

**Summary Report: 17th Meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests
29 August 2006, Rome, Italy**

In Attendance:

CBD:	Jo Mulongoy	UNCCD:	Douglas Pattie
FAO:	Jan Heino (Chair)	UNDP:	Regrets
	Michael Martin	UNEP:	Regrets
	Tiina Vähänen	UNFCCC:	Halldor Thorgeirsson
GEF:	Andrea Kutter	UNFF:	Pekka Patosaari
ICRAF/CIFOR:	Christine Holding		Ghazal Badiozamani (Secretary)
IUCN:	Regrets	World Bank:	Gerhard Dieterle
ITTO:	Amha bin Buang		Werner Kornexl
IUFRO:	Peter Mayer		

1. Opening of the Meeting

Mr. Heino, Assistant Director-General, FAO, opened the meeting by welcoming participants to Rome. He expressed FAO's pleasure in continuing to chair the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and his personal commitment to keeping the CPF highly relevant in the international arrangement on forests. He made reference to past accomplishments of the CPF and expressed hope for a productive year.

Mr. Patosaari, Director of the UNFF Secretariat, stated his appreciation for the participation of each organization in the meeting and emphasized the need for exploring ways of better engaging each member to enhance collaboration.

2. Review of Major Forest-Related Developments

2.1 UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC): Discussion on reducing emissions from deforestation / avoided deforestation

The UNFCCC Secretariat described the recent proposal made by a coalition of countries headed by Papua New Guinea and Costa Rica to create incentives to reduce emissions from deforestation. It was explained that Parties took the initiative to introduce a detailed discussion of this issue within the context of the UNFCCC because of the potential links that could be made with the carbon market.

The UNFCCC SBSTA has provided two years to further elaborate the proposal. The results of this process will be taken up at COP-13, to be held in Asia, and will come at the same time as the IPCC fourth assessment as well as the close of the two year dialogue on future commitments.

The World Bank reported that it is actively supporting discussions in a number of ways. It supported the submission of views by Latin American countries and is preparing a pilot

demonstration project, with \$100 million set aside for such activities. The Bank also maintains a \$1.7 billion trust fund for carbon financing.

The representative of the ITTO stated that the ITTO views deforestation as a major concern and noted that many underlying causes lie beyond the strict confines of the forestry sector. He emphasized the need for increased international cooperation and assisting countries to address the issue through capacity building. The representative of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) noted the possibility of considering reducing emissions from deforestation in the context of protected areas and taking into account the CBD guidelines on sustainable use. The representative of the UNFF Secretariat stated that years of international discussions around this issue have shown that the problem cannot be solved in isolation. He emphasized the important role of social, economic and practical implications of policy and decision making.

2.2 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): Forest-related decisions at COP-8 and preparations for COP-9

The CBD Secretariat provided a brief background on forest biodiversity in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity. He informed the CPF members that Parties to the CBD would undertake an in-depth review of progress at their ninth meeting in 2008. He described the process leading to the review, including the meeting of the ad hoc technical expert on the implementation of the programme of work on forest biodiversity, and highlighted the role of FAO in gathering relevant data and areas of possible collaboration among CPF members from the decisions of the CBD Parties at their sixth meeting in 2002. He stressed in particular the ongoing collaboration with the FAO in undertaking research on forest biodiversity and harmonizing reporting for the forthcoming assessment of achievement of the 2010 biodiversity target in 2010.

In recounting the conclusions of the recent COP-8, Decisions VIII/19 and VIII/15, which contain more direction regarding the POW on forest biodiversity as well as new targets for implementation, were highlighted. These include targets for protected areas, vulnerable areas, conservation of genetic diversity and traditional forest knowledge, impacts of international trade, and climate change adaptation. Parties had also expressed their appreciation of on-going collaboration within the CPF and efforts at harmonization of reporting.

2.3 UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD): Forest-related developments and the Global Mechanism

The UNCCD Secretariat reported on a number of activities as it renews its emphasis on sustainable livelihoods and places a new focus on prevention of land degradation in addition to their more traditional work on reclamation and restoration. The Secretariat is working with countries to mainstream national action programs and is working with the ITTO on a proposal for the creation of a Youth Forestry Corp, a volunteer group of young forest professionals who could lend technical assistance as needed.

In terms of general policy, the Secretariat is looking for avenues to move deeper into the area of dry forests. It is working with the FAO to run a pilot project on dry land commodities; is working toward the creation of a commodity Atlas; has created a link with the UN University Centre for Advanced Studies on Traditional Knowledge; and has joined the Congo Basin Forest Partnership.

2.4 International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO): New International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA)

The ITTO briefed participants on the adoption of a new International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA) on 27 January 2006. The Secretariat has received three signatures to date and hopes that the agreement will go into force by 1 February 2008. As with previous agreements, the ITTA was negotiated as a commodity agreement under the aegis of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and is legally binding. The new agreement will have a longer duration period than previous agreements (initially ten years) which will provide for greater stability and continuity. It retains the balance of emphasis between development and conservation of the environment but broadens the scope to include priority and emerging issues such as forest law enforcement, illegal logging and associated trade, poverty alleviation, certification, non-timber forest products, environmental services, and forest dependent indigenous and local communities. The new agreement also included some innovative changes to the way the ITTO budget is funded. Though the basic administrative costs will still be distributed evenly between consumer and producer countries, the majority of the core operational costs will be carried by consumer countries. It is hoped that this will allow greater funding for projects and programs aimed at implementation.

The adoption of the new agreement will enable ITTO to continue its cooperation, collaboration and partnership with the international arrangement on forests, specializing in issues of trade and sustainable forest management of tropical forests.

2.5 World Bank: Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) Initiative

The World Bank briefed participants on its Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) Initiative. Overall, there has been a significant increase in both interest in the program from member states and funding for the program and related activities by the Bank.

The East Asian FLEG process held a series of regional workshops and meetings on such issues as customs enforcement, forest sector transparency, and approaches to anti-money laundering and related investigation and prosecution. A second Ministerial conference may take place sometime in 2007. The Bank is collaborating extensively with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

In Africa the Bank has been working with COMIFAC to help countries develop national action plans and to integrate FLEG issues into the COMIFAC work program. The Bank is also supporting the work of the Congo Basin countries in monitoring forest cover.

The Europe and North America (ENA) FLEG process held a ministerial meeting in November 2005 in St. Petersburg, Russia. The resulting St. Petersburg Declaration has since been adopted by all members of the European Union (EU) Council. The EU has also pledged \$4-5 million to support ENA FLEG activities in the region. Russia has engaged in a growing dialogue with China on the issue and plans to certify more than 100 million hectares of forest in Siberia.

In Latin America, the World Bank is in the process of developing a cooperation agreement with the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (OCTA) to initiate a FLEG type process in the region. A workshop was held in August 2006 with the cooperation of FAO, ITTO and OCTA on Implementing Forest Law. Country assessments on forest sector governance have been initiated in several countries to set the agenda for a political dialogue. Work is also being done in Central America in cooperation with FAO, IUCN, GTZ, DfID, and USAID to possibly hold a Ministerial conference there in 2007.

There are a number of challenges to overcome during the next year. These include increasing technical assistance, improving the integration of FLEG processes with other international and regional structures and ensuring effective collaboration with the international financial institutions as well as the private sector and civil society.

The representative of IUFRO referred to its long-standing activities with regard to this issue through a respective research unit and its members' considerable expertise regarding work done at the country level. IUFRO has also created a task force on illegal logging and FLEG to gather and analyse existing information. CIFOR's program on governance, which seeks to portray the policy impacts of efforts to address illegal logging on livelihoods as well as to seek market mechanisms to control illegal logging, were also mentioned. It was noted that this may also become an important issue in the avoided deforestation debate taking place within UNFCCC.

It was decided that the World Bank would take the lead in organizing a roundtable discussion on this issue with interested CPF members to explore how best to proceed. This could include the possibility of drafting a summary paper on illegal logging and law enforcement related activities currently undertaken by CPF members for submission to the UNFF or even before the expert group meeting planned to discuss the NLBI in December.

2.6 Forest Landscape Restoration

IUFRO, in the absence of a representative from IUCN, briefed participants on the outcome of a meeting of the members of the Forest Landscape Restoration Partnership held in Colorado Springs in May. The group agreed on three priority actions for the coming year. These are:

1. To continue building the partnership and expanding publicity efforts to increase awareness and knowledge regarding the Partnership's activities

2. To create a learning network to link practitioners working in areas undergoing forest landscape restoration or considering the need for such action in order to share experience among a wider group of people.
3. To update the overall action plan of the Partnership and its budget

IUFRO also communicated that an international IUFRO Conference on Forest Landscape restoration will be held in May 2006, in Seoul, Republic of Korea, as a major contribution to the FLRP.

2.7 Global Environment Facility (GEF)

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) Secretariat announced the appointment of a new Chairperson / CEO, Ms. Monique Barbut, a French national who was most recently the Director of the Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The Secretariat expects a change in leadership style and priorities, including a revision of the website and other information sharing tools to make the system of applying for and tracking funding more easily comprehensible.

The Secretariat recently submitted a Forest Policy Paper to the GEF Council for review but received divergent views from member States. The proposal will await further guidance from the Council.

The GEF is currently in a transition period as the current funding cycle is completed and a fourth replenishment takes effect. The replenishment of \$3.2 billion will be used over the next four years with the first third of the commitment to be secured by the end of this year. A major policy change within the rules of the replenishment is the introduction of the Resource Allocation Framework (RAF). The RAF is intended to serve two purposes: to create a set of criteria for governments that receive funding to ensure that resources are disbursed on the basis of governance as well as impact at the global level; and to allow for better strategic programming in countries by allotting them a specific amount of money to be available over a four year time span. This will also encourage implementing agencies to collaborate more closely at the country level. At the same time, there may be a shift in funding to support activities of large carbon emitters and for countries that are considered 'mega-diverse' in terms of biological diversity. The new allocation allows \$50 million for Adaptation projects and programmes with \$350 million going to Mitigation in the form of clean technologies.

A new focal area strategy is also to be approved by the Council in December 2006. There has been a specific effort to increase activity with regard to Sustainable Forest Management, but, with the RAF in place, it will be up to countries to prioritize forest-related activities. At the same time, \$300 million has been allotted to address land degradation, to be used over four years. The new focal area strategy seeks to simplify the existing 15 operational programs.

When asked whether the Council had considered the specific request made by the UNFF to create an operational program specific to forests the GEF Secretariat noted that the

GEF considers forests to be a cross-cutting issue that is addressed under OP3, Biodiversity, as well as others.

The UNFCCC Secretariat informed members that discussions on the Adaptation Fund, to be funded through an adaptation levy on projects, are just beginning with the UNFCCC and that forests will play a strong role in these discussions.

2.8 International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)

IUFRO shared its new five-year strategy which is based on the following three goals:

1. To strengthen research for the benefit of forests and people
2. To expand strategic partnerships and cooperation
3. To strengthen communication and links within the scientific community and with students as well as with policy makers and society at large

2.9 World Agro-forestry Centre (ICRAF) and the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)

ICRAF presented a short video highlighting the need of forest farmers for access to seeds, management training, harvesting training, and access to markets.

ICRAF continues efforts to promote the concept of 'trees outside forests' as a mechanism to raise the profile of smallholder farmer contributions to forestry. The proposal was made during Kotka V, held 12-16 June 2006, to include a thematic paper on Trees Outside Forest for the FAO FRA 2010. ICRAF and FAO have already begun discussions on possible financing modalities and implementation of the proposal.

Commercial production of timber on farms in the tropics has great potential for ensuring livelihoods. Approximately 25% of the world's planted forests are owned and managed by smallholders. Such plantations have been shown to provide significant volumes of timber for both national and international consumption. Yet smallholder production is poorly recorded in forest cover statistics and largely unrecognized within the forest sector. It is with this in mind that ICRAF is pursuing a four-pronged approach to address the issue. These are:

1. Increasing documentation and analysis of production systems in various geographical areas
2. Developing and enhancing national capacity to use testing methodologies and measurement techniques to develop estimates of growth and yield of trees outside forests
3. Analyzing global and regional demand and supply trends of smallholder sourced timber
4. Sharing best practices for institutions and policies that have successfully promoted smallholder timber systems

2.10 Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO): COFO 2007

FAO presented the outcomes of the Expert Consultation on Global Forest Resources Assessment: Towards FRA 2010, which provided guidance for the FRA process and aimed to enhance collaboration with other processes with a view to pooling resources and streamlining reporting on forests. The next FRA will be organized around the seven commonly agreed thematic elements of SFM, but will seek additional information on: legal, policy and institutional frameworks; rates of deforestation, afforestation and natural expansion of forests; forest fragmentation and forest degradation; as well as information to assist CBD to assess progress towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target. FAO will provide capacity building to improve reporting and looks forward to collaborating with other CPF members as well as the criteria and indicators processes and the remote sensing community to gather and consolidate data.

FAO also shared information on two Codes, one on Planted Forests and the other on Fire Management, that are being developed to compliment the existing code on Forest Harvesting. The Codes are being developed in a multi-stakeholder process at the request of countries. They are meant to provide a framework for good practice for responsible planning, management and monitoring on these topics. FAO invited CPF members to comment on the drafts. There has been a request by countries in the Asian region to develop a similar framework to address trees outside forests. Countries in the Near East have requested a framework on dry land forests that would provide technical guidelines on management.

In summarizing Item 2 of the Agenda, the Chair highlighted the importance of having a clear picture among CPF members on the key developments of the international processes dealing with forests. He welcomed the many ideas that the members had brought forward on issues that could be addressed in the future work of CPF.

3. Outcomes of UNFF6, input from CPF members, and preparations for UNFF7

3.1 Report of the Outcome of UNFF6 and ECOSOC

The UNFF Secretariat presented the key outcomes of the sixth session of the UNFF, as adopted by ECOSOC in July. The importance of the Global Objectives on Forests were highlighted, as well as the three new principle functions of the UNFF which place a renewed emphasis on deforestation, livelihoods, SFM and financing. The Secretariat recalled paragraph 9 of the resolution, which calls for improved collaboration and cooperation among relevant multilateral environmental agreements, instruments, processes and United Nations bodies.

The negotiation of the multi-year programme of work (MYPOW) is expected to be quite difficult. The resolution calls for a change in the methods of work with regular sessions to be held every second year. There is also a call for greater involvement of regional

processes and increased work at the regional level. This could provide a further opportunity for CPF to increase collaborative work at the regional level in order to create better understanding of obstacles faced and enrich the international dialogue.

The MYPOW will ideally provide a framework for promoting and assessing progress on the Global Objectives while at the same time enhancing regional collaboration. Financing will also be a key issue of negotiations both at UNFF7 and beyond. The next review of progress will be in 2015.

At the same time, the role of ECOSOC is changing. It will increasingly become a review body aimed at assessing progress on the overall development agenda, which includes all internationally agreed goals and targets. It is expected that ECOSOC will develop its own programme of work and Functional Commissions will be thus invited to report on specific, focused themes. This new POW will also include frequent Ministerial Reviews and the establishment of a Development Forum.

It will be important to keep this shift in mind when creating the UNFF MYPOW in order to ensure that the link between forests and achievement of internationally agreed goals and targets is maintained.

CPF members agreed that the Partnership is an important part of the wider inter-governmental system and that CPF priorities should be in line with the broader development agenda.

In an effort to increase attention given to implementation, the UNFF Secretariat plans to start a feature series on its website and newsletter entitled “UNFF Works” which will spotlight how countries have used IPF/IFF Proposals for Action and UNFF decisions and resolutions to improve their national forest policy.

In the same vein, the Secretariat proposed that CPF could follow-up on decisions that have called for concrete action by CPF members and has thus put together a draft matrix of relevant decisions. CPF members are invited to review the matrix and provide a few lines on progress for each relevant decision.

In order to catalyse a sense of action toward the accomplishment of the Global Objectives, it is also proposed that CPF members take stock of their current programs and projects to determine which could be considered to work toward the accomplishment of the Global Objectives. This could allow the group to then determine if there are overlaps in activity that could merit greater collaboration or gaps in implementation that could be addressed jointly. This information could also be used in the drafting of the next CPF Paper to be submitted to UNFF7.

As a further effort to promote enhanced collaboration, the UNFF Bureau has also decided to invite the political heads of CPF member organizations to participate in a high-level panel during UNFF7 to brief countries on progress made and priorities for the future.

Some CPF members indicated that there may be statutory reasons why the political heads of their governing bodies may not be able to participate.

3.2 Preparations for UNFF7: Non-legally binding instrument (NLBI) and multi-year programme of work (MYPOW)

The UNFF Secretariat briefed members on the timeline and progress toward the negotiation of a non-legally binding instrument on forests (NLBI). Countries and some major groups have submitted proposals for the NLBI, which are available on the UNFF website. Comments on proposals will be provided by countries no later than 15 September 2006. A summary of proposals and comments will be included in a Note by the Secretariat.

It is also expected that a preliminary draft of the NLBI to be used as a basis for negotiation may be submitted to the Ad Hoc Expert Group (AHEG) meeting (to be held 11-15 December 2006) through the Bureau. The Bureau also plans on holding informal consultations on this issue in New York before the start of the AHEG.

The proposals submitted to date do not introduce many new ideas but vary in terms of scope and level of detail. The negotiation process should narrow down the options and clarify three issues: the purpose of the NLBI; linkages with new and existing instruments; and the relationship of the NLBI with the existing international arrangement on forests. To date, the NLBI has been developing within the UNFF framework but it is still unclear whether this will continue to be the case.

The UNFF Secretariat invited CPF members to contribute to the development of the MYPOW and suggested a joint meeting between the CPF and the UNFF Bureau.

The World Bank would like to contribute to the process by drafting a background paper on means of implementation. The Chief Council at the Bank has stated his willingness to assist in any way possible in the drafting of the NLBI.

The Chair concluded that it would be useful to hold consultations in advance of the meeting to determine the ways in which organizations can collaborate within this process.

3.3 Strengthening forest funding through the National Forest Programme Facility (FAO), PROFOR (World Bank) and the Bali Partnership Fund (ITTO)

This item provided an opportunity for initial discussion on the ways to improve collaboration and coordination among the three entities.

The World Bank reported that PROFOR is currently undertaking a mid-term review. It is anticipated that PROFOR will create an advisory board to identify emerging issues and key challenges for the future in order to better anticipate future needs. These could include the use of wood as an energy source, the increasing competition with the

agricultural sector, potential drivers of deforestation from bio-energy use, etc. In this way, PROFOR could become more useful to UNFF.

The mid-term report is being used by PROFOR to enhance its fundraising efforts, and it plans to increase its annual budget from \$1.1 million to \$4 million. This enhanced capacity will enable PROFOR to contribute to the discussions of the specific social aspects of the avoided deforestation debate taking place under UNFCCC.

Within the World Bank, there has been a decision to focus work around specific themes. These include research and analysis; governance, including FLEG; demonstration of innovation in the field; and the implementation of pilot projects, such as one on avoided deforestation.

The FAO recalled that the National Forest Program Facility, though hosted by the FAO, maintains an independent steering committee. Paragraphs 5c and 5d of the UNFF6/ECOSOC resolution, which specifically call on the NFP Facility, PROFOR and the Bali Partnership Fund (BPF) to be strengthened and for their host organizations to increase coordination to facilitate funding to developing countries, were recalled. It was observed that these resolutions show that the three funding sources are increasingly complimentary.

ITTO stated that the Bali Partnership Fund is one of the funding mechanisms maintained to pursue objective 1d: to enhance capacity of members to export timber from sustainable managed sources (ITTO 2000 Objective). Thus the Fund is intended to support SFM but is explicitly linked to the objective. This is additional to the Special Account which provides funding for ITTO projects and pre-projects. The donor response to the Bali Partnership Fund has not been encouraging, with only \$15 million contributed to date compared to the \$250 million contributed to the Special Account. The ITTA specifies that 50% of the interest earned from the Special Account should be deposited into the Bali Partnership Fund, the Fund shall be open to other resources, and only producing countries shall be eligible to apply for project funding.

The representative of the World Bank recalled that both PROFOR and the NFP Facility came from the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) process as tools for implementation. There is a need to better cooperate, but asked how to do this in practice. At the last steering committee meeting of the NFP Facility, PROFOR was requested to produce knowledge products that could be used in drafting and updating NFPs by countries. NFPs are also used as the platform for national action plans for illegal logging, which came out of the FLEG initiatives.

The representative of the ITTO reminded participants of resolution 5f, which calls on members of the CPF to enhance support of knowledge generation in order to support countries in accessing additional national and international funding.

The representative of the UNFF Secretariat suggested that relevant organizations revisit outcomes of the UNFF Ad hoc Expert Group on Finance and Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies (15-19 December 2003, Geneva).

In concluding, it was agreed that the relevant CPF members will discuss further how to strengthen the work and cooperation among the NFP Facility, PROFOR and BPF.

3.4 Proposed IUFRO/CIFOR/ICRAF initiative on science and technology

IUFRO presented a draft concept paper for a Joint Initiative on Science and Technology as a response to a request by the UNFF (UNFF6, para 23). No substantial body of scientific work on various forest-related issues that may be readily comprehensible to the non-scientist currently exists. The objective of this initiative would be to assess and analyse existing scientific information derived from international as well as national institutions to provide to policy makers the state of the art in each chosen field. The process would provide objective and independent scientific assessment. It is envisaged as a joint CPF initiative.

The initiative would be governed by a “board” of interested CPF members and would also be open to possible donors. There would also be an assessment panel composed of not more than fifteen leading scientists which would oversee the work of compiling information and propose themes to be investigated to the board. The initiative would involve working groups of scientists worldwide and all work would be peer-reviewed before being published. IUFRO would take the lead on the initiative. Seed money has already been donated by Finland to be used to assemble the board in order to discuss the details of the initiative and choose the initial topics of investigation. The initiative is planned to be launched at UNFF7.

IUFRO invited CPF members to state their interest in joining the initiative by mid-September.

4. Other CPF Initiatives

4.1 Streamlining Reporting

In response to the recommendation by the Expert Consultation on Streamlining Forest-Related Reporting (April 2005, New York), an informal planning meeting among the CBD Secretariat, ITTO and FAO was held in April 2006. Partners agreed to better coordinate collection and display of information relevant to the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA), ITTO Criteria and Indicators (C&I) for Sustainable Management of Natural Tropical Forests and CBD forest-related targets and indicators. The meeting fed into the Expert Consultation on Global FRA: Towards FRA 2010 (Kotka V), held in June 2006 in Finland, which several CPF organizations attended, including the CBD Secretariat, ITTO, IUCN, IUFRO, UNEP (WCMC), UNFCCC, UNFFS, World Bank and FAO.

FAO, in collaboration with ITTO, the CBD Secretariat, and UNEP, with funding from Japan, has also initiated a five year project for streamlining and strengthening monitoring, assessment, and reporting (MAR) on SFM in Asia. The project will create networks at the national level of focal points responsible for reporting to various international processes. Twenty-three countries have joined the project to date.

4.2 Global Forest Information Service (GFIS)

IUFRO reported that the GFIS group continues to expand its network of information providers and recently completed a training session in Russia at the Moscow State Forestry University. The next training will be held in Beijing from 10-12 October 2006 and will be supported by ITTO, the Swiss Government and the Republic of Korea. There will be an informational session on GFIS held during the IUFRO Latin American Congress in La Serena, Chile, 23-27 October 2006 and it is planned that the Spanish language inter-face will be on-line by then. On the technical side, the project has received support from FAO and CIFOR and is currently housed and supported by METLA, the Finnish Forest Research Institute. A new GFIS strategic framework is currently being developed and an explanation tool for new information providers will be ready by fall. CPF members that are not information providers for GFIS yet were invited to contact IUFRO.

4.3 Sourcebook on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of Forests

The World Bank reported that the Sourcebook on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of Forests, to which FAO, CIFOR and IUCN have contributed, will be launched as a CPF product at UNFF7.

5. Possible CPF Retreat before UNFF7

ICRAF reiterated their proposal to hold an extended CPF meeting in Nairobi.

It was decided that the next CPF meeting could be held in conjunction with the Ad-Hoc Expert Group meeting on the NLBI to be held 5-11 December 2006 in New York. The dates for such a meeting were tentatively set for 17-18 December (Sunday-Monday).

Follow-Up

1. It was decided that the World Bank would take the lead in organizing a roundtable discussion on FLEG-related issues with interested CPF members to explore how best to introduce on-going activities into UNFF. This could include the possibility of drafting a summary paper on on-going illegal logging and law enforcement related activities among CPF members for submission to the UNFF7 or before the expert group meeting on the NLBI in December.

2. Relevant CPF members are to discuss further how best to implement paragraphs 5(c), (d), and (f) of the UNFF6/ECOSOC resolution, calling for strengthening forest funding through the National Forest Programme Facility (FAO), PROFOR (World Bank) and the Bali Partnership Fund (ITTO) as well as coordination among them.
3. The UNFF Secretariat will assist CPF members to follow-up on decisions that have called for concrete action. CPF members are invited to review the matrix drafted by the UNFF Secretariat and provide a few lines on progress for each relevant decision for possible use in the CPF Report to UNFF7. In addition, CPF members are also invited to provide brief summaries of on-going activities related to the Global Objectives on Forests for possible inclusion in the CPF Report to UNFF7.
4. Those members interested in joining the board of the science and technology initiative are invited to contact IUFRO by mid-September.
5. Interested CPF members are invited to contact IUFRO to become information providers to GFIS.
6. CPF members are invited to provide comments on the two Codes introduced during the meeting. Comments on the Code on Planted Forests should be submitted by the end of September to <Planted-Forests-Code@fao.org> and comments on the Code on Fire Management should be submitted by the end of October to <Fire-Management-Code@fao.org>. The codes are available on the FAO website (www.fao.org/forestry).

ANNEX 1

Forthcoming Events of Interest

CBD Secretariat

- The CBD Secretariat in facilitating a possible partnership between the Congo Basin, the Heart of Borneo, and the Amazon forests in the context of the South-South cooperation. An exploratory meeting will be held in Montreal to identify priorities from **6-8 November 2006** and will include a key note presentation by Nobel Laureate Wangari Maathai. CPF member organizations will be invited to the meeting.
- The meeting of the CBD ad hoc technical expert group on implementation of the programme of work on forest biodiversity will be hosted by the FAO from **28 May to 1 June 2007** to prepare for the review of the implementation of the programme of work on forest biodiversity by the 13th meeting of the CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in February 2008 at the FAO Headquarters.

FAO

- The FAO will be holding its Committee on Forests (COFO) from **12-16 March 2007**. Based on country consultation, preliminary themes include progress toward SFM; forest protection; and putting forests to work at the local level, which would include issues of community forestry and forest employment.
- The Director-General of FAO is considering the possibility of convening a Ministerial meeting on forests to be held in conjunction with the next COFO on **12 March 2007**. The theme of the meeting could be forests and energy.

ITTO

- The Forty-third Session of the International Tropical Timber Council and Associated Sessions of the Committees will be held from **5-10 November 2007** in Yokohama, Japan

IUFRO

- An IUFRO Latin American regional conference will be held on **23-27 October 2006** in La Serena, Chile which will seek to address issues of forest productivity and the links between forests and society, especially in arid and semi-arid zones
- IUFRO will host a forest landscape restoration conference in Seoul, South Korea in **May 2007**

UNFCCC Secretariat

- A workshop on “Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries” was held from **30 August – 1 September 2006** in Rome
- The 12th Conference of the Parties (COP-12) will take place in Nairobi, Kenya from **6-17 November 2006**

UNFF Secretariat

- The Ad Hoc Expert Group meeting on the non-legally binding instrument (NLBI) will take place in New York from **11-15 December 2006**.
- There will be a country-led initiative hosted by the government of Indonesia in Bali, tentatively set for **13/14 – 16 February 2007**, to discuss the NLBI and the multi-year programme of work
- The Seventh session of the UN Forum on Forests will take place in New York from **16-27 April 2007**.