

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

Sunday 25 and Friday 30 May, 2003, Geneva

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| Chair: | Hosny El-Lakany (FAO) | UNCCD: | Hama Arba Diallo |
| UNFF 3 Chair: | Hossein Moeini | | Melchiade Bukuru |
| Secretary: | Mia Söderlund (UNFF S) | UNFF: | Pekka Patosaari |
| CIFOR: | David Kaimowitz | | Jorge Illueca |
| FAO: | Michael Martin | | Susan Braatz |
| | Tiina Vähänen | UNFCCC: | Regrets |
| | Rosalie McConnell | UNDP: | Regrets |
| | Edward Kilawe | UNEP: | Regrets |
| ITTO: | Amha bin Buang | ICRAF: | Tom Tomich |
| | Alastair Sarre | | Dagmar Timmer |
| IUFRO: | Risto Seppälä | World Bank: | Jim Douglas |
| CBD: | Hamdallah Zedan | | David Cassells |
| | Manuel Guariguata | IUCN: | Stewart Maginnis |
| GEF: | Regrets | | |

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 the tenth meeting of the CPF and noted the good level of participation. In particular he welcomed Mr. Hossein Moeini, Chairperson of the Bureau of United Nations Forum on Forests, and Mr. Risto Seppälä, president of IUFRO, who participated for the first time as a member of the CPF.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Moeini stressed the importance of the CPF in supporting the UNFF and its member countries. Furthermore, he highlighted tasks ahead for the third session of the UNFF.

Discussion on the revised CPF Policy Document was added to the agenda prior to its approval.

2. Organization of work UNFF 3

The UNFF Secretariat presented an overview of the organization of work for the third session of the Forum, with a particular focus on CPF relevant items. These include:

- CPF Statement of CPF during the opening morning session (Monday 26 May);
- Multi-stakeholder dialogue (Tuesday 27 May);
- CPF Network meeting (Tuesday 27 May);
- Presentation of the CPF Framework 2003 (Wednesday 28 May);
- Initial discussions on substantive elements, including Forest Health and Productivity (Wednesday 28 May), Economic Aspects of Forests (Friday 30 May) and Maintaining Forest Cover to Meet Present and Future Needs (Monday 2 June). Focal agencies for these elements to introduce respective S-G reports.

3. CPF Policy Document

Members discussed the revised CPF Policy Document and agreed that IUFRO would be a focal agency for forest-related scientific knowledge, along with CIFOR and ICRAF. Furthermore, it was decided that in the case of several CPF members sharing the focal agency responsibility for an element, the concerned members should agree among themselves the division of labor.

The revised CPF Policy Document was adopted by members, apart from a pending clarification of a footnote explaining the role of CBD Secretariat as focal point for forest biological diversity to clarify that this element cuts across a number of UNFF elements. The UNFF Secretariat was requested to formulate the proposed text and circulate it to the CPF members for consideration.

4. CPF Statement

CPF members approved the CPF Statement. The Chair was asked to present the Statement on the opening day of UNFF 3, Monday 26 May 2003.

5. Presentation of CPF Framework 2003

CPF members approved CPF presentation of the CPF Framework 2003, which was to be delivered by the Chair on Wednesday 28 May during the agenda item on enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination.

6. CPF Side Event

UNFF Secretariat briefed CPF members on the preparations for the CPF side event on Wednesday 28 May. The side event will feature three presentations on joint initiatives, including CPF Sourcebook on Funding SFM, CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest-Related Reporting and CPF's efforts to harmonize forest definitions. The co-presentations would be made by FAO, IUFRO, CBD Secretariat and UNFF Secretariat.

UNFF Secretariat also highlighted other side events that CPF members are organizing during UNFF 3.

7. Meeting of the CPF Network and its future activities

CPF members discussed the linkages between the UNFF multi-stakeholder dialogue process and the CPF Network. CPF members stressed that the multi-stakeholder dialogue process is primarily a means for major groups to share with governments their views on policy issues and lessons learned regarding implementation of IPF/IFF proposals for action that relate to UNFF multi-year programme of work. CPF Network, on the other hand, facilitates stakeholders' involvement in CPF's work in support to the UNFF and enhances communication and collaboration among stakeholders on forest matters. Despite the distinction between the two, CPF members recognized that many of the focal points for the major groups for the UNFF multi-stakeholder dialogue process are also active participants in the CPF Network. It was stressed that the Network has an important role to play in reaching out to people on the ground that are directly involved in implementation and often are not aware of policy development at the international level.

In this regard, CPF members recognized that the CPF Network participants could play an important role, as appropriate in different countries, in efforts to facilitate assessment of the IPF/IFF proposals for action at the regional, national and sub-national levels and in subsequent

implementation. Various means of facilitating such assessment process were discussed (e.g. facilitating in-country assessment processes, convening regional meetings to strengthen capacities through “adult learning”, development of tools that could help countries carry out assessment). However, CPF members recognized that additional funds would have to be sought to support such efforts.

It was also suggested that the UNFF Secretariat’s current efforts to disseminate information through UNFF News, UNFF and CPF web sites, and e-mail communication could be further enhanced, including through wider dissemination of information and information exchange through Forest-L. CPF members also agreed that CPF Network could be used more actively to engage a wider range of stakeholders in some of the CPF initiatives, such as the CPF Sourcebook, as well as to seek stakeholders’ views in the preparation of documentation to UNFF sessions. In this regard, CPF members referred to the decision of UNFF-1 and suggested that the UNFF Secretariat could encourage relevant stakeholders to submit voluntary reports at the same time as countries are asked to submit their national reports, so that both could be used in the drafting of reports. Furthermore, CPF focal agencies, as appropriate, could also prepare “issue papers” on some of the UNFF agenda items, which could be posted on the web and comments solicited from interested parties.

Furthermore, CPF members re-emphasized transparency in the CPF activities, and for this reason the summary reports of the meetings are publicly available on the web. It was noted that CPF was set up as an interagency partnership in support of UNFF (as originally envisaged by UNFF Member States). However, other forest-related organizations may also be invited to CPF meetings to contribute to discussions of certain agenda items.

8. The role of CPF members in the UNFF ad hoc expert groups

The draft decision on intersessional work by ad hoc expert groups include several references to the CPF, such as an invitation to make scientific and technical contributions to the work of the ad hoc expert groups and to support their work in a resource capacity. CPF members discussed their possible role in the three ad hoc expert groups. CPF members agreed that their contribution would be of technical nature and most relevant in support of the ad hoc expert groups on monitoring, assessment and reporting and on finance and transfer of environmentally sound technologies, since the group related to legally binding instrument on forest would be of a more political nature.

9. Preparations for UNFF 4

CPF members briefly discussed the preparations for UNFF 4. Focal agencies for UNFF 4 elements will prepare the corresponding draft Secretary-General’s reports. It was decided that for those elements that have more than one focal agency, the concerned agencies would inform the UNFF Secretariat which organization would take the lead. CIFOR would take the lead on the S-G report on social and cultural aspects of forests, however, the World Bank agreed to provide input to the paper on cultural aspects of forests. UNFF Secretariat agreed to provide draft outlines of all of the reports of the Secretary-General within the next two months.

New CPF initiatives were briefly discussed, IUCN agreed to prepare a concept paper on the dissemination of information on efforts towards the implementation of IPF/IFF proposals for actions, based on the experience of the Forest Restoration Information Service that has been developed in support of the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration.

10. Brief agency reports on matters of interest to other CPF members

CPF members shared information about current planned activities of interest to CPF and in support of the UNFF (see Annex 1).

11. Next CPF meeting

A brief CPF meeting was held on Friday 30 May 2003 to take stock of developments during the first week of the Forum, to follow up some outstanding issues from its 10th meeting, and to plan for the intersessional period between UNFF 3 and UNFF 4.

CPF members agreed to meet in conjunction with the World Forestry Congress on 20 September 2003. Proposed time was 2 – 6 pm.

12. Other matters

CPF members agreed to link their individual web sites to the CPF web site. CPF members were also encouraged to use the “CPF swoop of logos” whenever appropriate to highlight the collaborative work of the Partnership.

Annex 1.

Brief agency reports on matters of interest to other CPF members

Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)

- **CIFOR marked its 10th year anniversary** by organizing an international conference on rural livelihoods, forests and biodiversity, 19-23 May 2003, Bonn, Germany.
- **CIFOR will take the lead on drafting the report of the Secretary-General on Social and Cultural Aspects of Forests**, with input from the World Bank on cultural aspects.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

- 16th session of Committee on Forestry (COFO) was held 10-14 March 2003. One of the agenda items was the role of the Regional Forestry Commissions in implementing the IPF/IFF proposals for action.
- State of the World's Forests (SOFO) 2003 was released. Many CPF partners contributed by writing articles or reviewing them.
- Preparations for the next Regional Forestry Commissions in 2004 have started with a view of strengthening their work.
- XII World Forestry Congress will be held in Canada, in Québec City, from September 21 to 28 2003.

International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

- Preparatory Committee for the Negotiation of a Successor Agreement to the International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA), 1994 (PREPCOM1), 20 - 21 May 2003 Panama City, Panama.
- 34th Session of the International Tropical Timber Council, 12 - 17 May 2003 Panama City, Panama.
- ITTO will second a staff member to UNFF Secretariat.

International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)

- Through its "SilvaVoc Terminology Project", IUFRO serves as a permanent clearinghouse for multi-lingual forest terminology. Together with FAO, IPCC, CIFOR and UNEP, IUFRO promotes the development of an enhanced common understanding of forest-related terms and definitions, their possible harmonization and proper use through various activities.
- IUFRO is collaborating with several members of the CPF in the context of the international initiative "Global Forest Information Service" (GFIS), coordinated now by IUFRO. An expanded prototype of GFIS will be presented at the World Forestry Congress in September 2003 in Quebec, Canada.

- IUFRO's Special Programme for Developing Countries (IUFRO-SPDC) has organized the Expert Meeting "Capacity Building for Forest Scientists in Latin America in Criteria & Indicators, Auditing of Sustainable Forest Management and Forest Certification" on 12-15 May 2003 in Costa Rica, together with CATIE and CIFOR and in technical cooperation with FAO.
- IUFRO has provided technical support for the UNFF Intersessional Expert Meeting on the Role of Planted Forests in Sustainable Forest Management (25-27 March 2003, Wellington, New Zealand) and prepared the written contribution "Planted Forests and Biodiversity".
- IUFRO has been acting as focal point of the Scientific and Technological Community for the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (MSD) at UNFF3. It has coordinated the preparation of the Major Group Discussion Paper "Science and Technology Building the Future of the World's Forests" (E/CN.18/2003/2.Add.4) as well as of other contributions of the Scientific and Technological Community to the MSD.
- IUFRO actively participated in the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue at the Fourth Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe, the "Living Forest Summit", on 28-30 April 2003 in Vienna.
- IUFRO is contributing to the World Forestry Congress on 21-28 September 2003 in Quebec, Canada through a keynote address and various invited papers by IUFRO Office Holders, addressing all Congress topics. In addition, IUFRO will organize a series of side-events during the Congress.
- On a continuous basis, IUFRO is publishing state-of-knowledge reports on several research topics connected with the UNFF process in its IUFRO Research Series, World Series and Occasional Papers.

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

- SBSTTA-8 adopted the structure of a programme of work on **Mountain biodiversity**. The revised programme of work will then be reviewed in depth at the ninth meeting of SBSTTA. AHTEG meeting to propose targeted actions to take place in Italy, end of June 2003. **IUFRO** provided the SCBD with a set of proposed activities to be considered by the AHTEG.
- Open-ended Inter-Sessional Meeting of the MYPOW. The meeting considered the **outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development** as it relates to the Convention process, and recognized the importance of close cooperation with the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD).
- Third AHTEG meeting on Biodiversity and climate change, Helsinki from 13 to 16 May 2003. The AHTEG worked on the final version of the report to be submitted to CBD SBSTTA 9 in November 2003 and to UNFCCC COP in December 2003. **UNFCCC Secretariat** and **GEF** were critical contributors to the report.
- Expert group meeting on Refinement of Principles and Operational Guidance of the Ecosystem Approach. To be held in Montreal from 7 to 11 July.
- High-level roundtable on protected areas and ecological networks in biodiversity policies on June 5-6 in the Hague.

- Ninth meeting of the SBSTTA to be held in Montreal in November 10-14. Main item: protected areas.

Secretariat of the Global Environment Facility (GEF)

- **GEF Council Meeting**, May 14-16, 2003, Washington, USA.
 - Len Good (Canada) appointed as GEF's New Chief Executive Officer and Chairman.
 - Land degradation, primarily desertification and deforestation as a new focal area of GEF.

Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

- COP-6 in Havana, Cuba, 25 August to 5 September.

Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)

- **CSD-11** took place from 28 April to 9 May 2003, at UN headquarters in New York. Convening for its first substantive session since the WSSD, the Commission commenced with a three-day high-level segment, where over 40 high-level representatives at the ministerial level addressed the future modalities and work programme of the CSD, and engaged in interactive ministerial round tables, with the participation of Major Groups. CSD-11 concluded with adoption of the CSD's multi-year programme work for the period 2004-2017, which will be organized as a series of two-year action-oriented Implementation Cycles, with a Review Session and a Policy Session in each cycle. Each two-year cycle is expected to consider a thematic cluster of issues, and a suite of cross-cutting issues, with the upcoming 2004/ 2005 cycle focusing on water, sanitation and human settlements. 2012/2013 cycle will focus on forests, biodiversity, biotechnology, tourism, mountains. The CSD further decided on the modalities for reporting, partnerships, and enhancing UN system coordination and Major Groups contributions. Regarding reporting, it was decided to use existing reporting systems as much as possible. The UNFF Secretariat will monitor the reporting issue under CSD and continue to bring these experiences into the CPF Task Force on Reporting.
- **PFII-2** had a special theme of "Indigenous Youth and Children". I made a statement during the session, in which I highlighted the clear connections between indigenous peoples issues and forest issues. Furthermore, the UNFF S is exploring the possibilities for collaboration with the PFII and its partners, in particular on UNFF 4 elements, such as traditional forest-related knowledge and social and cultural aspects of forests.
- **ECOSOC's** high-level discussions on rural development. UNFF S. will host a ministerial breakfast meeting on 2 July.
- Upcoming **Country- and Organization-led Initiatives in support of UNFF**, including:
 - Swedish African initiative on when is it possible to sustainably manage forests: learning for the future, with particular emphasis on sub-Saharan Africa. First of two meetings to be held in December 2003, Nairobi, Kenya. FAO is a close partner and the organizers are seeking to involve other CPF members as well.
 - Switzerland, Indonesia, and other countries take on a country – sponsored initiative on "Decentralization, Federal Systems of Forestry and National Forest Programs". CIFOR and UNFF S is supporting this initiative. A workshop will be held in conjunction with UNFF 4, in May 2004.

- The government of the Republic of Congo has proposed to host an initiative on Tech Transfer for SFM. A global workshop will be organized in February 2004. The Organizing Committee will meet in conjunction with UNFF3 to decide on step forward.
- **Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration.** UNFF S recently joined the partnership and hopes that this initiative could be launched as a country- and organization-led initiative in support of UNFF.

Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

- Eighteenth sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) took place 4 to 13 June 2003 in Bonn, Germany. The meeting discussed issues related to e.g. modalities and rules for afforestation and reforestation project activities under the clean development mechanism, good practice guidance for land use, land-use change and forestry, harvested wood products and cooperation between international organizations.
- The ninth session of the Conference of Parties and SBSTA/SBI 19 will be held in Milan, Italy 1 to 12 December 2003.