

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

Saturday 20 September, 2003, Quebec

Chair:	Hosny El-Lakany (FAO)		Susan Braatz
Secretary:	Mia Söderlund (UNFF S)	UNFCCC:	Regrets
CIFOR:	David Kaimowitz	UNDP:	Tim Boyl
FAO:	Tiina Vähänen	UNEP:	Regrets
ITTO:	Amha bin Buang	ICRAF:	Dennis Garrity
IUFRO:	Risto Seppälä	World Bank:	Laura Ivers
CBD:	Manuel Guariguata	IUCN:	Stewart Maginnis
GEF:	Regrets		Carole Saint-Laurant
UNCCD:	Melchiade Bukuru		Andrew Deutz
UNFF:	Pekka Patosaari		

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 eleventh meeting of the CPF and noted the good level of participation. Mr. El-Lakany stressed the importance of the XII World Forestry Congress and the excellent opportunity it provides to highlight the work of the CPF and its members. Many CPF members provided information about various events that they were planning in conjunction with the Congress and agreed that CPF material would be displayed in a CPF booth as well as through individual exhibits.

CPF members approved the agenda.

2. Follow-up from UNFF 3 and preparation for UNFF 4 and ad hoc expert groups

UNFF Secretariat informed CPF members of the CPF related outcomes of UNFF 3 and the preparations for UNFF 4 and the meetings of the ad hoc expert groups.

CPF received a lot of recognition at UNFF 3. The outstanding work of CPF members in support of UNFF was highly appreciated by member States of the Forum. However, this raises greater expectations for the future.

Some of the key tasks ahead for CPF members include:

- CPF Focal Agencies for UNFF 4 elements are preparing the corresponding draft S-G reports; other CPF members are to provide inputs and comment on drafts. Members agreed to reflect biodiversity, as a cross-cutting issue, in the reports, where relevant.
- CPF's support to Ad Hoc Expert Groups (AHEGs):
 - CPF Task Force on reporting will prepare an input (a background paper) for the AHEG on monitoring, assessment and reporting. This will be circulated to all CPF members for approval before it is made available to the AHEG.
 - CPF members are invited to identify relevant background and strategy documents related to AHEGs.
 - CPF members are invited to comment on official documentation for AHEGs;
 - CPF members are invited to participate in the meetings of the AHEGs;

- CPF members are invited to submit views on the following by 31 January 04 on some of the tasks of the AHEG on legally binding instrument on forests (as per UNFF-3 decision)
- Prepare CPF Framework 2004 (Dec 03 - Feb 04);
- Provide views by end of Feb 04 on three issues related to forest biological diversity (as per UNFF-3 decision);
- CPF members to provide the UNFFS with possible sources of information, in order for UNFFS to gather baseline information against the specific criteria for the review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests. UNFFS will contact members to request information.

3. CPF initiatives

FAO briefed CPF members on new developments in the three on-going initiatives, namely the CPF Task Force on reporting and CPF Sourcebook on Funding for SFM and efforts on harmonization of forest-related definitions. IUCN presented a proposal for a new joint CPF initiative and UNFF Secretariat provided an update on the CPF web site.

The CPF Task Force on reporting will meet on 20-21 November at FAO in Rome. The meeting will focus on examining the potential for an international framework for reporting on forests and capacity building on monitoring, assessment and reporting. The Reporting Portal (website¹) is currently being translated into French and Spanish.

The on-line CPF Sourcebook has recently been updated based on considerable input, comments and suggestions from CPF members and CPF Network participants and will be soon translated in French and Spanish. The National Forest Programme Facility has also produced a CD-ROM, that includes the CPF Sourcebook. In addition, a CPF Sourcebook flyer (in English, French and Spanish) has been prepared for outreach purposes. All CPF members will shortly receive copies of the flyer, as well as the CD-ROM for further distribution through their networks.

Regarding CPF's efforts on definitions, participants were informed that a proposal on how to continue the harmonization work has been prepared by FAO and is currently under consideration among experts that were been involved in the two expert meetings organized in 2002.

CPF's website, which is maintained by the UNFF Secretariat, has recently been updated to be more consistent with the revised CPF Policy Document. Members stressed the importance of continued maintenance of the website. All CPF members were encouraged to review the website and provide additional comments. It was agreed that all CPF members would ensure that their individual websites have a link to the CPF website.

At the last CPF meeting, IUCN offered to prepare a concept paper on a possible new CPF joint initiative, which would focus on how information on implementation of IPF/IFF proposals for action could be disseminated to a wide group of stakeholders. IUCN presented its concept paper, which proposed establishing a learning and knowledge sharing mechanism, which could facilitate action learning in implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action at the national and sub-national levels. The proposed learning and knowledge sharing mechanism would consist of:

- a networking tool for exchanging experiences and lessons learned across different levels

¹ www.fao.org/forestry/cpf-mar

- a searchable information clearinghouse to support the networking tool

CPF members welcomed this new initiative but emphasized that more time is needed to examine the proposal carefully. They stressed that there is a clear need to reach out to the people on the ground that are directly involved in implementation of IPF/IFF proposals for action and that often are not aware of policy development at the international level. Furthermore, CPF has a crucial role to play in facilitating the “translation” of the IPF/IFF proposals for action into terms that are more readily understandable in their national context. It was pointed out that several organizations have expertise in knowledge sharing and networking that would be relevant, including the work by FAO and UNDP with the International Model Forest Network, CBD’s clearinghouse mechanism. It was agreed, that before CPF embarks on establishing any new networking tools, the existing ones need to be examined. CPF members were requested to provide IUCN with their comments to the proposal by the end of November. Based on the input, IUCN will propose next steps. The UNFF Secretariat offered to host a brainstorming meeting in New York in early 2004, if members agreed it would be useful. It was also agreed that elements of this new initiative should be shared with CPF Network participants, beginning at its fourth meeting on 24 September.

4. Enhancing collaboration and coordination among CPF members at regional and national levels

Several CPF members have regional offices or regional and sub-regional networks in place. CPF members discussed how they could make better use of these regional nodes to enhance collaboration and coordination among CPF members at the regional and national levels.

CPF members agreed to send CPF material to their regional offices and other networks. Some participants also highlighted regional forest partnerships and initiatives as another opportunity to foster closer collaboration among members. For example, several CPF members are partners in the Asia Forest Partnership and the Congo Basin Forest Partnership. It was also stressed that the support to CPF and particular the issue of strengthening enhanced synergies among members needs to be endorsed at the highest level through decisions of the governing bodies of CPF members.

Furthermore, UNFF Secretariat informed about a handful of country- and organizational-led initiatives in support of the UNFF that have a regional approach, such as the “Lessons Learnt on SFM in Africa” sponsored by the Swedish government and supported by FAO, CIFOR and ICRAF. UNFF Secretariat envisages that the regional realities will be highlighted at UNFF 4, through panel discussions and side events.

5. Preparations for the CPF Network meeting on 24 September

Participants reviewed the agenda for the CPF Network. Ms. Kanta Kumari, GEF, was nominated to co-chair the meeting on behalf of CPF. Furthermore, participants agreed to invite Mr. William Street, International Federation of Building and Wood Workers, to be the other co-chair for the fourth CPF Network meeting scheduled for 24 September 2003.

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

See annex 1 below.

7. Next CPF meeting

It was agreed that the next CPF meeting will take place on Sunday 2 May 2004 in Geneva, in conjunction with UNFF 4. However, it was also agreed that an informal meeting would be convened in conjunction with the two meetings of the UNFF ad hoc expert groups (December 2003).

Annex 1.

Brief agency reports on matters of interest to other CPF members

Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)

Meeting Planned

- The Interlaken Workshop on Decentralization, Interlaken, Switzerland. 27-30 April, a country-and organization-led initiative in support of UNFF. CIFOR is one of the lead organizers, FAO is also supporting the initiative. CPF members will be invited.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Meetings Planned

- The six Regional Forestry Commissions will meet during 2004. It is envisaged that these commissions will further strengthen regional cooperation. CPF members will be invited to attend the meetings.
- Co-sponsoring the International Wildland Fire Conference, in Sydney, Australia, 4-8 October 2003.
- In collaboration with ITTO, a follow-up meeting on the International Conference on Criteria and Indicators will be organized in February or March 2004, venue as yet undecided.

Other forest-related matters

- Preparation for SOFO 2005 has started and a number of CPF members have been invited to contribute to the report either as authors or advisers.

International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

Meetings Planned

- 4th Conference on Certification, Quebec City, Canada, 25 September 2003. ITTO's phased approach to certification to be presented and discussed.
- 35th Session ITTC. Yokohama, Japan. 3-8 November 2003. Followed by Prep. Com. 2 of ITTA.

International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)

Meetings held

- International Workshop on Forest Science/Policy Interface in Europe, Africa and Middle East. June 2003. IUFRO's contribution to UNFF 3 was highlighted.
- Expert Meeting on Capacity Building for Forest Scientists in Latin America in Criteria and Indicators, Auditing SFM and Forest Certification. Costa Rica. 12-15 May 2003.

Other forest-related matters

- SilvaVoc Terminology Project, IUFROs' clearinghouse for multi-lingual forest terminology, has recently published definitions in French and Chinese (IUFRO World Series Vol. 9-cf, Vol.9-ch.

- The Global Forest Information Service (GFIS) has been further developed and currently provides access to more than 120.000 metadata records.

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Meetings held

- Meeting on Refinement of the Guidelines for Implementing the Ecosystem Approach and its Relationship with Sustainable Forest Management, Montreal, Canada, 7-11 July 2003. Most CPF members attended the meeting. The report is available on CBD's website as SBSTTA9 document. (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/8).

Meetings planned

- International Workshop on Forest Protected Areas. Montreal, Canada. November 6-8 2003.
- Liaison Group on Non-timber Forest Resources (took place electronically).
- Ninth meeting of SBSTTA. Montreal, Canada. November 10-14 2003.
- Ad Hoc Expert Group to Provide Advice to the Secretariat in the Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Work on Forest Biodiversity. Montpellier, France. November 24-27 2003.

Other forest-related matters

- Report on Management of forest biodiversity to derive products and services and benefit sharing. Available on CBD's website as a SBSTTA9 document (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/9/Add.1).
- Concept Note on Proposals for Enhancing the Integration of Non-timber Forest Resources Assessment into Forest Inventorying. Available on CBD's website as a SBSTTA9 document.

Secretariat of the Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Other forest-related matters

- Len Good (Canada) appointed as GEF's new Chief Executive Officer and Chairman, since 12 July 2003.
- New publication "Forests Matters: GEF's Contribution to Conserving and Sustaining Forest Ecosystems".

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

Meeting held

- COP-6 in Havana, Cuba, 25 August to 5 September. Three decisions particularly relevant to CPF members:
 - GEF as a financing mechanism to UNCCD;
 - Follow-up action to WSSD;
 - Efforts to strengthening the relationship between UNCCD and other relevant conventions and relevant international organizations, institutions and agencies. Particular reference was made to the UNCCD as a member of the CPF and a request for collaboration between UNCCD, UNFF, UNFCCC and CBD to promote the activities with Low Forest Cover Countries.

Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)

Upcoming Country- and Organization-led Initiatives in support of UNFF

- 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 February 2004, Nairobi, Kenya. FAO, CIFOR and ICRAF are partners and the organizers are seeking to involve other CPF members as well.
- “Decentralization, Federal Systems of Forestry and National Forest Programs”, also called the “Interlaken Workshop on Decentralization”, see more details under CIFOR.
- The Government of the Republic of Congo will host a Global Workshop on Tech Transfer and Capacity Building for SFM, 24 to 27 February, 2004 in Brazzaville. Several UNFF member states support the initiative, including Norway, UK, Italy, France, USA, Indonesia, South Africa and Brazil. CPF members are invited to join the technical committee.

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

Meeting held

- SBSTA and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation had their 18th session in Bonn, June 2003. The SBSTA considered the definitions and modalities for including afforestation and reforestation project activities under the clean development mechanism (CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol. Progress was achieved as it prepared a negotiation text and agreed to continue negotiations on the basis of this text (FCCC/SBSTA/2003/10/Add.3)². The SBSTA also considered good practice guidance and other information on land use, land-use change and forestry. The SBSTA took note of information provided by the secretariat and the FAO on the CPF, and encouraged the secretariat to cooperate further with the CPF on issues relating to LULUCF.

Meeting planned

- The forthcoming sessions of the Conference of Parties (9th) and the SBSTA and SBI (19th) will be held in Milan 1 to 12 December. Some key issues will include to:
 - Finalize negotiations on rules guiding afforestation and reforestation activities under the CDM.
 - Consider and adopt the report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on Good Practice Guidance for LULUCF.
 - Prepare and agree on common reporting format for LULUCF to report greenhouse gas emissions and removals by sinks under the UNFCCC. The secretariat is preparing, with help of the IPCC, draft tables for common reporting format (FCCC/SBSTA/2003/INF.11).
 - Consider and adopt the IPCC report on Definitions and Methodological Options to Inventory Emissions from Direct Human-Induced Degradation of Forest and Devegetation of Other Vegetation Types.
 - Discuss on the IPCC work on factoring out direct human-induced changes in carbon stocks from changes due to indirect and natural effects.

² UNFCCC documents are/will be available at <http://www.unfccc.int/>

- Consider issues related to harvested wood products. The secretariat is preparing a technical paper on estimation, reporting and accounting of harvested wood products (FCCC/TP/2003/7).

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Other forest-related matters

- Over the last 2 years UNDP has been engaged in a continuing process of **decentralization**, under which its role in providing policy advice to its clients, the developing countries, is increasingly handled by regional clusters of policy advisors. In relation to its role in the forest sector, UNDP is focusing on addressing the economic and social development needs of poor and marginalized groups in developing countries, most of whom live in and around the forests, rather than on forestry or forest management per se.
- To this end UNDP's work through the Equator Initiative to identify best practice and build capacity in local communities for biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods often involves forest and forest-related activities and projects.
- In its role as an Implementing Agency of the GEF, UNDP is responsible for implementing, currently, some 30 forest conservation projects around the world.

World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)

Meetings planned

- World Agroforestry and the Future: A Conference on the Occasion of the 25th anniversary of ICRAF. Nairobi, Kenya. 1-5 November 2003.
- 1st World Agroforestry Congress. Orlando, USA. June 2004.

Other forest-related matters

- ICRAF has embarked on an initiative to look into how countries report on trees outside forests.

World Bank

Meetings planned

- An active debate on concession policies and **forest fiscal systems** has been ongoing for a number of years. Several countries, encompassing a diverse range of forest types and associated industries, are implementing or considering reforming forest fiscal systems. While their situations are different, in all cases the objective is to identify the practical ways to ensure that forests can be utilized sustainably and make a more positive contribution to national poverty reduction objectives (as defined in PRSPs or similar statements of policy) through stimulating growth and providing regular and enhanced revenue flows to governments. From **October 19-21, 2003, a workshop** will be co-hosted by DFID and the World Bank, with support from PROFOR, to further the discussion and exchange experiences and knowledge on forest fiscal reform. Case studies on forest fiscal system reform in Brazil, Cambodia, Cameroon, Ghana, Honduras, Indonesia and Nicaragua will provide a basis for experience sharing and discussion at the workshop. Workshop participants will include policy makers from the ministry of forestry, the ministry of finance, and other key stakeholders from civil society and the

- private sector. A compilation of workshop proceedings will be likely completed by December 2003.
- On the **22nd-23rd of October 2003**, the World Bank (IBRD), International Finance Corporation (IFC), World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), with support from Forest Trends and PROFOR, will host a **Forest Investment Forum at World Bank Headquarters in Washington D.C.** The Forum will bring together senior executives from forest product companies and financial institutions around the world. The main objective of the Forum is to explore how the sponsoring organizations could help to create enabling environments for private sector investment by companies and financial institutions committed to socially, environmentally and economically sustainable management of forest resources in sustainable forestry and forest industry projects. The Forum is particularly targeted at mobilizing foreign direct investment in both developing and transition countries. The Forum will explore how the safeguard and incentive policies of the World Bank and those of its partner agencies can be used in a constructive way to foster responsible investment. Additionally, it will seek commitment to develop partnerships that will maximize benefits to the rural and urban poor. Regrettably, due to the high level of interest in the Forum, participation is limited to invitation only. The Forum proceedings will be made available on this website.
 - In **December 2003** a roundtable discussion will be held with donors to raise funding for the **World Bank/WWF Alliance's** operations as well as to support forest conservation and management initiatives including: Amazon Regional Protected Areas Program in Brazil; protected area recurrent costs and forest management innovations in the Congo Basin; a forest innovation fund for Russia and Eastern Europe; and the initial capitalization for the Mama Graun Community conservation fund in Papua New Guinea.
 - In partnership with IUCN, CIFOR, Forest Trends, the Colombian Ministry of Environment, Conservation International Colombia and others, PROFOR will support a **workshop to be organized in early 2004 in Colombia** to share relevant experiences on **payments for environmental services** in Latin America. A workshop in Papua New Guinea may also be organized in the first quarter of 2004. This work is a continuation of the Katoomba Group

Other forest-related matters

- In collaboration with IUCN, PROFOR is responding to the call by the CBD for a discussion paper on the conceptual basis of the ecosystem approach in relation to SFM. A draft of the paper is scheduled to be delivered to the UNFF Secretariat in February 2004.

World Conservation Union (IUCN)

Meetings held

- World Parks Congress. Durban, South Africa. 8-17 September 2003.

Other forest-related matters

- Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration is expanding. A demonstration portfolio has been developed to highlight forest landscape restoration projects around the world.
- Forest and Poverty is a major theme for IUCN for the next few years. Current initiatives in this regard include a resource kit to promote forests in PRSP.