

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

March 9, 2003, Rome

Chair:	Mr. Hosny El-Lakany (FAO)	GEF Secretariat:	Regrets
Secretary:	Mia Söderlund (UNFF Secretariat)	ICRAF:	Regrets
CBD Secretariat:	Mr. Jo Mulongoy (teleconference on agenda item 7 and 9)	ITTO:	Mr. Steven Johnson
CIFOR:	Mr. David Kaimowitz	IUCN:	Mr. Andrew Deutz
DESA:	Mr. Pekka Patosaari Ms. Susan Braatz	IUFRO:	Mr. Risto Seppälä
FAO:	Mr. Michael Martin Ms. Tiina Vähänen Ms. Rosalie McConnell Mr. Edward Kilawe	UNCCD Sec.:	Mr. Melchiade Bukuru Mr. Zheng Rui
		UNDP:	Mr. Nick Remple
		UNEP:	Mr. Bai-Mass Taal
		UNFCCC Sec.:	Mr. Dennis Tirpak
		World Bank:	Mr. Jim Douglas

1. Opening of the meeting

Mr. Hosny El-Lakany, Assistant Director-General, Forestry Department, FAO, and Chair, Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), welcomed all participants to FAO Headquarters for the ninth meeting of the CPF and noted the good level of participation, as well as overall strengthening of the Partnership. He presented Mr. Pekka Patosaari, the new Coordinator and Head of the UNFF Secretariat, and Mr. Risto Seppälä, President of IUFRO, who had been invited to participate as an observer.

This was the first CPF meeting that Mr. Patosaari attended. In his opening remarks, Mr. Patosaari highlighted the important role CPF plays in facilitating the implementation of sustainable forest management at the national, regional and global levels. He thanked CPF members for their support to the UNFF Secretariat, including those members that prepared reports of the Secretary-General for UNFF 3 and had seconded staff to the Secretariat.

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

2. Membership

IUFRO was invited to make a presentation on its potential contribution to the CPF, in order for CPF members to take a decision on expanding membership to include IUFRO. Mr. Seppälä gave an overview of IUFRO activities that are most relevant to CPF.

CPF members noted with appreciation the possible contribution of IUFRO to the CPF and decided to extend an invitation to IUFRO to join the partnership.

3. CPF Framework

The finalization of the CPF Framework 2003, which represents both the progress report and the work plan of the CPF, was discussed. It was decided that CPF members, including IUFRO, would provide their final comments within the next few days, on the basis of which the UNFF Secretariat will prepare the final draft for approval by CPF members. The CPF Framework will

be translated into all official UN languages and will be distributed at UNFF 3 as an information document.

CPF members discussed the “CPF Narratives”, which had been prepared by focal agencies for all 16 UNFF elements and had been used as a basis for the CPF Framework. It was decided that the Narratives would continue to be an informal, in-house document for CPF members. The UNFF Secretariat will distribute the compilation to all CPF members.

4. CPF Focal and Supporting Agencies

CPF discussed the definition and role of a focal agency and a supporting agency. It was decided that the CPF Policy Document should be revised to further clarify these roles. It was also decided that IUFRO would be given an opportunity to indicate its interest to become a focal agency and/or supporting agency for an element(s).

5. CPF Initiatives

CPF reviewed progress on some of its CPF flagship initiatives, as well as on other collaborative efforts.

Sourcebook on Funding SFM¹

FAO briefed CPF members on the latest developments concerning the CPF Sourcebook. CPF members expressed great appreciation to FAO for taking the lead on this initiative and for providing the technical support and maintenance of the web-based database. FAO reaffirmed its commitment to maintain the database and CPF members agreed to provide relevant information to FAO on a continuous basis.

CPF members also discussed the promotion and dissemination of the Sourcebook. Members agreed to place a link to the Sourcebook onto their own websites. They also agreed that the Sourcebook be demonstrated at relevant meetings, such as UNFF, UNFCCC, the World Forestry Congress and regional workshops, as appropriate, and that a note on it be published in members’ newsletters. Furthermore, members of the CPF Network and all UNDP’s country offices could be useful in further developing and/or promoting the use of the Sourcebook. The possibility of producing a promotional flyer and a hard copy and/or CD ROM was raised, but funds to cover the costs of this would have to be sought.

CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting²

ITTO made a presentation of the work undertaken by the CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting and highlighted the outcomes of the Task Force’s two meetings (19-20 November 2002 in Bonn, and 24-26 February 2003 in Cambridge, UK). The Chair thanked both the Secretariat of UNFCCC and UNEP-WCMC for hosting these meetings.

CPF members expressed great satisfaction with the work of the Task Force. They endorsed the launching of the web-based portal on forest reporting, the publication of the promotional flyer on the portal and the idea of holding the next Task Force’s meeting as a small expert consultation to

¹ The CPF Sourcebook is available at: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/foris/webview/cpf/>

² The Task Force’s portal is available at: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/cpf-mar>

enable interface between the CPF, governments and other stakeholders for further efforts on streamlining reporting requests. It also agreed to promote the work of the Task Force, including through presentations to relevant meetings, such as the country-led initiative to be held in Viterbo, Italy from 17-20 March, UNFF 3 and meetings of the governing bodies of CPF members. Several CPF members suggested that IUFRO could make a valuable contribution to the Task Force, in particular through its special programme on Global Forest Information Service (GFIS).

CPF and MAR initiative

FAO and UNFF Secretariat briefed participants on the country-led initiative “Lessons Learned in Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting on Implementation of IPF/IFF Proposals for Action” to be held in Viterbo, Italy (17-20 March, 2003), which several CPF members will attend. Mr. El-Lakany will address the opening, also in his capacity as the CPF Chair. A CPF panel will be held on Tuesday 18 March, to highlight the work of the CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting.

Outreach activities

CPF members discussed the need for promotional material and decided to revise the CPF flyer and banner, due to expanded membership, but not to produce a CPF brochure (which idea was raised earlier). Furthermore, CPF members expressed an interest in producing flyers on some of CPF’s initiatives, such as CPF Sourcebook and CPF Task Force.

It was agreed that the UNFF Secretariat will continue to maintain the CPF web site with technical support by FAO. FAO will continue to maintain the sub-sites of the CPF Sourcebook and CPF Task Force. CPF members agreed to link their own web sites to the CPF web site and relevant sub-sites (Sourcebook and Task Force).

UNFF Secretariat continues to maintain the Calendar of Forest-related Events. CPF members were encouraged to review and update this Calendar regularly.

6. Preparations for UNFF 3

The UNFF Secretariat informed CPF members about the preparations for UNFF 3, including the outcomes of UNFF 3 Bureau meeting on 27 February and the status of the documentation. CPF members reviewed the proposed organization of work. It was suggested that the CPF Chair would make a statement, on behalf of all CPF members, at the opening morning plenary (26 May). Furthermore, CPF members agreed that the CPF Chair would make a presentation of the CPF Framework 2003 on Wednesday 28 May in the morning during the agenda item on enhanced cooperation and policy coordination. This would be followed by a general discussion on CPF, during which CPF members would be present for a dialogue with governments. CPF will also organize a side event focusing on the Sourcebook and the Task Force. CPF members were encouraged to submit requests for any other side events as soon as possible.

7. Follow up to the CPF decision on CBD as the focal point for forest biological diversity

CPF members discussed a follow up to its decision at its 8th meeting in October 2002 to designate the CBD Secretariat as CPF’s focal point for forest biological diversity. As the Secretariat of CBD could not attend the meeting due to overlap with their SBSTTA-8, a

conference call was arranged between Rome and Montreal. Regarding the CBD Secretariat's role as focal point, CPF members agreed that it was similar to that of a focal agency. Thus, it was concluded that there was no need for separate terms of reference (which had been discussed at the eighth meeting of CPF in October 2002) for the CBD Secretariat as a focal point for forest biological diversity. However, CPF members did acknowledge the need to further clarify the role of focal agency in the next revision of the CPF Policy Document (see agenda item 4). After the conference call, CPF members present at the meeting requested the Chair of the CPF and the Coordinator and Head of the UNFF Secretariat to send a letter to the CBD Secretariat, which would express appreciation to the CBD Secretariat for assuming the role of focal point for forest biological diversity within the CPF and, in this context, to strengthen collaboration among CPF members in their efforts to achieve mutual objectives of UNFF and CBD.

8. CPF Network

CPF members agreed to organize a CPF Network meeting in conjunction with UNFF 3. Mr. Bai-Mass Taal, UNEP, agreed to co-chair the meeting with another representative of the Network. He foresaw to collaborate closely with the CPF Chair, co-chair and the UNFF Secretariat to prepare for the meeting. Invitation to attend the CPF Network meeting will be sent soonest.

9. Agency reports

CPF members shared information about current planned activities of interest to CPF and in support of the UNFF (see Annex 2).

10. Next CPF meeting

CPF decided to hold its next meeting in conjunction with UNFF 3 in Geneva on Sunday 25 May 2003. It was agreed that CPF meetings and meetings of the CPF Task Force, should, to the extent possible, be organized in conjunction with other forest-related meetings, in order to foster efficiency and to minimize costs.

ANNEX 1.

Agenda

Meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF)

9 March, FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Membership
3. CPF Framework 2003
4. CPF Focal Agency and Supporting Agency
5. CPF Initiatives
6. Preparations for UNFF 3
7. Terms of reference for the CBD Secretariat's role as the focal point for forest biodiversity within CPF
8. Future activities of the CPF Network
9. Brief agency reports on matters of interest to other CPF members
10. Next CPF meeting
11. Other matters

ANNEX 2.

AGENCY REPORT

CIFOR

- 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. This meeting will be organized as a country-led initiative in support of the UNFF.
- CIFOR is involved in several country- and organization-led initiatives in support of the UNFF:
 - Prepared a paper for the plantation meeting in New Zealand;
 - Supporting the Swiss and Indonesian initiative on decentralization and. CPF members will be invited to contribute with background papers for the meeting.
- CIFOR is also contributing to the World Forestry Congress, September.
- CIFOR is supporting the African Forest Law Enforcement Governance (AFLEG), a Ministerial Conference will be held 1-4 April, Yaounde, Cameroon.

FAO

- 16th session of COFO on 10-14 March 2003.
- FAO supported the International Conference on Criteria and Indicators for SFM (CICI) held 3-7 February 2003, Guatemala (see also ITTO).
- CPF members encouraged to participate in World Forestry Congress in September 2003, Quebec, Canada.

ITTO

- Co-sponsor of the Criteria and Indicators meeting in Guatemala and will be involved in the follow up (see also FAO).
- Involved in country- and organization-led initiatives in support of the UNFF.
 - Supported the Workshop on Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies for Mangrove Forests held 3-5 March 2003, Managua, Nicaragua.
 - Participation in the MAR meeting.
- Partners in the Global Landscape Restoration Partnership.
- Providing country case studies to the AFLEG meeting in April, see CIFOR.
- A preparatory committee meeting on renegotiating ITTA will be held on 12-17 May, Panama City, Panama.

CBD Secretariat

- 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.

GEF

- Council session on 14-16 May, Washington, USA. The session is expected to adopt, amongst others, an Operational Program on Sustainable Land Management.

UNCCD Secretariat

- COP 6 to be held 25 August – 6 September 2003, Havana, Cuba.

UNFCCC Secretariat

- UNFCCC/SBSTA is developing definitions and modalities for afforestation and reforestation projects under CDM. 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.

DESA

- UNFF Secretariat is providing support to various country- and organization-led initiatives in support of the UNFF. These include:
 - Regional initiative on Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies for Mangrove Forests held 3-5 March 2003, Managua, Nicaragua.
 - MAR meeting held 17-20 March 2003, Vitterbo, Italy.
 - Global Workshop on Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies in Support of SFM, date and venue to be determined.
- UNFF Secretariat joined the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration launched by UK, WWF and IUCN.

UNDP

- UNDP-GEF will shortly present its work programme for projects in desertification.

UNEP

- Governing Council Session held in February 2003. One decisions of particular relevance to CPF is the one dealing with low forest cover countries.
- UNEP is currently in the process how to follow up to this decision, which might include the organization of a Workshop on LFCCs

World Bank

- Investment Forum on Forest will meet in June 2003, Washington. Material on the meeting will be sent to all CPF members.

ICRAF

- 25th anniversary this year.

IUCN

- Planning to organize a side event at UNFF 3 together with CIFOR on the Rainforest Challenge.
- Launching the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration at COFO. CPF members are encouraged to join the Partnership.
- World Parks Congress in September 2003, Durban, South Africa.