

**COFO 2005**  
**Side event**  
**Invasive species and their impact on forest health**  
**Friday 18 March, 2005**  
**15.30-16.30, Green Room**

**Chair**

Dr Clement Chilima

Assistant Director of Forestry, Forest Research Institute of Malawi (FRIM)

**Co-Chair**

Mr Peter Holmgren, Chief, Forest Resources Development Service, FAO

What *are* invasive species? Some species have the potential to spread outside their native or cultivated range and adversely affect forest ecosystems, forest tree species and forest resources – but are they always bad? This meeting aims to provide a neutral forum for exchanging information, experiences and viewpoints on this important emerging issue.

**Objectives**

The meeting will highlight the increasing awareness and concerns over invasive species in forests, document their impact on forest health, human activities and sustainable development, and present potential mechanisms for management that are being used in forestry and other sectors.

**Schedule of presentations**

- A Global Perspective on Forest Invasive Species: The problem, causes and consequences;  
**Dr Robert Mangold, Director, Forest Health Protection, USDA Forest Service**
- What is the North American Forestry Commission doing about Invasive Species?  
**Dr Robert Mangold, Director, Forest Health Protection, USDA Forest Service**
- Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN)  
**Dr David Rhodes, Manager, Forest Policy Coordination, MAF, New Zealand**
- Forest Invasive Species Network for Africa (FISNA)  
**Dr Clement Chilima, Assistant Director of Forestry, FRIM**
- International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)  
**Dr Niek van der Graaff, Chief AGPP, FAO; IPPC Secretariat**

Followed by open discussions

**FAO contact point for further details on invasive species:**

**Gillian Allard**

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**For further information on the Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network please contact:**

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