes, the civil society, and the Global Fire Monitoring Centre (GFMC). Examples of individual or ad hoc efforts are the work of the ILC at international and regional levels and some of the individual and collective fire networks being established by the ISDR Global Wildland Fire Network.

Below is a summary of some of the major programs and activities that can be the building blocks for future activities within the wildland fire community. It is suggested that Summit participants become familiar with the work of these groups and use them to leverage ongoing and future activities.

- ♦ The Global Wildland Fire Network under the auspices of the UN-International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, Inter-Agency Task Force, and the GFMC;
- ♦ The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), through the Emergency Services Branch, Environmental Emergencies Section (EES), in coordination of international assistance in case of wildland fire disasters;
- ♦ The Type II Partnership "Integrated Approach to Prevention for and Response to Environmental Emergencies in Support of Sustainable Development" coordinated by UN-OCHA;
- ♦ The Global Forest Fire Assessment 2005 within the frame of the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2005 supported by the FAO, the GFMC, and the Global Observation of Forest Cover/Global Observation of Landcover Dynamics (GOFC/GOLD) - a project of the Global Terrestrial Observing System [GTOS] programme, sponsored by the Integrated Global Observing Strategy [IGOS].

The ILC envisions several future activities that will lead up to the 4<sup>th</sup> International Wildland Fire Conference and Summit in 2007. These activities will build on the actions of the established groups and programs and will continue the work of the ILC, the FMWG, and the Australasian Fire Authorities Council (AFAC) the organizers of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Conference and Summit in Sydney. The ILC, and its partners, will work to gain widespread support and involvement to build global support and participation in the 4<sup>th</sup> Conference. Some key activities include:

- ♦ A post-Summit activity to prepare an input paper to the UN General Assembly that seeks the support of countries to strengthen international cooperation in response to wildland fire disasters and post fire mitigation;
- ♦ Additional support for the ILC organizational structure from individual agencies and international organizations and programs;
- ♦ Participation with FAO, GFMC and GOFC-GOLD in support of the Global Forest Fire Assessment 2005;
- ♦ Recruit additional agencies and international organizations and programs to fund and staff the Global Wildland Fire Network and the ILC;
- ♦ Preparation for the follow-up Global Wildland Fire Summit.