



Muller announced that the Conference was organized by the Government of the Netherlands, in close cooperation with the Governments of Ethiopia, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Vietnam, the World Bank and the FAO. Mr. Rojas- Briales proposed for the UNFFS to team up with the World Bank and FAO in order to feed the AHEG results into the Hague Conference.

Other CPF activities in support of UNFF9 ( 24 January- 4 February 2011, NY) were discussed, including the special session and dialogue among ministers and the heads of CPF member organizations set for the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February 2011, as well as round-tables on topics related to “forests for people”. A discussion followed on the preparations for the UNFF9 High Level Segment and the CPF Framework Paper 2010- 2011 to be presented at UNFF9. Members agreed to provide written contributions, via email, on the draft outline on the CPF Framework Paper circulated by the UNFFS. The first draft of the Framework Paper will be circulated by early October for feedbacks and comments from CPF members.

### **3. Planning for the International Year of Forests (IYF) (January 2011)**

Ms. McAlpine stressed the important role of CPF members in ensuring that the International Year ( Forests 2011) is a success. She mentioned that all current activities being planned for Forests 2011 could benefit greatly from the involvement of CPF member organisations, especially by way of CPF's extensive experience and wide network of contacts. While informing members of the framework strategy for Forests 2011, she also unveiled the logo for the Year.

Members exchanged views on a range of activities to support the launch of Forests 2011, to work collaboratively with others as well as to build on individual efforts to promote the Year at all levels. Various proposals were presented, including for all CPF members to add the IYF logo on their outgoing emails and letterheads (starting the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2011); to scale up Members States efforts on communications, education, training and capacity on forest media; to develop a comprehensive department wide strategy to frame activities in support of the IYF; and to foster a horizontal level of exchange to shape communication efforts for all CPF members in a strategic manner. The need to organize on the margins of COFO a 1<sup>st</sup> informal meeting among CPF focal points responsible for communications was underscored. FAO agreed to send invitation letters to all CPF communication focal points to attend the informal meeting during COFO to address communication needs and develop a strategy for a forest communication network to maximise efforts for Forest Day 4 and Forests 2011.

An array of CPF products celebrating Forest 2011, such as a stamp series, annual tree planting events, including World Forest Day, and calendars produced by all members were also mentioned. Other opportunities targeting the Forest 2011 website, with the motto “Forests for People” were mentioned to help draw people to the Year. An invitation will be sent by the UNFFS calling for information from CPF members on projects and activities to be highlighted on the website. Feedback from members was positive. Some views reinforced the use of existing tools, such as the Global Forest Information Service (GFIS) to store information and coordinate events, while other input offered approaches to reach out to indigenous people, women and other stakeholder groups. In this regard, the Organization Led Initiative in support of UNFF9 held in Ghana in July 2010 was noted as helpful in exploring approaches to engage with major groups. Opportunities to link forest biodiversity outputs from the International Year of Biodiversity 2010 to Forest 2011 were also discussed. In specific, Mr. Ian Thompson underlined the December 2010 bringing ceremony in Japan between the CBD and the UNFF. Other high level events, including the UN General Assembly Biodiversity Special Session, on 22 September 2010, were also noted.

#### **4. Preparations for COFO (4-8 October 2010, Rome Italy)**

Mr. Rojas-Briales briefed members on the programme for COFO operating under the theme Forests and Sustainable Development. Among the topics, he drew attention to FRA 2010, the Forest Degradation Initiative, as well as a series of panels, including one on communications linked to the topic of Forest 2011. Also noted was the invitation to the Global Forest Experts Panel (GFEP) to present the objective and the preliminary findings of its latest study. He also highlighted activities organized by FAO and its partner organizations and institutions during the World Forest Week (WFW). As the Week's events have been organized around the key topics of COFO, they not only intend for a more detailed discussion, but will also contribute to the negotiations of COFO, helping members to take informed decisions.

The international scientific conference on Emerging Economic Mechanisms: Implications for Forest-Related Policies and Sector Governance (5-7 October) co-organized by the University of Tuscia (Italy) and FAO, with the support of IUFRO, was also noted as part of the WFW. Mr. Rojas- Briales described the composition of the conference, specifically two panel discussions on forest governance and on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+). He also proposed that the outcomes of the AHEG be reported to this conference. Other informal CPF related meetings scheduled during COFO were also noted.

#### **5. Preparations for Forest Day 4 (FD4)**

Mr. John Colmey briefed CPF members of the discussions with the Steering Committee during an informal meeting on FD4 held on 23<sup>rd</sup> of August. He highlighted the members present and the key messages and proposals that emerged (Annex 1). The evolution of Forest Days and the importance of building on past themes, to position FD4 within a multi-sectoral approach, emphasizing on the "+" in REDD+ and co-benefits were also mentioned. A new theme for FD4 was also presented. Mr. Colmey explained how the focus for FD4 was meant to promote actions and commitments from all stakeholders and to broaden the audience beyond climate change negotiators. He also stressed the importance of this FD and the opportunities for building synergies across all stakeholders, from national governments to NGOs and IGOs to local communities and the media and general public. Members were supportive of the approach presented. While they agreed to continue to address forested countries and tropical forests, they also recognized the need to focus on dry forests as well as temperate and boreal forested countries, by weaving them into the learning events where appropriate.

A detailed exchange of views among members followed on the selection of speakers, sub-plenary events and learning events, as well as private sector involvement, budget matters and simultaneous interpretation, in particular adding French as a third language. On this latter point, FAO suggested to channel the request for consideration of the FAO Cabinet. Concerns were also expressed on how to ensure a balance of participants (countries, private sector, NGOs, gender, regional distribution, etc) in each session, while ensuring CPF due diligence.

Event organizers were requested to work together to further shape their events, improve the descriptions and select the speakers and panelists. CPF members were called to send written inputs to Mr Colmey by September 6, to begin inviting speakers. Regarding the budget, all members pledged a minimum contribution of \$15k with additional contributions for sponsoring sub plenary and learning events. Co-hosts were encouraged to raise funds from outside donors or private sector, in which case contributions could be reduced.

## **6. Brief Updates of CPF initiatives**

IUFRO updated members of the developments of two CPF initiatives, namely GFIS and GFEP. Mr. Buck encouraged members to become information provider and to establish further links to the GFIS calendar in order to improve the tool for outreach purposes. He also underscored the relevance of GFIS for Forests 2011. Members shared views and suggested a few amendments to capture the CPF logo and the nature of this joint initiative on the GFIS webpage. Members agreed to provide IUFRO with written inputs via email.

The preliminary findings of the GFEP study on forest governance and policy regimes were also described. While highlighting cross-sectoral challenges and practical gaps, Mr. Buck underlined the need to highlight the issues and disseminate the findings in relevant processes and fora.

Updates on the Ecosystems and Climate Change Pavilion to take place on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October in Nagoya, Japan during the CBD COP 10 were also mentioned. In particular the opportunity for the CPF to host an event on the Forest Degradation Initiative was discussed. Additional proposals were mentioned, including the hosting of a reception to close the Pavilion. Members agreed to discuss the options further at the next CPF meeting. Related to CBD issues, Ms. McAlpine highlighted a point which resulted from the CBD SBSTTA14 discussion, in May 2010, concerning draft terms of reference for an expert group Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Agriculture and Forestry, including Non-Timber Forest Products. Mr. Thompson clarified the nature of AHTEGs, as well as the background and rationale behind the creation of such an expert group. Members took note of the developments under the CBD process, recognizing that further discussion on this subject will take place at COP 10. Other issues at COP 10 related to forests include the adoption of global targets, an ABS protocol and defining forests within the CBD context. Members were encouraged to work with Member States and partners to ensure that relevant data is made available regarding sustainable forest management (SFM) tools, criteria and indicator processes, guidelines, practices and other useful information on forests.

The CPF initiative on “advancing a common message on SFM” which held its 1<sup>st</sup> working group meeting in April 2010, in NY, was also briefly mentioned. The group developed its work based on the SFM concept adopted by the UN General Assembly and contained in the Non Legally Binding Instrument (forest instrument). To this end, it was confirmed that the working group would not redefine SFM, but rather to promote the tripartite concept of SFM making the definition operational and practical. An outline consisting of 8 chapters was designed to help advance a common message. The Group also developed a roadmap for the initiative and agreed to a set of tasks and actions for CPF members, which are yet to be completed. A 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the working group has been proposed for the 7<sup>th</sup> of October. Members were encouraged to provide their assigned one page overview before the next meeting.

## **7. Other business**

An update of the CGIAR reform process was presented, including an overview of the process, its challenges, partners and results. CIFOR and ICRAF called on all members to provide feedback on the new forest programme. Ms. McAlpine proposed for the new programme to be showcased during the UNFF9 high level segment. While addressing other matters, FAO inform members of an International

Symposium on Ecosystem and Landscape-level Approaches to Sustainability to be held next March in Burgos, Spain (Annex 2). Speaking on behalf of the co-sponsors, the Regional Government of Castilla y León, Spain, the International Model Forest Network Secretariat, FAO and the CBD Secretariat, Mr. Rojas-Briales invited members to participate and contribute input to the meeting.

Mr. Gerhard Dieterle explained developments of the USA appropriations bill currently under review, which has been influenced by NGOs. He mentioned the provisions under question which discourage SFM practices, including language related to sustainability and certification. Among the impacts, the Bank has come across limitations preventing it to carry out specific forestry projects linked to industrial logging at any scale. Mr. Dieterle highlighted the impacts on large scale plantations and other forestry operations, including loans and grants for natural resource extraction. He argued that the work on SFM needs to take this into account.

Additional matters drew attention to the process which started in February to address ways to strengthen CPF's efficiency and effectiveness. Mr. Stewart Maginnis stress the importance of adding this to the next CPF agenda and asked when it would be addressed. Mr. Rojas- Briales recognized the concern and reported at present the agenda of the CPF would target substantive aspects. To this end, matters pertaining to CPF's modalities would be discussed in 2011. Lastly, Mr. Peter Mayer noted that this would be his last CPF meeting, as he would be leaving IUFRO and Heading the Austrian Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, at the end of the month. CPF members thanked him for his commitment to CPF over the past years and bid him best wishes in his new assignments.

Mr. Rojas -Briales proposed to hold two CPF informal meetings before the end of the year. He suggested the next meeting on the margins of COFO on the 7<sup>th</sup> of October 2010 and the second meeting after FD4, on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December, in Cancun, Mexico. The next official CPF meeting would be held on January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011, in NY, before UNFF9. He requested members to send their views on the proposed dates. Mr. Rojas-Briales thanked all the members for productive meeting and adjourned at 4:30pm.

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