

**Collaborative Partnership on Forests
Summary report**

In Attendance:

CIFOR: Francis Seymour, Sandra McGuire, Markku Kanninen
FAO: Jan Heino (Chair), Rosalie McConnell, Michael Martin
ITTO: Emmanuel Ze Meka
IUCN: Stewart Maginnis
IUFRO: Peter Mayer

Secretariats

CBD: Tim Christophersen
GEF: Gustavo Fonseca
UNCCD: Elisabeth Barsk-Rundquist, J. Kamugisha-Ruhombe
UNFF: Jan McAlpine, Peter Csoka, Mita Sen
UNFCCC: Roberto Acosta, Wojtek Galinski

UNDP: Charles McNeill
ICRAF: Dennis Garrity
World Bank Gerhard Dieterle

By Invitation: Jens Christian (Government of Denmark)

Regrets: UNEP

1. Opening and Welcome

After welcoming participants, the Chair acknowledged that time would not allow for a full discussion of all the agenda. Thus, he expected to take up any outstanding items at the next meeting in New York.

2. Preparations for UNFF8

All official documents for the session are available on the UNFF website in all languages. During the opening plenary, the CPF Chair will make a statement on behalf of CPF members and, in the interest of increasing the visibility of the Partnership, members who are represented at the highest levels will be invited to respond to the Secretary-General's Reports from the podium. In addition, the CPF Chair will be invited to present the strategic framework for forests and climate change to the Working Group on Forests in a Changing Environment.

PROFOR and the NFP Facility will make a paper available at UNFF8 which summarizes country experiences in Latin America on forest financing and outlines potential areas of future work of the Advisory Group on Finance. In this regard, a suggestion was made to discuss current sources of financing and their limitations when UNFF8 considers new financing arrangements for forests.

ACTION: UNFF Secretariat (CPF statement) and CPF Chair (presentation to Working Group)

3. CPF Statement to UNFF8

To assist with preparing the draft statement which will be circulated ahead of the next CPF in order to finalize it in New York, members suggested making reference to:

- the need for all mechanisms and funds related to forests to work together to implement the forest instrument and achieve the Global Objectives
- the need to provide financial support to CPF to carry out joint activities
- the linkages and gaps among the 3 Rio conventions
- the CBD decision (May 2008) to develop a joint work plan with UNFF Secretariat
- the CPF Strategic Framework
- the global expert panel on adaptation of forests to climate change - launch of its report
- the need not to lose sight of adaptation measures

- the gap in forest financing to combat land degradation and desertification
- the importance of trees in the REDD equation
- the fact that climate change mitigation will be impossible without SFM
- the launch of ITTO's REDDES in April
- ecosystem-based adaptation as an opportunity to link with SFM

4. Key forest-related events – May to December 2009

A list of some of the key forest meetings after UNFF8 (annex 1) will provide a basis for subsequent discussion in New York on those which offer a good venue to showcase joint initiatives and convey the messages in the CPF strategic framework.

FOLLOW-UP: for further discussion in New York

5. Road map to COP 15

Defining working modalities with UNFCCC Secretariat

UNFF will be given 2 minutes to present the outcomes of UNFF8 to the SBSTA in June and the CPF Chair will possibly be allocated the same amount to introduce the strategic framework. However, it was noted that the full statements could be distributed to participants in the SBSTA plenary. A suggestion was also made to consider other opportunities, including possibly organizing a side event. The UNFCCC Secretariat offered to explore the possibility for the CPF Chair to meet the Chairs of SBSTA, AWG-KP and AWG-LCA. Since the SBSTA Chair has a mandate to explore ways to enhance coordination and cooperation among relevant organizations in relation to the response of these organizations, in accordance with decision 2/CP.13, she would likely be amenable to such a proposal. Note was also made of the potential benefits of CPF collaborating with the Joint Liaison Group (officers of the scientific subsidiary bodies of the Rio conventions, the Executive Secretaries, and members of the secretariats) which works to facilitate cooperation and enhance coordination.

ACTION: UNFCCC Secretariat (explore the possibilities for such meetings)

Incorporating CPF messages into UN-REDD and other initiatives

The need to integrate CPF messages into UN-REDD and other initiatives was highlighted, in addition to the need to strengthen linkages between UN-REDD and the CPF. Discussions at COFO revealed that delegates not only are unsure about the linkages between SFM and REDD, but they also feel excluded from the REDD process, given that forestry ministries normally do not deal with climate change issues. Therefore, the need for coordination at the country level was underscored in order to ensure that, in discussions, the views of Parties in the REDD process under the UNFCCC take into account those of all relevant national stakeholders.

FOLLOW-UP: for further discussion in New York

Forests and adaptation

The report of the global forest expert panel on adaptation of forests to climate change highlights the need for further work to fill the gaps in this area. The CPF may therefore wish to explore the possibility, with the assistance of the UNFCCC secretariat, to meet with the Chair of the Adaptation Fund to discuss the importance of assisting countries to implement adaptation measures related to forests, especially those which have low potential to address mitigation and must tackle issues related to the rehabilitation of degraded lands.

ACTION: UNFCCC Secretariat (explore the possibility of such a meeting)

6. Forest Day 3

The Director General of CIFOR briefed CPF members on the draft plan for Forest Day 3 (FD3) which will be held at COP 15 (annex 2) and invited them to submit comments at their earliest convenience. Sunday, 13 December was chosen as the date to allow as many negotiators as possible to participate in the event. Given the limited opportunities to influence outcomes, a suggestion was made to seek inputs

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from negotiators early on the issues FD3 should focus on. The need to increase the participation of groups which were not well represented at FD2, including Indigenous Peoples and the private sector, was underscored. The point was also made that some representatives would require financial assistance to attend.

Since the venue will not support as many parallel side events as FD2, the day would need to be structured accordingly. In this regard, the messages contained in the CPF strategic framework could serve as overarching themes and CPF could organize a single event to demonstrate a unified profile of the partnership and its joint initiatives.

ACTION: CPF members (comments on draft) and CIFOR (revised draft for discussion in New York)

7. Potential areas for additional collaboration

In the interest of planning ahead, a suggestion was made to discuss at the next meeting the advisability of developing a CFP work programme, perhaps covering a 2-year period. The UN-Water initiative was cited as a good example of how CPF might structure and budget its own activities, including travel to events such as Forest Day. One option might be to include CPF as a component of the mechanism which UNFF8 will consider as a way of responding to the need for seed funding to support new ideas.

Recognizing that forests will not be viewed through a carbon lens forever, the point was made that CPF needs to think strategically about two or three key emerging issues: impacts of the financial crisis, the social/multi-functionality aspects of forests, the interface between deforestation and land degradation, collaboration across sectors, and closer links to agriculture and agroforestry, for example. With regard to the last item, the 17th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (4-15 May) is an opportunity for CPF to make a statement on the relationship between agriculture and forests as well as the role CPF could play in bridging the two sectors. Building on the CPF strategic framework and work of the Advisory Group on Finance, efforts must continue to address climate change from a forestry perspective and to resolve issues of forest financing.

FOLLOW-UP: for further discussion in New York

8. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Sunday, 19 April 2009. Prior to the session, the UNFF Secretariat will host a lunch to which UNFF8 Bureau members and focal points of the Major Groups will be invited. Should it be required, it was also proposed that a follow-up meeting be held later during the week.

Annex 1: 2009 calendar of forest-related events (May – December)

Dates	Location	Event
4-15 May	New York	Commission on Sustainable Development - CSD-17 will focus on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa.
22 May	Multiple venues	International Day for Biological Diversity
24-26 May	Copenhagen	World Business Summit on Climate Change - will develop recommendations on how to remove barriers and create incentives to implement new solutions in a post-Kyoto framework.
1-12 June	Bonn	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice Subsidiary Body for Implementation AWG on Further Commitments under the Kyoto Protocol AWG on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention
14 June	Bonn	Land Day (UNCCD)
17 June	Worldwide	World Day to Combat Desertification
23-28 August	Nairobi	Second World Congress on Agroforestry - will serve as a forum to share new research findings and ideas as well as strengthen partnerships in agroforestry research, education, training, and development.
31 Aug-4 Sept	Geneva	World Climate Conference (WMO) - The theme is <i>Better climate information for a better future</i> and will focus on how humankind can benefit from the advances in climate prediction and knowledge. It will also serve as input to COP 15.
20-25 Sept	Niigata, Japan	IUFRO International Conference: Multipurpose forest management: strategies for sustainability in a climate change era – will discuss state-of-the-art techniques and practices in various regions and forest types for managing forest resources sustainably, enhancing forest functions and maintaining forest ecosystems.
28 Sept-9 Oct	location TBD	AWG-LCA 7 AND AWG-KP 9
21 Sept - 2 Oct	Buenos Aires, Argentina	COP 9 UNCCD
18-25 October	Buenos Aires	XIII World Forestry Congress - will analyze the social, ecological and economic aspects of natural resources at all levels and emphasize the importance of sustainability of all types of forests to the health of the planet.
9-14 November	Yokohama, Japan	45th Session of International Tropical Timber Council (ITTC) + sessions of its 4 committees
7-18 December	Copenhagen	COP 15 and subsidiary bodies UNFCCC