



Summary Report
Informal Meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests
7 October 2010, Rome, Italy

In Attendance

FAO: Eduardo Rojas- Briales (Chair)
Susan Braatz
Lauren Flejzor
CIFOR: Elena Petkova
ICRAF: Paul Stapleton
Frank Place
ITTO: Steven Johnson
IUCN: James Gordon
IUFRO: Alexander Buck
UNEP: Mario Boccuci
World Bank: Gerhard Dieterle

Secretariats

CBD: Tim Christophersen
Ian Thompson
GEF: Ulrich Apel
CCD/GM: Camilla Nordheim-Larser
UNFF: Jan McAlpine
Mita Sen
Sylvia Chen

Regrets: UNDP, UNFCCC

1. Welcome and introduction

Mr. Eduardo Rojas- Briales, Assistant Director-General for Forestry of FAO and Chair of the CPF, welcomed CPF members to this informal meeting which was convened on the margins of the Twentieth Session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO), held at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy from 4 - 8 October 2010. The agenda for this meeting was adopted with additional points introduced under other business on FCPF (UNEP), CBD COP 10 (CBD), Liberia (World Bank) and GFEP (IUFRO).

2. Outcomes of the UNFF Ad Hoc Expert Group (AHEG) on Finance (13-17 September 2010, Nairobi, Kenya) and other CPF activities in support of the UNFF

Ms. Jan McAlpine briefed CPF members on the results and agreed actions from the forest finance AHEG meeting held in Nairobi in September 2010. She mentioned that over 190 experts from 90 countries, major groups, and CPF organization participated; notably the meeting also marked the first time that regional processes and regional development banks as well as finance and planning officials participated in a thorough and direct debate on forest financing.

Ms. McAlpine highlighted the key messages from the AHEG to CPF which included a call for further involvement of the CPF in the UNFF inter-sessional work on forest financing; and a request to the CPF AGF to update its analyses on forest-related financing mechanisms, expand its 2008 finance paper for AHEG2, provide proposals on strengthening existing forest-related financing mechanisms and provide analyses on financial resources associated with FLEG and FLEGT. She highlighted that the Co-Chairs (AHEG1) proposals include intersessional actions for the CPF AGF in particular on identify funding gaps among the Rio Conventions, GEF and REDD+ related funding.

Ms. McAlpine updated members on UNFF9 (24 January- 4 February 2011, NY) preparations including the dialogue of heads of CPF member organizations set for the afternoon of 3 February 2011, as well as round-tables on topics related to “forests for people” at the High Level

Segment and contributions to the CPF Framework 2010- 2011. She noted that first draft of the Framework Paper would be circulated by 11 October for feedbacks and comments from CPF by 22 October 2010.

Members exchanged views on how REDD investments and funding were going to impact CPF members. The need for research and analysis on REDD investment patterns and financial implications was noted. In this regard, Ms. McAlpine shared that seed funding for such research has been raised by UNFF which is being carried out as a CPF coordinated exercise through papers, and consultants. Mr. Rojas-Briales pointed out that the NFP facility could contribute to this analytical work, and CIFOR, CBD, ITTO, IUFRO and UNEP noted existing information resources and data on this topic. Mr. Rojas-Briales suggested that FAO could work with UNFF on drafting a calendar and TOR for consultants. The World Bank noted that the upcoming Hague Conference on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change, (October 31- November 5, 2010) could provide strong impetus on links to emerging issues such as land planning and development.

On preparations for UNFF9, Mr. Rojas-Briales noted that the 9th session of UNFF would provide a positive occasion to highlight CPF activities since the 8th session. He also mentioned the possibility for FAO to launch SOFO at UNFF9.

3. 1st meeting of CPF Communicators Network

Mr. Rojas-Briales briefed members on the discussions of the first meeting of the CPF forest communicators held on 5 October. He pointed out that the both Forest Day 4 and the International Year of Forests provided opportunities to share and intensify CPF communication activities. He noted that there was general consensus amongst members that coordination through nominated focal points would help strengthen the overall impact of communication and outreach by CPF members. He shared that some of the ideas raised at the forest communicators meeting included using films to communicate messages, and other shared methodologies including international days. ICRAF pointed out that advent of new web technologies would enable greater sharing of information resources amongst members.

4. Planning for the International Year of Forests (IYF) (January 2011)

Ms. McAlpine updated members on preparations for Forests 2011 and reiterated the important role of CPF members in ensuring that the Year is a success. She highlighted recent developments including the launch of the Forests 2011 website and the UNFF call for media content for the site; noting that website was intended as a platform to showcase actions being carried out by CPF members, governments and stakeholders. Ms. McAlpine mentioned the emphasis on real life examples, and everyday heroes as an effective vehicle for galvanizing public action. She stressed that film was an important component of the communication strategy - ranging from stories of landscape restoration from John Liu, to a short film being developed by Yann Arthus Bertrand for the launch of the Year, as well as the organisation of an international film festival to celebrate the Year.

Members shared a range of activities planned to promote the Year. CBD highlighted the December 2010 ceremony bridging the International Year of Biodiversity and the International Year of Forests, the focus on forest biodiversity of the International Day of Biodiversity and the work of the CPF WG on Advancing a common understanding on SFM on developing common messages. CIFOR shared plans to launch the year at a conference in January 2011. GEF noted that 2011 marked the 10 year anniversary of the GEF, and it would utilize the Year to promote the GEF's programs on SFM and REDD+. ICRAF shared plans

for a UNEP and ICRAF joint launch at the UNEP Governing Council meeting. ITTO shared plans for a special edition of Tropical Forest Update as well as tie-ins to the ITTC in Guatemala in 2011. IUFRO mentioned its members were organizing 60-70 meetings during 2011. FAO highlighted FAO's forestry photo database, tree planting activities, FAO regional commission meetings in 2011, and the proposal to focus on specific forest-related issues every month during 2011. Mr. Rojas-Briales also briefed members on the International Day of Forests (21 March) that had been proposed in the early 1970s.

5. COFO meetings on CPF initiatives on Forest Degradation, Streamlining Forest-Related Reporting and Advancing a Common Message on SFM (4-8 October 2010, Rome, Italy)

Members were updated on the CPF initiative on Forest Degradation which had reached general agreement upon the definition and indicators for forest degradation. It was noted that there were challenges in getting data that would clearly indicate degradation, as the threshold between degraded and managed forests was hard to define. The report of the initiative is expected to be ready by the end of November 2010. Members noted that extent of global degraded forests was an unexplored area, and was linked to Global Objective 1 as well as the CBD proposed target on degraded landscapes.

Members were updated on developments in the WG on Advancing a Common Understanding on SFM which was addressing divergent points of view on SFM by clarifying SFM concepts to achieve a common understanding - through the use of a content sharing web platform, and drafting of a strategic document. The WG would also develop a strategy to launch and share information through a dynamic and editable web interface such as a digital SFM e-book (Wikipedia style). Members discussed their views on this approach and whether this strategy would resolve areas of disagreement. Mr. Rojas-Briales proposed that the WG develop a 3-4 page paper that would provide a concentrated distillation of the concept of SFM.

Members were updated on the outcome of the meeting of the CPF initiative on Streamlining Forest-Related Reporting which was held to reconstitute the initiative. Members of the initiative had agreed to update the web portal on Streamlining Forest-Related Reporting, and carry out an assessment of ongoing reporting, reporting needs and gaps so as to avoid duplication of efforts.

6. Preparations for Forest Day 4 (5 December 2010, Cancun, Mexico)

Ms. Petkova updated members on plans for sub-plenary sessions, learning events and invited speakers as well as the current budget status and outstanding financial needs. She clarified the procedures for inviting speakers to learning events, the maximum recommended number of speakers (4) and provided clarifications on the minimum contribution per CPF member (\$15,000) with additional contributions (\$10,000) for sponsoring sub plenary and learning events. FD4 co hosts were requested to provide descriptions of their events by 22 October, and provide questions for sub-plenary session by 30 October to Mr Colmey. CIFOR also asked for volunteers for the key messages drafting committee as well as for drafting of press releases.

7. Other Business, including Upcoming Forest Related Events

Mr. Christophersen briefed members on the Ecosystem Pavilion at CBD COP 10 which aimed to bring science into the policy debate, and would be organized at COP10, followed by UNFCCC COP 16 and then at Rio +20. He noted that pavilion partners included ICLEI, UNDP and UNEP and that 2 October would be the Forest Day at the Pavilion. The

possibility of a Forest reception event co-hosted by ITTO and FAO on the evening of 2 October was mentioned in this regard.

Mr. Buck briefed members on developments related to GFEP, and pointed out that a learning platform on international forest governance information was needed in order to support free and open dialogue and improve coordination on governance.

The next CPF informal meeting will take place on 6 December 2010, in Cancun, Mexico.
