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2017

Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission

Twenty-seventh session

REPORT
of the
TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION
of the
ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY COMMISSION

Colombo, Sri Lanka
24-27 October 2017

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PREVIOUS SESSIONS OF THE COMMISSION

First session	Bangkok, Thailand	9-17 October 1950
Second session	Singapore/Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	1-13 December 1952
Third session	Tokyo, Japan	9-21 April 1955
Fourth session	Bandung, Indonesia	8-12 June 1957
Fifth session	New Delhi, India	12-18 February 1960
Sixth session	Hong Kong	12-17 September 1962
Seventh session	Rotorua, New Zealand	22 September-2 October 1964
Eighth session	Seoul, Korea (Rep. of)	1-8 May 1969
Ninth session	Canberra, Australia	20-28 September 1973
Tenth session	Kathmandu, Nepal	6-10 June 1977
Eleventh session	Suva, Fiji	6-10 April 1981
Twelfth session	Bangkok, Thailand	19-23 March 1984
Thirteenth session	Beijing, China	30 March-3 April 1987
Fourteenth session	Manila, Philippines	12-16 March 1990
Fifteenth session	Colombo, Sri Lanka	9-13 August 1993
Sixteenth session	Yangon, Myanmar	15-20 January 1996
Seventeenth session	Yogyakarta, Indonesia	23-27 February 1998
Eighteenth session	Noosaville, Queensland, Australia	15-19 May 2000
Nineteenth session	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia	26-30 August 2002
Twentieth session	Nadi, Fiji	19-23 April 2004
Twenty-first session	Dehradun, India	17-21 April 2006
Twenty-second session	Hanoi, Viet Nam	21-25 April 2008
Twenty-third session	Thimphu, Bhutan	9-11 June 2010
Twenty-fourth session	Beijing, China	7-11 November 2011
Twenty-fifth session	Rotorua, New Zealand	5-8 November 2013
Twenty-sixth session	Clark Freeport Zone, Philippines	22-26 February 2016

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

For the attention of FAO

The Commission recommended:

- in collaboration with other international agencies, to continue to provide technical information, support and assistance in strengthening capacities and identifying best practices to apply landscape approaches in forestry;
- to continue to support countries in the implementation of forest and landscape restoration in line with the Regional Strategy and Action Plan for Forest and Landscape Restoration;
- to provide guidance in identifying effective forest sector measures and best practices for climate change adaptation and to support countries in incorporating the forest sector into National Adaptation Planning (NAP) processes;
- to provide additional technical and capacity-building support to REDD+ including exploring potential for additional regional support programmes for REDD+ strategy implementation and investment planning;
- to assist, particularly, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to balance competing economic, social, environmental and cultural objectives for forests and forestry;
- to increase support to the work of the Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network;
- to ensure due attention is given to consultative and participatory approaches in developing global and regional forestry activities;
- in collaboration with other international organizations, to continue to give attention to capacity building and development of tools and best practices for utilizing trees and forests in urban and peri-urban areas;
- to conduct more case studies on urban and peri-urban forests, including identifying and/or assessing economic values of urban and peri-urban forests, to support cross-sectoral policy-making;
- to continue collaboration with APFORGEN and other relevant initiatives on forest genetic resources in the region including capacity building support for forest genetic resources conservation and seed preservation;
- to support countries to pilot community-based forest and landscape restoration approaches that specifically target enhanced food security and nutrition;
- in collaboration with other international organizations, to continue to provide information and support to designing community-based forest programmes and pilots based on best practices adapted to local requirements.
- to provide capacity building assistance and training on a range of topics including utilization of the new FRA reporting tools, platforms and methodologies, remote sensing methodologies and national spatial data infrastructure, utilizing priorities developed in needs evaluations during previous FRA exercises;
- to translate relevant recommendations from the 27th session of APFC into the respective templates for consideration by the Committee on Forestry, for the attention of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific, and for the FAO Programme of Work in Forestry.

INTRODUCTION

1. At the invitation of the Government of Sri Lanka, the twenty-seventh session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) was held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from 24 to 27 October 2017. Delegates from 22 member countries and 1 United Nations organization participated in the session, along with observers and representatives from 21 regional and international inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations. A list of participants is given in *Appendix B*.

Opening ceremony

2. The opening ceremony featured addresses by the Conservator General of Forests, Sri Lanka, the Assistant Director-General, FAO Forestry Department, the Director-General of the World Agroforestry Centre and the President of Sri Lanka.

3. Mr. Anura Sathurusinghe, Conservator General of Forests, Sri Lanka, welcomed participants to Sri Lanka and noted the importance of the 27th session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission. He noted that Sri Lanka is currently undertaking a "Green Revolution" in which the preservation and restoration of forests, within the context of landscape approaches to management, are at the center. He also noted a specific focus on poverty alleviation and food security for Sri Lanka and drew parallels with FAO's mission to eliminate hunger and food insecurity.

4. Mr. Hiroto Mitsugi, Assistant Director-General, FAO Forestry Department welcomed participants on behalf of the Director-General of FAO. He proposed that, within the context of the session theme "*Forestry in a new landscape*", there are multiple dimensions in which transitions affecting the forest sector are occurring including the socio-economic landscape, environmental landscape, cultural landscapes and the political landscape, among others. These transitions can be confronting, but they also offer exciting opportunities. He noted that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a clear multi-sectoral framework to guide national, regional and global efforts. He advised participants that sustainable forestry was a principal focus of the recent session of the Committee on World Food Security, exemplifying the broad contribution that forests and forestry can make to a wide range of SDGs.

5. In a keynote address, Mr. Tony Simons, Director-General of the World Agroforestry Centre told participants that trees have played a key role in making our planet habitable for humans and continuing destruction of trees may similarly result in an uninhabitable planet. He observed that, globally, there are approximately 420 trees per capita, but in the Asia-Pacific region there are only 150 trees per capita and these per capita totals are decreasing by two trees per annum. He particularly noted that tropical forests are now a net source of carbon emissions and that current carbon prices severely undervalue carbon stored in trees and forests. Among key recommendations, Mr. Simons: (i) strongly advised against forest policies based on discounted carbon incentives; (ii) noted the central importance of fresh water and other ecosystem services provided by forests; (iii) proposed that natural capital loss, especially massive losses through land degradation, should be monetized in government accounting; (iv) noted that deforestation and forest degradation need to be addressed as part of broader, integrated approaches at landscape levels; and (v) suggested that countries should leverage of the many multiplier effects of development financing as well as seeking blended financing options.

6. His Excellency, Maithripala Sirisena, President of Sri Lanka reminded delegates that in their work in managing and conserving forests they hold a great responsibility, but also perform a human service to all mankind. He noted that deforestation and forest degradation are serious challenges and that new ways need to be found to ensure that forest resources are valued appropriately. President Sirisena told delegates that Sri Lanka was a pioneer in signing the Paris Agreement on climate change and that Sri Lanka fully intends to implement the recommendations of the Agreement. He informed participants that a project "towards a Blue-Green era" is being implemented in Sri Lanka including increasing tree planting and forest cover and enhancing forest conservation. Serious efforts involving the police and military are being implemented to eliminate illegal logging and its associated trade. He

observed that Sri Lanka is already being impacted by climate change, including serious droughts and floods, and urged Asia-Pacific countries to increase efforts to utilize forests as a means of mitigating the effects of global warming.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Item 1)

7. Under the guidance of Mr. Marcial Amaro Jr. (Philippines), the outgoing Chair of the Commission, the provisional agenda was adopted as presented in document FO:APFC/2017/1 (see *Appendix A*). Documents considered by the Commission are listed in *Appendix C*.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS (Item 2)

8. The Commission unanimously elected the following individuals to hold office until the commencement of the twenty-eighth session:

Chairperson:	Anura Sathurusinghe (Sri Lanka)
Vice-Chairpersons:	Semi Dranibaka (Fiji) Kyaw Kyaw Lwin (Myanmar) Hyun Park (Republic of Korea)
Rapporteur:	Md. Zaheer Iqbal (Bangladesh)

Mr. Thomas Hofer (FAO) served as Secretary of the Commission.

APFC SESSION THEME: “FORESTRY IN A NEW LANDSCAPE” (Item 3)

9. On the basis of Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/2, the Commission considered how forest transitions may unfold in the Asia-Pacific region and discussed opportunities for increased collaboration to address common challenges.

10. The Commission:

- a. recognized the importance and appropriateness of utilizing landscape approaches in forestry in Asia and the Pacific;
- b. highlighted increasing evidence of the changing climate throughout the region and the immense expectations for forestry to contribute significantly to climate change mitigation and adaptation that are currently not matched by commensurate resources;
- c. noted the extreme vulnerability of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to natural disasters, particularly those caused by climate change;
- d. highlighted the positive experiences and results obtained through community-based forest management programmes in several countries in the region;
- e. emphasized the value of cooperative and collaborative approaches among countries including sharing expertise and past experiences;

- f. requested that FAO, in collaboration with other international agencies, continue to provide technical information, support and assistance in strengthening capacities and identifying best practices to apply landscape approaches in forestry.

GUIDELINES FOR USING FOREST CONCESSIONS TO MANAGE PUBLIC FORESTS

(Item 4)

11. Based on Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/3, the Commission reviewed progress in developing a set of *Voluntary Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Public Production Natural Forests in Tropical Countries through Forest Concessions*.

12. The Commission

- a. highlighted that translating the policy framework from development to implementation is key in capturing the value of the initiative;
- b. emphasized the need for the guidelines to be utilized with due consideration for the legal and policy framework in each country.

REGIONAL STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN FOR FOREST AND LANDSCAPE

RESTORATION (Item 5)

13. On the basis of Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/4, the Commission reviewed progress in developing the *Regional Strategy and Action Plan for Forest and Landscape Restoration in Asia-Pacific*.

14. The Commission:

- a. highlighted the importance of forest rehabilitation and restoration to countries in the region including the use of landscape approaches and mobilization of both public and private sector resources;
- b. emphasized that success of the strategy and action plan will be dependent on effective implementation including capacity-building aspects;
- c. noted the importance of understanding the underlying drivers of forest degradation including both anthropogenic drivers and natural causes such as droughts, cyclonic winds and torrential rainfall;
- d. endorsed the *Regional Strategy and Action Plan for Forest and Landscape Restoration in Asia-Pacific*;
- e. requested FAO to continue to support countries in the implementation of forest and landscape restoration in line with the Regional Strategy and Action Plan.

FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE: PROGRESS SINCE PARIS, FINANCING CLIMATE ACTION AND OTHER EMERGING ISSUES (Item 6)

15. Based on Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/5, the Commission considered progress made by countries in Asia and the Pacific on development and implementation of forest-related actions within Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

16. The Commission:
- a. recognized the challenges inherent in implementing ambitious national commitments undertaken in the Paris Agreement;
 - b. appreciated FAO's role as a Green Climate Fund (GCF) Accredited Entity;
 - c. requested that FAO provide guidance in identifying effective forest sector measures and best practices for climate change adaptation and support countries in incorporating the forest sector into National Adaptation Planning (NAP) processes;
 - d. urged FAO to provide additional technical and capacity-building support to REDD+ including exploring potential for additional regional support programmes for REDD+ strategy implementation and investment planning.

STATE OF FORESTRY IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (Item 7)

17. On the basis of Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/6, the Commission considered the state of forestry in the Asia-Pacific region.

18. The Commission:
- a. highlighted that climate change schemes should provide incentives for afforestation and reforestation;
 - b. recognized that while afforestation and reforestation deliver increases in forest area, in some instances a focus on restoration to improve forest quality and the flow of ecosystem services may deliver greater benefits;
 - c. requested that FAO assist, particularly, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to balance competing economic, social, environmental and cultural objectives for forests and forestry.

PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING APFC- AND FAO-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION (Item 8)

19. Based on Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/7, the Commission reviewed progress in implementing APFC- and FAO-supported activities in the region.

20. The Commission:
- a. appreciated the range of activities being implemented in the region and commended FAO for its efforts in pursuing the recommendations of the 26th Session of APFC;
 - b. noted the need for additional capacity building in a range of forest activities including in relation to national forest inventories and REDD+ readiness and implementation;
 - c. highlighted the importance of disaster risk management and the roles that trees and forests can play in mitigating the impacts of some disasters;
 - d. requested that FAO increase support to the work of the Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network;

- e. recommended that FAO ensure due attention is given to consultative and participatory approaches in developing global and regional forestry activities.

TREES IN URBAN LANDSCAPES (Item 9)

21. On the basis of Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/8, the Commission considered the roles that well-managed urban and peri-urban forests can play in provision of ecosystem goods and services and other public benefits in and around cities.

22. The Commission:

- a. emphasized the value of collaboration among countries in sharing knowledge and experiences in establishing and managing urban and peri-urban forests;
- b. highlighted the need for forest sector agencies to collaborate with other urban and environmental agencies in planning, developing and managing urban and peri-urban forests;
- c. welcomed the suggestion to develop regional networks for knowledge transfer and exchange.
- d. highlighted the need to promote urban-rural linkages and, in particular, the contribution of forests to sustainable cities through the provision of goods and services such as wood for construction, clean water and contributions to people's health and welfare;
- e. invited member countries to discuss broader issues surrounding "green infrastructure" at future sessions of the Commission and in other forestry fora;
- f. requested that FAO, in collaboration with other international organizations, continue to give attention to capacity building and development of tools and best practices for utilizing trees and forests in urban and peri-urban areas;
- g. requested that FAO conduct more case studies on urban and peri-urban forests, including identifying and/or assessing economic values of urban and peri-urban forests, to support cross-sectoral policy-making.

ASIA-PACIFIC FOREST SECTOR OUTLOOK STUDY: THE PATH TO 2030 (Item 10)

23. Based on Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/9, the Commission exchanged perspectives on implementing a new (third) Asia-Pacific Forest Sector Outlook Study (APFSOS): the path to 2030.

24. The Commission:

- a. affirmed the importance of conducting the third Asia-Pacific Forest Sector Outlook Study following the objectives outlined in the Secretariat Note;
- b. highlighted that the Study should: (i) be interlinked with other existing processes and instruments including the Global Forest Resources Assessment, the State of the World's Forests and UN Strategic Plan for Forests; (ii) not duplicate other existing processes; and (iii) provide valuable additional insights to inform forest policy and implementation of sustainable forest management;
- c. emphasized that the Study should have strong inter-sectoral components and should convey clear messages on the value and benefits of forests and forestry to societies.

AN ASIA-PACIFIC STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTING THE GLOBAL PLAN OF ACTION ON FOREST GENETIC RESOURCES (Item 11)

25. On the basis of Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/10, the Commission reviewed progress in the development of an Asia-Pacific strategy for implementing the *Global Plan of Action on Forest Genetic Resources*.

26. The Commission:

- a. welcomed the development of an Asia-Pacific strategy for implementing the *Global Plan of Action on Forest Genetic Resources*;
- b. highlighted the lack of adequate capacities in many countries to carry out the demanding task of identifying and conserving the multitude of forest species in the region;
- c. recognized that the strategy offers substantial opportunities for collaboration among countries;
- d. invited APFORGEN to regularly report on the progress made in implementing the Asia-Pacific strategy and its other activities to the Commission at forthcoming sessions;
- e. recommended that FAO continue its collaboration with APFORGEN and other relevant initiatives on forest genetic resources in the region including capacity building support for forest genetic resources conservation and seed preservation.

THE HIGH LEVEL PANEL OF EXPERTS ON FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION REPORT ON SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION (Item 12)

27. Based on Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/11, the Commission considered the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition *Report on sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition*.

28. The Commission:

- a. highlighted numerous initiatives contributing to strengthening rural livelihoods by providing communities with access to forests;
- b. requested that FAO provide support to countries to pilot community-based forest and landscape restoration approaches that specifically target enhanced food security and nutrition.

A NEW STRATEGIC DOCUMENT FOR FORESTS AND FORESTRY (Item 13)

29. On the basis of Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/12, the Commission considered potential elements for inclusion in a new strategic document for forests and forestry as well as an appropriate structure and key components.

30. The Commission:

- a. recognized the need for a strategic document to guide FAO's work on forests and forestry beyond 2020;

- b. supported the proposed focus and structure of the new strategic document for forests and forestry;
- c. identified topics for potential inclusion in the strategy including contributions to a range of Sustainable Development Goals and the achievement of the Global Forest Goals, land use conflicts and deforestation, conservation of biodiversity, contribution to food security, increasing demand for timber and other forest products, roles and contributions of planted forests, climate change including adaptation aspects, forests as source of energy, human-wildlife conflicts and capacity building in particular in developing countries;
- d. stressed that such a strategic document should promote synergies and coordination, help avoid duplication, build on existing information resources including recent editions of the State of the World's Forests, the Global Forest Resources Assessment and various outlook studies; and guide FAO's work as Chair of the CPF.

IN-SESSION SEMINAR: NEW LANDSCAPES FOR COMMUNITY FORESTRY (Item 14)

31. A special in-session seminar highlighted the emerging new landscapes for community forestry (ref. Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/13).

32. The Commission:

- a. recognized seven key elements in successful community-based forest programmes including: (i) secure tenure; (ii) effective regulatory frameworks; (iii) inclusive and transparent governance systems; (iv) provision of efficient technologies; (v) market knowledge; (vi) a supportive administration; and (vii) livelihood provisions.
- b. emphasized that building trust among stakeholders is a fundamental requirement of successful programmes;
- c. highlighted the transformative social impacts of community-based forestry including empowerment of women and youth and giving voice to otherwise marginalized people;
- d. recognized that landscape approaches in community-based forestry need to be location-specific and may operate at a variety of scales;
- e. emphasized the importance of equitable benefit sharing in community-based forestry programmes;
- f. requested that FAO, in collaboration with other international organizations, continue to provide information and support to designing community-based forest programmes and pilots based on best practices adapted to local requirements.

FOREST RESOURCES ASSESSMENT 2020 AND EFFORTS FOR REDUCING REPORTING BURDEN BY STREAMLINING INTERNATIONAL FOREST-RELATED REPORTING (Item 15)

33. Based on Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/14, the Commission considered efforts for reducing reporting burdens by streamlining international forest-related reporting including for the Forest Resources Assessment 2020.

34. The Commission:
- a. welcomed FAO's and partners' efforts to reduce reporting burdens and to achieve synergies in data collection, analysis and management and streamline international forest-related reporting;
 - b. noted the need for countries to send consistent messages to related processes and conventions and encourage participation in coordinated data sharing and streamlining processes;
 - c. appreciated the development of the FRA Online Platform as a substantive effort to facilitate ease and timeliness of reporting and reviewing national forest resource data;
 - d. commended the Collaborative Partnership on Forests for its initiative in developing the Global core set of forest-related indicators;
 - e. emphasized the potential for collaboration among countries particularly in sharing of knowledge, expertise, tools, and technologies for national forest resource assessments and inventories and requested FAO to support such collaboration;
 - f. requested that FAO provide capacity building assistance and training on a range of topics including utilization of the new reporting tools, platforms and methodologies, remote sensing methodologies and national spatial data infrastructure, utilizing priorities developed in needs evaluations during previous FRA exercises.

OUTCOME OF GLOBAL POLICY PROCESSES OF RELEVANCE FOR THE REGIONAL FORESTRY COMMISSIONS (Item 16)

35. On the basis of Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/15 and a statement by the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), the Commission considered major outcomes of global policy processes with strong relevance to forestry.

36. The Commission encouraged the APFC Secretariat, in collaboration with the UNFF Secretariat, to continue to explore options for using FAO's Regional Forestry Commissions to enhance UNFF's regional and sub-regional involvement, including through using the Commissions for regional dialogues related to UNFF.

INPUT TO FAO GOVERNANCE (Item 17)

37. Secretariat Note FO:APFC/2017/16 informed the Commission on identifying priority issues for consideration by the Committee on Forestry (COFO), for the attention of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific, and for the FAO Programme of Work in Forestry.

38. The Commission:
- a. highlighted the importance of identifying topics and themes for de-emphasis as well as identifying new priorities, particularly in light of the current zero nominal growth parameter for FAO's budget appropriation and requested continued involvement of member states in this;
 - b. affirmed the list of priorities identified by other Regional Commissions;
 - c. identified a number of priority topics for the attention of the forthcoming sessions of COFO and the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific, and for the FAO Programme of Work in Forestry. These included: forests' contributions to the SDGs; progress towards

sustainable forest management including biodiversity conservation, forest area expansion, and forest protection; contribution of forests to food security; climate change; capacity building for REDD+ and related investment planning; illegal logging; forest and landscape restoration; the Global Forest Resources Assessment, State of the World's Forests, regional and global outlooks studies; non-wood forest products and their contribution to rural people's livelihoods; and integrating forestry into the "green economy";

- d. requested the Secretariat to consider the recommendations, translate them into the respective templates and attach them to the current report as Appendix D.
- e. The Commission appreciated that, based on geographical rotation (and in accordance with current practice), the next Chair of the Committee on Forestry (COFO) for its 25th session in 2020 should come from the Asia Pacific region. The Commission supported that the Republic of Korea, who offered hosting for the next session of the Commission, would nominate its candidate for the COFO chair.

OTHER BUSINESS (Item 18)

39. The Commission was informed of activities implemented by five of its working groups and initiatives:

- TeakNet;
- Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN);
- Asia-Pacific Forest Policy Think Tank (APFPTT);
- Asia-Pacific Forest Communication Network (APFCN);
- Kids-to-Forests (K2F) initiative.

40. The Commission:

- a. commended the work of the five working groups and initiatives and expressed its appreciation for the wide-ranging and valuable activities being implemented;
- b. noted the necessity of adequate resources to ensure that knowledge, protocols and policies are effectively translated to on-the-ground implementation, particularly in regard to forest invasive species;
- c. welcomed advice that all regions have now established forest communications networks enabling the completion of a linked global forest communications network.

DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION (Item 19)

41. The Commission noted with appreciation the offer of the delegation from Republic of Korea to host its twenty-eighth session and the fourth Asia-Pacific Forestry Week. The delegations from Mongolia and Papua New Guinea indicated interest in hosting the subsequent session of the Commission.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT (Item 20)

42. The draft report was adopted by the Commission with minor corrections and clarifications, which are reflected in this report.

CLOSING

43. Mr. Anura Sathurusinghe, Conservator General of Forests, Sri Lanka, officially closed the session.

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda
 2. Election of officers
 3. APFC session theme: “Forestry in a new landscape”
 4. Guidelines for using forest concessions to manage public forests
 5. Regional strategy and action plan for forest and landscape restoration
 6. Forests and climate change: progress since Paris, financing climate action and other emerging issues
 7. State of forestry in Asia and the Pacific
 8. Progress in implementing APFC- and FAO-supported activities in the region
 9. Trees in urban landscapes
 10. Asia-Pacific Forest Sector Outlook Study: the path to 2030
 11. An Asia-Pacific strategy for implementing the Global Plan of Action on Forest Genetic Resources
 12. The High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition report on Sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition
 13. A new strategic document for forests and forestry
 14. In-session seminar: New landscapes for community forestry
 15. Forest Resources Assessment 2020 and efforts for reducing reporting burden by streamlining international forest-related reporting
 16. Outcome of global policy processes of relevance for the Regional Forestry Commissions
 17. Input to FAO governance
 18. Other businesses
- Reports from the subsidiary bodies:
- TEAKNet
 - Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN)
 - Asia-Pacific Forest Policy Think Tank (APFPTT)
 - Asia-Pacific Forestry Communicators Network (APFCN)
 - Kids to Forest (K2F) Initiative
19. Date and place of the next session
 20. Adoption of the report

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Chairperson:	Anura Sathurusinghe (Sri Lanka)
Vice-Chairpersons:	Semi Dranibaka (Fiji) Kyaw Kyaw Lwin (Myanmar) Hyun Park (Republic of Korea)
Rapporteur:	Md. Zaheer Iqbal (Bangladesh)
Secretary:	Thomas Hofer (FAO)

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LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Agenda Item	Code	Title
1	FO:APFC/2017/1	Provisional agenda
2	FO:APFC/2017/2	Forestry in a New Landscape
3	FO:APFC/2017/3	Guidelines for using forest concessions to manage public forests
4	FO:APFC/2017/4	Regional Strategy and Action Plan for forest and landscape restoration
5	FO:APFC/2017/5	Forests and climate change: Progress since Paris, financing climate action and other emerging issues
6	FO:APFC/2017/6	State of Forestry in Asia and the Pacific
7	FO:APFC/2017/7	Progress in Implementing APFC- and FAO-Supported Activities in the Region
8	FO:APFC/2017/8	Trees in Urban Landscapes
9	FO:APFC/2017/9	Asia-Pacific Forest Sector Outlook Study: The Path to 2030
10	FO:APFC/2017/10	An Asia-Pacific Strategy for Implementing the Global Plan of Action on Forest Genetic Resources
11	FO:APFC/2017/11	The High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition Report on Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition
12	FO:APFC/2017/12	A New Strategic Document for Forests and Forestry
13	FO:APFC/2017/13	New landscapes for community forestry
14	FO:APFC/2017/14	Forest Resources Assessment 2020 and Efforts for Reducing Reporting Burden by Streamlining International Forest-related Reporting
15	FO:APFC/2017/15	Outcome of Global Policy Processes of Relevance for The Regional Forestry Commissions
16	FO:APFC/2017/16	Input to FAO Governance
Information documents		
	FO:APFC/2017/INF.1	Information note
	FO:APFC/2017/INF.2	Provisional timetable
	FO:APFC/2017/INF.3	List of documents

APPENDIX D

a) Recommendations of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission for the attention of the FAO Committee on Forestry (issues to be considered for inclusion in the Agenda)

<i>Priority issues for COFO to consider</i>	<i>Expected outcome (information/discussion/decision)</i>	<i>Possible follow up activities for COFO and FAO</i>	<i>RFC</i>
Forests and the SDGs – input to the 2018 review	Discussion/decision		NAFC, EFC LACFC, APFC
Integrating forestry into the “green economy”	Discussion/decision		APFC
MAR - Global Core Set of forest related indicators – FRA and related capacity building/ Global Set of C&I	Discussion/decision		NAFC, EFC, APFC
Forests for food security including agroforestry, non-wood forest products and livelihoods	Discussion/decision		NAFC, EFC, APFC
	Discussion/decision		APFC
Illegal logging	Discussion/decision		APFC
Progress towards SFM including biodiversity conservation, forest area expansion, and forest protection	Discussion/decision		APFC
Forest and landscape restoration	Discussion/decision		APFC
Capacity building for REDD+ and related investment planning	Discussion/decision		APFC
Regional and global outlooks studies	Discussion/decision		APFC

b) Recommendations of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission for the attention of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific

No direct recommendations

c) APFC recommendations for the FAO Programme of Work in Forestry related to the agenda of the current session

<i>Area/ action for FAO Programme of Work</i>	<i>Priority (H, M, L, De-emphasis)</i>	<i>Type (new, continued)</i>	<i>Level of action (Sub-regional/ Regional./Global)</i>	<i>Strategic Objective (1-5)</i>
Global and regional context: APFC and FAO, within their existing mandates, to:				
In collaboration with other international agencies, continue to provide technical information, support and assistance in strengthening capacities and identifying best practices to apply landscape approaches in forestry		Continued	Regional	1-5
Continue to support countries in the implementation of forest and landscape restoration in line with the Regional Strategy and Action Plan for Forest and landscape Restoration		Continued	Regional	1-5
Provide guidance in identifying effective forest sector measures and best practices for climate change adaptation and support countries in incorporating the forest sector into National Adaptation Planning (NAP) processes		Continued	Regional	2
Provide additional technical and capacity-building support to REDD+ including exploring potential for additional regional support programmes for REDD+ strategy implementation and investment planning		Continued	Regional	2
Assist, particularly, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to balance competing economic, social, environmental and cultural objectives for forests and forestry		Continued	Regional	2-5
Increase support to the work of the Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network;		Continued	Regional	2
ensure due attention is given to consultative and participatory approaches in developing global and regional forestry activities				
In collaboration with other international organizations, continue to give attention to capacity building and development of tools and best practices for utilizing trees and forests in urban and peri-urban areas		Continued	Regional/Global	1-5
Conduct more case studies on urban and peri-urban forests, including identifying and/or assessing economic values of urban and peri-urban forests, to support cross-sectoral policy-making		Continued	Regional/Global	1-5
Continue collaboration with APFORGEN and other relevant initiatives on forest genetic resources in the region including capacity building support for forest genetic resources conservation and seed preservation		Continued	Regional	
Provide support to countries to pilot community-based forest and landscape restoration approaches that specifically target enhanced food security and nutrition		Continued	Regional	3

<i>Area/ action for FAO Programme of Work</i>	<i>Priority (H, M, L, De-emphasis)</i>	<i>Type (new, continued)</i>	<i>Level of action (Sub-regional/Regional./Global)</i>	<i>Strategic Objective (1-5)</i>
In collaboration with other international organizations, continue to provide information and support to designing community-based forest programmes and pilots based on best practices adapted to local requirements		Continued	Regional	1-5
Provide capacity building assistance and training on a range of topics including utilization of the new reporting tools, platforms and methodologies, remote sensing methodologies and national spatial data infrastructure, utilizing priorities developed in needs evaluations during previous FRA exercises		Continued	Regional	2

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