

In Attendance

CBD:	Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias (Vice-Chair) Robert Hoft	IUCN:	Chris Buss
CIFOR:	John Colmey	UNCCD:	Sergio Zelaya
FAO:	Eva Müller	UNEP:	Tim Christophersen
GEF:	Pascal Martinez	UNFF:	Manoel Sobral Filho Peter Gondo
ICRAF:	Tony Simons		Benjamin Singer
ITTO:	Emmanuel Ze Meka		Ryo Nakamura
IUFRO:	John Parrotta Alexander Buck Andre Purret	WB:	Gerhard Dieterle
		Regrets:	UNDP, UNFCCC

Members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) met in Durban, South Africa on 8 September 2015.

1. Welcome and approval of previous meeting minutes

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, CPF Vice-Chair, on behalf of CPF Chair, welcomed members to the meeting held on the margins of the 14th World Forestry Congress. The minutes of the CPF Meeting held on 4 May 2015 and the proposed agenda for the meeting were adopted.

2. World Forestry Congress – overview and CPF events

(i) Debrief on the High-Level Dialogue and follow-up

Eva Müller, FAO, briefed members on the outcome of the CPF High-Level Dialogue held on 6 September 2015. She highlighted a broad spectrum of the ideas generated from the dialogue in terms of where forests and forestry should be at the year 2050, noting that the dialogue was filmed to produce a video clip to showcase the Partnership for various purposes. The summary of the dialogue would be prepared by Mr. David Henderson-Howat and circulated for comments. She also highlighted the purpose and scope of the outcome documents of the Congress, including: the Durban Declaration: 2050 Vision for Forests and Forestry; Message on forests in the SDGs to the UNGA Summit for the Adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and Message to COP21 on Climate Change.

(ii) Side events of CPF members

Eva Müller, FAO, shared an overview of the week, noting that a list of all side events sponsored and co-sponsored by CPF members had been circulated prior to the start of the Congress. She highlighted that CPF members sponsored over 89 events covering a wide range of issues. CBDS, WB, UNEP, IUFRO, ITTO and UNFFS provided an overview of their side events. It was pointed out by some members that a schedule conflict among events sponsored by members presented challenges in attracting audience and participants in these events.

(iii) CPF Wangari Maathai “Forest Champions” Award event

Eva Müller, FAO, provided an overview of the event and the winner, as well as its selection process, highlighting that the Partnership received 37 nominations from around the world and the jury selected Ms. Gertrude Kabusimbi Kenyangi of Uganda as a winner of the 2015 award in recognition of her efforts to promote the conservation and sustainable use of forests in Uganda while undertaking forest-related productive activities to support local communities particularly for women. She noted that the jury recommended no honourable mentions for the 2015 edition.

Members addressed the issue of financial contributions toward the \$20,000 prize. Members indicated the following: ICRAF indicated to contribute \$3,000; CIFOR indicated to contribute \$2,000; UNEP indicated to contribute \$5,000; UNFFS indicated to contribute towards the DSA of the winner; ITTO indicated to contribute \$3,000 and WB indicated to consider contribution (later confirmed \$3,000). FAO will cover the remaining amount.

Key Action:

- Members should make their financial contributions of various amounts to FAO to reimburse the organization for the \$20,000 prize.

3. Follow up to UNFF11

Manoel Sobral Filho, UNFFS Director, provided an overview of the post-2015 IAF, outlining functions of its components, including the Partnership, and highlighting possibilities to strengthen cooperation with members, including through the activities of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN). He shared that the first meeting of Ad-Hoc Expert Group (AHEG1) is scheduled to be convened from 20-22 January 2016 in New York, noting that the main focus of the AHEG1 is on the development of the proposals for a strategic plan for the IAF for the period 2017-2030 as well as the replacement of the reference to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with an appropriate reference to the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and targets in the UN Forest Instrument. Members were reminded that the invitation for inputs had been sent to Member States, members, regional and subregional organisations.

Key Action:

- Members were encouraged to submit their views and proposals by 15 October 2015 on the IAF strategic plan and the replacement of the reference to MDGs with an appropriate reference to SDGs and targets in the UN Forest Instrument, and were also encouraged to actively take part in the AHEG1 discussions to provide their inputs.

4. Enhancing the role of international organizations in supporting achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, CBD Executive Secretary, introduced the draft SBSTTA document "Forest Biodiversity: Role of International Organizations in supporting Achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets" that had been circulated prior to the meeting. He thanked the contributions made by members to the previous drafts of the document, and invited members to provide comments on the current draft for the finalization of the document, noting that the current draft contains revised options for future actions by the Partnership.

Key Action:

- Members were encouraged to provide comments on the draft SBSTTA document.

5. CPF retreat

(i) Timing and agenda

Eva Müller, FAO, recalled the discussion at the last CPF meeting and shared a proposal for a road map to discuss future modalities of the Partnership put forth at UNFF11. Members explored options to convene a working meeting prior to the start of the Global Landscapes Forum to be held from 5-6 December alongside with the UNFCCC COP21 in Paris, France. It was suggested by some members that the meeting would need to be held to avoid a schedule conflict with the preparation for the Forum, and could be held from 2-3 December to ensure the allocation of sufficient time for discussions. The outcome of the working meeting would serve as a basis for further discussions to contribute to the development of the CPF workplan and IAF strategic plan. Members also discussed possibilities to hold a meeting on the margins of AHEG1 and a retreat in spring 2016.

Key Action:

- Members agreed to the proposal that a working meeting would be held prior to the start of the Global Landscapes Forum that will take place from 5-6 December in Paris, France. The dates and agenda will be communicated by the Chair in consultation with the Secretariat.

6. Joint activities

(i) Global Landscapes Forum – Overview and CPF contribution

John Colmey, CIFOR, shared the current status of the preparation for the Global Landscapes Forum in Paris, 5-6 December at the Palais des Congrès in Paris, on the sidelines of the UNFCCC COP21, noting that several members will participate as coordinating and implementing partners, including UNEP, WB, UNDP, FAO, IUCN and ICRAF. Members were briefed that priority issues to be addressed include: the restoration of degraded lands; financing for sustainable landscapes; the role of indigenous peoples and local communities in land management decision-making. The Forum will include over 30 sessions along four themes: landscape restoration; rights and tenure; finance and trade; and achieving climate and development goals. Over 3,000 participants from over 100 organisations and 25-30 ministers, including Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development of France, are expected to participate in the Forum.

Members discussed ideas to strengthen CPF contributions, including through: more focused discussions on addressing drivers of deforestation at the landscape level; considering establishing a link to reporting on the SDGs; and consider launching a research arm in the GLF particularly on livelihoods.

(ii) Policy Learning Initiative

Alexander Buck, IUFRO Executive Director, updated members on the Policy Learning initiative, highlighting that IUFRO and the Governance, Environment and Market (GEM) initiative at Yale University completed the protocol for “learning through policy pathways” to serve as a decision tool that aims to enhance policy durability and provide pathways for policy influence. He also highlighted that the protocol is currently utilized for a case study on FLEGT efforts in Peru.

Key Action:

- Members were invited to provide input to the policy learning protocol.

(iii) Global Forest Expert Panels

Alexander Buck, IUFRO Executive Director, updated members on the successful launch of a report of the Global Forest Expert Panels (GFEP) "Forests, Trees and Landscapes for Food Security and Nutrition" at UNFF11. He shared that the findings of the report were also presented and discussed at the EXPO2015 in June 2015 in Milan, Italy, and the report received significant media coverage around the world. Members were also updated that several authors of the report, including Mr. Bhaskar Vira (India, Panel Chair), Mr. Terence Sunderland (UK) and Ms. Bronwen Powell (Canada) were recently appointed to be members of the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee of World Food Security (CFS) to carry out the study on sustainable

forestry for food security and nutrition with a view to contributing the discussions of the 44th session of the CFS in 2017.

Members highlighted the significance of the latest GFEP report and that its findings will bring perspectives on the contributions of forests to food and nutrition security into the discussions of the CFS. Members were reminded that the next GFEP theme needs to be identified in due course, taking into account a possibility to contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and International Day of Forests. Potential topics that were mentioned included forests and water and wood energy.

Key Action:

- Members were encouraged to provide suggestions on the next theme of GFEP.

(iv) IDF update

Manoel Sobral Filho, UNFFS Director, updated members on the 2016 International Day of Forests (IDF), noting that a joint communique from FAO and UNFFS was sent to Member States on 9 July 2015, to inform them of the proposed IDF 2016 theme of "Forests and Water". Members were also briefed that a report of the Secretary-General on IDF was prepared based on voluntary input from 75 countries for the 70th UNGA to provide an overview of activities undertaken in support of IDF since its first observance in 2013. He also shared that UNFFS will conduct activities that have been held in past years, including: preparation of the SG's message for IDF; preparation of a UN press release, including quotes from CPF heads; UNHQ event on the 21 March; social media campaign; development of design products; and given the theme of the 2016 IDF, opportunities are being explored to partner with water-related organisations and initiatives to amplify the messages and reach of the 2016 IDF. Regarding the CPF Communicator's Group, UNFFS and FAO plan to have a conference call with CPF communication focal points in September 2015.

Key Action:

- Through email and the conference call the Communicator's group will agree upon some proposed joint messages/tag lines for IDF 2016, as well as possible joint activities for the 2016 celebration. The Communicator's group will report to the larger membership with the outcome of these discussions, and seek their feedback on these proposed messages and activities.

7. Tour-de-table

(i) Update on UNCCD COP12 preparations

Sergio Zelaya, UNCCD Secretariat, updated members on preparations for the twelfth Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP12) to the UNCCD in Ankara, Turkey, 12-23 October 2015. COP12 will consider practical steps to make the rehabilitation of degrading land areas a reality and identify ways to contribute to the SDG and climate change processes. He shared that over 4,000 delegates have been registered and 40 ministers confirmed to attend the high-level segment scheduled to be convened from 20-21 October. Members were also updated on the ongoing efforts to develop indicators on the land degradation neutrality (LDN) in partnership with several other CPF members.

(ii) Update on UNFCCC COP21 preparations

The Vice-Chair informed that UNFCCC Secretariat had provided written updates on preparations for the twenty-first Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP21) to the UNFCCC in Paris, France, 30 November-11 December 2015 with highlights on the current preparatory status on the Paris Agreement and REDD+.

(iii) Update on post-2015 development agenda

Manoel Sobral Filho, UNFFS Director, updated members on the current status of the post-2015 development agenda to be adopted by over 150 Heads of State at the UN Sustainable Development Summit to be held from 25 and 27 September in New York. Members were briefed on the scope of the agenda entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, including SDGs and targets, and the current status of the development of SDG indicators by the Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDG indicators as well as follow-up and review mechanisms under the overall framework of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF). It was noted that the review architecture and organisational arrangements for monitoring, follow-up and review activities are evolving and will be decided at the 2016 session of the HLPF.

8. Any other business

FAO reminded that the 23rd session of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO23) is scheduled to be convened from 18 to 22 July 2016.

UNEP informed that the second meeting of the UN Environment Assembly is scheduled to be convened in June 2016.