

Summary Report of the Eighth Meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests

3-4 October 2002, New York

Chair:	Mr. Hosny El-Lakany (FAO)	UNEP:	Mr. Bai-Mass Taal
CBD Secretariat:	Mr. Hamdallah Zedan Mr. Jo Mulongoy	World Bank:	Mr. David Cassels Mr. Nalin Kishor
DESA:	Mr. Jorge Illueca	UNFF Sec.:	Ms. Susan Braatz Ms. Emilie Maubert
FAO:	Ms. Tiina Vähänen Mr. Edward Kilawe		Ms. Catalina Santamaria
GEF Secretariat:	Mr. Jairo Montoya		Ms. Abby Sarmac
ICRAF:	Mr. Tony Simons		Ms. Mia Söderlund
ITTO:	Mr. Mahendra Joshi	UNFF 3 Bureau:	Mr. Hossein Moeini
IUCN:	Mr. Andrew Deutz		Meybodi
UNCCD Sec.:	Mr. Melchiade Bukuru		

1. Opening of the meeting

Mr. Hosny El-Lakany, Assistant Director-General, Forestry Department FAO and the Chair of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), welcomed all participants to the eighth meeting of the CPF. In his opening remarks, he highlighted the significance of the meeting, in particular as regards to the preparations for the third session of the UN Forum on Forests, to be held in Geneva, 26 May to 6 June 2003, as well as the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development. In addition, he reiterated the good practice of maintaining informality and openness in discussion among partners.

Mr. Jorge Illueca, Officer-in-Charge of the UNFF Secretariat, welcomed participants to New York on behalf of Mr. Pekka Patosaari, the new Coordinator and Head, who, due to other commitments, was unable to attend the CPF meeting. It is envisaged that Mr. Patosaari will join the UNFF Secretariat in the beginning of November.

Mr. Hossein Moeini Meybodi, Chairman of the UNFF 3 Bureau, briefed CPF members on the outcome of the Bureau meeting on 20 September 2002. He emphasized the forest-related outcome of the WSSD, the ad hoc expert groups to be established under UNFF and the preparation of the official documentation for UNFF 3. Regarding the CPF, the UNFF Bureau is looking forward to working closely with the CPF to ensure a successful session of the UNFF. Mr. Moeini stressed the importance of the CPF reporting on its progress in implementing UNFF decisions and resolutions addressed to the Partnership.

The opening remarks were followed by the adoption of the agenda, see Annex 1.

2. Preparations for UNFF 3

UNFF Secretariat presented an overview of the documentation for UNFF 3. Secretary-General's reports are currently being prepared on (i) economic aspects of forests, (ii) forest health and productivity, and (iii) maintaining forest cover to meet present and future needs by respective CPF focal agencies. In addition, the UNFF Secretariat is preparing a Note by the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination, which will highlight

UNFF's relation to other fora, instruments and bodies, such as the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Convention on Biological Diversity, and functional commissions of the ECOSOC. It was emphasized that all documentation will be prepared in close consultation with CPF members and that all S-G Reports and Notes would be given due consideration at UNFF 3. Participants also briefly discussed the draft guidelines for the preparation of voluntary reports by countries to UNFF, including the suggested report format. CPF members emphasized that any guidelines should be simple and avoid additional reporting burden to countries. CPF members agreed to provide their detail comments in writing by 9 October on both the national reporting format and the outline of the Note by the S-G on enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination.

The UNFF Secretariat further informed CPF members of planned country- and organization-led initiatives and shared guidelines for initiatives in support of the UNFF. It was noted that several CPF members are, as collaborating partners, working with governments on many of the proposed country- and organization-led initiatives.

3. CPF focal agencies

The new members, IUCN and ICRAF, agreed to undertake the responsibility of being focal agencies and collaborating agencies for certain UNFF elements. Other CPF members indicated their readiness to become collaborating agencies for certain additional UNFF elements, see table 1 in Annex 2.

4. CPF Policy Document

CPF members welcomed the revised CPF Policy Document. A few amendments were agreed upon. CPF members further agreed to provide their final comments by Wednesday 9 October. FAO kindly offered to translate the CPF Policy Document into French and Spanish.

5. CPF Framework

UNFF Secretariat recalled the process used to draft the first CPF Framework (2002), including the preparation of the narratives on the 16 UNFF elements.

It was agreed that CPF focal agencies would have another opportunity to update their respective narratives by the next CPF meeting and that they could be used further in the development of the CPF Framework 2003 and if need be, made available on the CPF website.

UNFF Secretariat introduced the draft outline for the CPF Framework 2003. Suggestions were made to add a section on CPF's support to UNFF and a sub-section on the role of CPF in supporting the Millennium Development Goals. CPF members agreed to provide comments on the outline by Wednesday 9 October 2002.

It was agreed that the CPF Framework 2003 would be tabled as an information document at UNFF 3. As such, it will have an official document number, however, it will not be tabled for deliberations by governments. UNFF Secretariat agreed to arrange for the translation into French and Spanish.

6. CPF Task Force on Harmonizing and Streamlining Forest-Related Reporting

FAO briefed CPF members on the establishment of the Task Force. The objectives and preliminary work plan were highlighted. The presentation was followed by general comments by CPF members on the terms of reference. CPF members endorsed the terms of reference with a few minor amendments, but noted that final comments should be provided to FAO by 9 October. Several CPF members stressed that integrated information management systems could facilitate reporting. CPF members also expressed the need to coordinate this effort with complimentary efforts, such as that carried out by the Environmental Management Group, under the auspices of UNEP, as well as share the outcome of the Task Force, through CPF, with other intergovernmental fora, not only UNFF. CIFOR expressed interest in joining the Task Force. UNFCCC Secretariat's offer to host the first meeting of the Task Force on 19-20 November, 2002, in Bonn was relayed to CPF members.

7. Review of the outcome of COP 6 CBD

CBD Secretariat presented an overview of the decision of the sixth meeting of the Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to forests, including the VI/22 Forest Biological Diversity (including the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity) and VI/12 Ecosystem Approach. The CBD Secretariat highlighted that the decision VI/22 invited CPF members to contribute to various activities. It pointed out that, in its decisions, the Conference of the Parties of the CBD frequently called upon international organizations to provide support to specific activities.

Participants expressed their willingness in principle to support the activities addressed to CPF member organizations, as outlined in the CBD decision VI/22. The continued collaboration and coordination on forest issues among CPF members was reiterated. However, some concern was expressed over the increasing expectations for CPF to support activities beyond its primary objective to support the work of the UNFF, and that invitations from CPF members' governing bodies could overwhelm CPF members' human and financial capacity.

The roles of CPF members individually and the CPF collectively in supporting the CBD's COP 6 decisions related to forests were discussed. It was recognized that individual CPF members were already involved, through their current programmes, in activities supportive of the CBD work programme on forest biological diversity, and would continue to do so. Furthermore, there was general agreement that CPF could provide a mechanism to facilitate coordinated action on forest biological diversity.

The CPF agreed to appoint the CBD Secretariat as a focal point for forest biological diversity within the CPF and tasked the CBD Secretariat, in collaboration with the UNFF Secretariat, to draft the terms of reference for the CBD Secretariat's role as the focal point for consideration by CPF.

CPF members agreed to provide information to the CBD Secretariat on their current activities and possible future contributions related to the CBD decision VI/22 (extracted and reproduced in UNFF/CPF 8/2002/19). CPF members were invited to provide this information as soon as possible, at the latest, by the end of October. The CBD Secretariat will compile this information and make it available for CPF members for further discussion.

8. Review of the outcome of WSSD

The UNFF Secretariat presented an overview of the forest related outcomes of WSSD, including the section on forests (paragraph 43) in the Plan of Implementation and the launching of three official WSSD partnerships, which address forests issues in three regions (Congo Basin, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean). The discussion that followed raised issues on the linkages of forests to other sections of the Implementation Plan, such as biodiversity, climate change, desertification and poverty. It was suggested that the CPF Framework could review how CPF's activities are linked to poverty in light of the outcome of the WSSD and the Millennium Development Goals.

9. UNFF and CPF websites and outreach activities

The UNFF Secretariat demonstrated the new UNFF and CPF websites. CPF members welcomed the developments of these new sites. CPF members were encouraged to review both websites carefully and provide the UNFF Secretariat with detailed comments, in particular on the pages for the individual CPF members. The launching of both websites is envisaged for the beginning of December.

Other outreach material was discussed. Both the CPF flyer and banner are being updated and revised. FAO kindly offered to arrange and finance the printing. The UNFF Secretariat shared an outline for a CPF booklet, CPF members agreed to provide comments by 9 October. It was further agreed that the Secretariat would prepare the first draft, but that CPF members would be responsible for finalizing their respective individual pages in the booklet and that the costs of production and printing would be shared among all CPF members.

10. CPF Sourcebook

FAO briefed CPF members on the background of the CPF Sourcebook initiative and demonstrated the interactive and electronic Sourcebook website, including a database on sources of funds for sustainable forest management. CPF members expressed great appreciation to FAO for developing the prototype of the CPF Sourcebook, which could become a useful "broker" between donors and fund seekers for SFM projects. Several CPF members, including World Bank and GEF, agreed to provide additional material for the Sourcebook. CPF members agreed to provide the material directly to FAO.

The importance of developing a dissemination strategy was discussed. It was suggested that the CPF Sourcebook could be showcased in side events during forest related meetings, including UNFF 3. Another suggestion was to seek CPF Network participants' help in disseminating the Sourcebook. The possibility of organizing a workshop on the Sourcebook was also discussed briefly.

11. CPF Network

The UNFF Secretariat recalled the establishment of the CPF Network and the preparation of the CPF Network Concept Paper. CPF members highlighted that the CPF Network is an informal mechanism for information sharing and to facilitate the involvement and interaction of a wide range of stakeholders with the CPF. It was stressed that the CPF Network is not a decision making body. It was also recognized that more work is needed to clarify what the CPF Network is. It was therefore agreed that CPF members would review the revised CPF Concept Paper and suggest changes to better articulate the purpose of the CPF Network. The need of CPF members

to be more proactive and involve the CPF Network in their activities, such as sharing papers and drawing on CPF Network participants' intellectual capacity was also raised. FAO offered to organize a CPF Network meeting in conjunction with COFO, March 2003.

12. Status of staffing of the UNFF Secretariat

The UNFF Secretariat gave an overview of the staffing situation in the Secretariat. Currently, the UNFF Secretariat consists of: three senior secondments from UNEP, FAO and DESA; a short-term secondment from ITTO; a JPO from Sweden; a limited number of consultants; and, two general service staff.

The UNFF Secretariat also briefed CPF members on the recruitment process of three professional posts from the regular budget. It is envisaged that the P-4 and P-5 posts would be appointed within the next few months in order to be on board by January 2003. The P-3 post is currently being re-classified and will shortly be announced externally. It is envisaged that this post will be appointed during the first quarter of next year.

CPF expressed deep concerns regarding the staffing situation in the UNFF Secretariat and stressed the need to retain the institutional memory as far as possible within the Secretariat.

CPF members also discussed additional secondments to the UNFF Secretariat, including the possibility of short-term secondments or so called "attachments". UNFF Secretariat agreed to draft a note on the need of short-term secondments from CPF members for the consideration of the Executive Office of DESA.

13. Agency reports

CPF members shared information about current planned activities of interest to CPF and in support of the UNFF, see Annex 3.

14. Next CPF meeting

CPF decided to hold its next meeting in conjunction with COFO, to be held in Rome, 10-14 March 2003.

15. Other matters

FAO briefed CPF members on new developments regarding the XII World Forestry Congress, to be held in Quebec City, Canada, 21-28 September 2003. The UNFF Secretariat has requested time for two CPF side events, one for a CPF meeting and another for a CPF Network meeting. CPF members were encouraged to submit voluntary papers for the Congress.

The possibility of expanding the CPF membership to include one more international organization was discussed. The CPF decided to invite the organization to participate, as observer, in the next CPF meeting and to present its potential contribution to the CPF.

ANNEX 1.

Agenda

Meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF)

3-4 October 2002
New York, USA

Meeting starts at 10 am. Conference Room, DC2 12th Floor.

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Review of the outcome of UNFF 2
3. Preparations for UNFF 3
4. CPF focal agencies
5. CPF Policy Document
6. CPF Framework
7. Task Force on Streamlining the Reporting
8. Review of the outcome of COP6 of the CBD
9. Review of the outcome of WSSD
10. UNFF and CPF websites and other outreach activities
11. CPF Sourcebook
12. Future activities for the CPF Network
13. Status of staffing of the UNFF Secretariat
14. Brief agency reports on matters of interest to other CPF members
15. Next CPF meeting
16. Other matters

ANNEX 2.

CPF Focal Agencies and Collaborating Agencies

The CPF has established a focal agency system to enhance coordination and cooperation among its members, consistent with the practice that the ITFF initiated to support the IPF/IFF programme of work. Table 1 is broken down by UNFF elements, as identified in the UNFF multi-year programme of work. This division is based on the mandate, competence, resources and comparative advantage of each member, especially with regard to activities related to implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action.

The focal agency works in cooperation with other organizations and strengthens collaboration, both among the CPF members and with other partners to mobilize the best possible resources and expertise, avoid duplication and minimize overlap in activities. The focal agency also plays an important role in channeling requests for information and assistance to the appropriate sources.

Table 1. CPF Focal Agency and Collaborating Agencies according to the 16 UNFF Elements. UNFF Elements (**E**); Mean of Implementation (**MI**); and, Common Items (**CI**)

UNFF Elements		UNFF session	Focal agency	Collaborating Agencies (alphabetical order)
Formulation and implementation of national forest programmes (1)	E, CI	All sessions	FAO	World Bank* and all other members
Promoting public participation (2)	CI	All sessions	DESA(international) UNDP (national)	FAO, GEF, ICRAF, World Bank
Combating deforestation and forest degradation (3)	E	UNFF 2	UNEP	CBD, CCD, FAO, FCCC, CIFOR, World Bank
Traditional Forest Related Knowledge (TFRK) (4)	E	UNFF 4	CBD	CCD, CIFOR, GEF
Forest-related scientific knowledge (5)	E	UNFF 4	CIFOR/ICRAF	CBD, CCD, FCCC, GEF
Forest health and productivity (6)	E	UNFF 3	FAO	CIFOR, FCCC, ITTO, CBD
Criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management (7)	E	UNFF 4	FAO/ITTO	CIFOR, UNEP, CBD

UNFF Elements		UNFF session	Focal agency	Collaborating Agencies (alphabetical order)
Economic, social and cultural aspects of forests (8) (Economic aspects of forests) (Social and cultural aspects of forests)	E E	UNFF 3 UNFF 4	World Bank CIFOR	all CPF members CBD, FAO, ICRAF, ITTO, IUCN, UNDP, UNEP
Forest conservation and protection of unique types of forests and fragile ecosystems (9)	E	UNFF 2	UNEP	CBD, CCD, FAO, GEF, IUCN, World Bank
Monitoring, assessment and reporting; and concepts, terminology and definitions (10)	E, CI E	UNFF 2, 4 + All sessions	FAO	all CPF members
Rehabilitation and conservation strategies for countries with low forest cover (11)	E	UNFF 2	UNEP	CBD, CCD, FAO, GEF, IUCN
Rehabilitation and restoration of degraded lands, and the promotion of natural and planted forests (12)	E	UNFF 2	CCD, FAO, ICRAF	all CPF members
Maintaining forest cover to meet present and future needs (13)	E	UNFF 3	DESA	all CPF members
Financial resources (14)	E, MI	All sessions	World Bank/ GEF	all CPF members
International trade and sustainable forest management (15)	E, CI	All sessions	ITTO	FAO, World Bank
International cooperation in capacity-building and access to, and transfer of environmentally sound technologies to support SFM (16)	E, MI E, MI	All sessions All sessions	FAO FAO	CBD, GEF, ITTO, UNDP, UNEP, World Bank

ANNEX 3.

AGENCY REPORT

CBD Secretariat

- Expert Group meeting on drylands and climate change
- A document is currently being prepared on the integration of biodiversity into the climate change. Draft will be circulated to CPF members for comments.
- Meeting on indicators to assess biodiversity planned for December 2002.
- SBSTTA-8 to be held in Montreal, 10-14 March, 2003. Main theme is mountain, other themes include drylands and inland water.
- SBSTTA-9 in Montreal, 10-14 November, 2003. Main theme is protected areas. In addition, the SBSTTA will review climate change, and ecosystem approach and SFM.
- CPF members were requested to provide posters for SBSTTA meetings.
- Joint Liaison Group. UNFCCC Secretariat is currently preparing a scoping paper, forests will be included as a cross-sectoral issue. No date set for the proposed workshop on forests, organized by the Joint Liaison Group.

CIFOR

- CIFOR and ICRAF are currently in negotiation as to a future joint programme on biodiversity.
- ICRAF, CIFOR, WWF and IUCN are planning for the Rainforest Challenge program – this will form a major part of the agenda of CIFOR in coming years – it will focus at the landscape level and bring research and development together.
- 2003 marks the 10th anniversary of CIFOR – one of the key events will be a conference on Rural Livelihoods, Forests and Biodiversity in Bonn in May 2003.

DESA

- UNFF Secretariat is providing support to various country- and organization-led initiatives in support of the UNFF. These include the regional initiative on Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies for Mangrove Forests to be held in Managua, Nicaragua, 3-5 March 2003. The second is the Global Workshop on Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies in Support of SFM, date and venue to be determined.
- UNFF Secretariat joined the Asia Forest Partnership in July 2002.
- UNFF Secretariat maintains the Calendar of Forest-related Events. CPF members were encouraged to review and update this Calendar regularly.

FAO

- COFO meeting 10-14 March 2003 in Rome. CPF members will receive invitations.
- NFP Facility, hosted by FAO, is now operational. The Facility is working closely with the PROFOR. Side Events at COFO and UNFF 3 are being planned in order to reach out and make the Facility known to a wider audience.
- Expert consultation on “Global Forest Resources Assessments - linking national and international efforts” (Kotka IV) was held in July 2002 in Kotka, Finland. It paved the

- road for future global FRAs, and how national forest inventories can contribute to global assessments, while at the same time meeting national requirements for information.
- FAO hosted the Second Expert Meeting on Harmonizing *Forest-related Definitions for Use by Various Stakeholders*, on 11-13 September 2002, which was jointly organized with IPCC, CIFOR, UNEP and IUFRO under the umbrella of the CPF. The results of the meeting will be distributed by the end of October.
 - CICI-2003, International Conference on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management, organized by the Government of Guatemala, co-sponsored by Finland and the US with support of FAO and ITTO, 3-7 February 2003, Guatemala City.

GEF Secretariat

- GEF Assembly in Beijing 16-18 October.

ICRAF

- ICRAF is currently restructuring its activities into three programmes.
- ICRAF and CIFOR collaborating with others on in the Rainforest Challenge and Climate Change Programme.
- 25th Anniversary of ICRAF will be celebrated in Nairobi, April 2003.
- ICRAF will host a biodiversity stakeholder event next month. 3 forest reserves in Africa will be highlighted.
- Rewarding the Upland Poor in Asia for the Environmental Services (RUPES) was launched in 2002. The goal of the RUPES is to enhance livelihood and resource security of upland poor in Asia.

ITTO

- ITTC in Yokohama, 4-9 November 2002.
- Partners in tow WSSD partnership initiatives, Asia Forest Partnership and the Congo Basin Forest Partnership.
- Co-sponsor of the Criteria and Indicators meeting in Guatemala, see details under FAO.
- Involved in country- and organization-led initiatives in support of the UNFF.
 - Expert Meeting on the Role of Planted Forests in SFM to be held in Wellington, New Zealand, 24-28 March 2003.
 - Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies for Mangrove Forests to be held in Managua, Nicaragua, 3-5 March 2003.

IUCN

- Partner in the Rainforest Challenge, see both ICRAF and CIFOR above.
- Reported on a planning meeting held in Edinburgh, 20 September 2002, on the Building Assets for People and Nature: A Global Initiative to Catalyse and Reinforce Forest Landscape Restoration. Report will be made available to all CPF members. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for 9-10 November, in Yokohama.
- World Parks Congress 2003 in Durban.

UNCCD Secretariat

- First session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC 1) to be held in Rome, 11-22 November, 2002.
- COP 6 to be held in Bonn, September/October 2003, date to be determined.

UNEP

- FRA Advisory Group Meeting in Nairobi, 16-17 November 2002.
- Governing Council Session to be held in February 2003.

UNFCCC Secretariat

- UNFCCC/SBSTA and SBI 17 and COP 8 will be held in New Delhi, India, from 23 Oct. to 1 Nov. 2002.
- UNFCCC/SBSTA is developing definitions and modalities for afforestation and reforestation projects under CDM. A workshop is planned for Feb. 2003 followed by elaboration of proposals for legal text. The work should be completed by COP 9 (2003).
- As a part of UNFCCC Secretariat's "regular on-going work" Parties are developing their policies and measures for mitigation and adaptation, as well as national greenhouse gas inventories and reporting, including land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF). The secretariat works intensively on these issues and has prepared a number of different papers.
- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is working actively on forest related issues, namely Task 1 on development of good practice guidance for LULUCF activities, Task 2 on definitions for degradation of forest and devegetation of other vegetation types, and on methodological options to inventory and reporting, and Task 3 on methodologies to factor out direct human-induced impacts from indirect and natural impacts. First drafts of Task 1 and 2 will be send for expert and government review in Dec. 2002 to Jan. 2003.

World Bank

- PROFOR donor meeting on 23 October.
- The Board will meet in November to decide on the Forest Strategy.
- A new carbon fund to be launched in November 2002. The US\$ 100 million BioCarbon Fund, a public/private partnership, will provide finance for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Follow up activities on the WSSD, particularly on the WEHAB themes.
- Collaborates with the Asia Forest Partnership, however, not as a partner.