

*REPORT*

**Boca Chica,  
Santo Domingo,  
Dominican Republic  
26-30 June  
2006**

# **Latin American and Caribbean Forestry Commission**

**Twenty-fourth Session**





## PREVIOUS SESSIONS OF THE COMMISSION

First session	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	23 May 1949
Second session	Lima, Peru	14 November 1949
Third session	Santiago, Chile	11 December 1950
Fourth session	Buenos Aires, Argentina	16-23 June 1952
Fifth session	Caracas, Venezuela	4-15 October 1955
Sixth session	Antigua, Guatemala	4-15 November 1958
Seventh session	Mexico City, Mexico	3-6 August 1960
Eighth session	Santiago, Chile	13-19 November 1962
Ninth session	Curitiba, Brazil	5-12 November 1964
Tenth session	Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago	4-9 December 1967
Eleventh session	Quito, Ecuador	11-21 November 1970
Twelfth session	Havana, Cuba	2-7 February 1976
Thirteenth session	Patzcuaro, Michoacan, Mexico	18-22 February 1980
Fourteenth session	Lima, Peru	15-18 November 1982
Fifteenth session	San Jose, Costa Rica	6-10 October 1986
Sixteenth session	Kingston, Jamaica	18-22 April 1988
Seventeenth session	Ciudad Guayana, Venezuela	18-22 February 1991
Eighteenth session	Maldonado, Uruguay	6-10 December 1993
Nineteenth session	Panama City, Panama	17-21 June 1996
Twentieth session	Havana, Cuba	10-14 September 1998
Twenty first session	Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia	4-8 September 2000
Twenty second session	Buenos Aires, Argentina	7-11 October 2002
Twenty third session	San José, Costa Rica	18-22 October 2004



**REPORT**

of the

**TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION**

of the

**LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN FORESTRY COMMISSION**

Boca Chica, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic  
26–30 June 2006

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
Santiago, Chile  
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## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUESTS

### For the attention of the FAO's Forestry Department

#### **Overview of forestry activities of interest to the Region**

1. The Commission recommended that the FAO Forestry Department support the identification and mobilization of funds to strengthen the technical capacity of the countries of the region to conduct FRA 2010 and to support the compilation of information. (para. 11)
2. The Commission also recommended to the FAO Forestry Department that decisions on FRA 2010 relating to the region be more decentralized, with the more active involvement of the LACFC in its decisions and appropriate collaboration with the other organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF). (para. 12)
3. Delegates expressed their concern over the future financing of the FAO Field Programme in the region. The Commission recommended that the matter be brought to the attention of COFO and also recommended that the FAO Forestry Department and the Commission follow up accordingly. (para. 14)
4. The Commission highlighted the importance of the Regional Forestry Commissions and recommended to the FAO Forestry Department that they play a more active role in the collaboration and dialogue between the UNFF and the regional processes, and in helping their members collectively support sustainable forest management actions and other aspects of global strategic forest objectives. It was agreed to bring the matter to the attention of COFO. (para. 18)

#### **Special session: Implementing sustainable forest management**

5. The Commission was in full agreement that the study should be carried out under the aegis of the LACFC and be broad-based and participative in scope. The methodological aspects and criteria for the selection of the case studies would be defined by a group of regional experts, whose selection would also involve the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the LACFC. In particular, the Commission recommended to the FAO Forestry Department that the study be prepared in collaboration with organizations having experience in this field, such as the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE), the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), the Central American Indigenous and Peasant Coordinator of Communal Agroforestry (ACICAFOC), and the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Model Forests, among others. (para.24)
6. The countries indicated the inadvisability of employing the term "code" because of its regulatory and binding connotations. They requested the FAO Forestry Department to reconsider the matter and to replace the use of the term "code" with "voluntary guidelines". In addition, a number of countries expressed their concern that an instrument of such importance had not been sufficiently discussed, with the broad involvement of countries. (para. 27)
7. The Commission was also informed of progress in the development of a fire management code, an initiative that had emerged from the Ministerial Meeting on Forests and the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of COFO, both held in March 2005. Although the code was not yet available for comment by countries, it would soon be posted on the FAO website. The reservations regarding



the use of the term “code” also applied in this case, and the Commission requested the FAO Forestry Department to review the matter. (para. 29)

8. The recommendations were considered by the Commission, which acknowledged the work done by countries and urged them to apply the established strategies. It also requested that the FAO Forestry Department support countries in this initiative. The recommendations of the workshop are listed in *Appendix D*. (para. 32)

9. The Commission was informed of the findings of the pre-Commission workshop. The recommendations were considered by the Commission, which acknowledged the work done by countries and urged them to strengthen structures and activities of their national forest programmes and to establish mechanisms for fostering regional and subregional dialogue under those programmes. It requested the FAO Forestry Department to support them in this regard. The recommendations of the workshop are listed in *Appendix D*. (para. 34)

### **Regional issues identified by the Commission for the attention of the Committee on Forestry**

10. The Commission recommended that the FAO Forestry Department support the identification and mobilization of funds to strengthen the technical capacity of the countries of the region to conduct FRA 2010 and to support the compilation of information. (para. 50)

11. The Commission recommended to the FAO Forestry Department that decisions on FRA 2010 relating to the region be more decentralized, with the more active involvement of the LACFC in its decisions and appropriate collaboration with the other organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF). (para. 51)

12. Delegates expressed their concern over the future financing of the FAO Field Programme in the region. The Commission recommended that this matter be brought to the attention of COFO and also recommended that the FAO Forestry Department and the Commission duly follow up accordingly. (para. 52)

13. The Commission highlighted the importance of the Regional Forestry Commissions and recommended to the FAO Forestry Department that they play a more active role in the collaboration and dialogue between the UNFF and the regional processes, and in helping their members collectively support sustainable forest management actions and other aspects of global strategic forest objectives. It was agreed to bring the matter to the attention of COFO. (para. 53)

14. The countries underscored the importance of the National Forest Programme Facility in supporting the formulation and application of the national forest programmes with the broad participation of civil society. They requested that the FAO Forestry Department and donor countries continue supporting the countries of the region through this mechanism. (para. 54)

15. The Commission recognized that the increased involvement of civil society in the intergovernmental dialogue was enriching and more productive with the inclusion of actors affected by government policies. The Commission recommended that this matter be brought to the attention of COFO to promote intergovernmental dialogue with private sector entities, non-governmental organizations and grassroots and indigenous groups, as a mechanism of cooperation. (para. 55)

16. The Commission requested the support of COFO to consolidate the formation of the Latin American and Caribbean regional and subregional cooperation networks on wildfire management, and to facilitate and support implementation of the cooperation strategies established and presented at LACFC 2006. (para. 56)

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. The Latin American and Caribbean Forestry Commission (LACFC) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) held its 24th Session from 26 to 30 June 2006 in Boca Chica, Santo Domingo, at the kind invitation of the Government of the Dominican Republic. The session was attended by delegates from 22 member countries and observers from 16 United Nations agencies and international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The Agenda is provided in *Appendix A*, the List of Participants in *Appendix B* and the documents submitted for consideration by the Commission are listed in *Appendix C*.

2. Mr. Jorge Rodríguez, Deputy Minister, Ministry of the Environment and Energy of Costa Rica and serving Chair of the LACFC, presided over the opening session. Mr José Graziano Da Silva, Regional Representative of FAO for Latin America and the Caribbean, welcomed the participants on behalf of the Director-General of FAO, Dr Jacques Diouf. Mr José Antonio Prado, Director of the Forest Resources Division of the FAO Forestry Department, addressed the participants on behalf of the FAO Forestry Department. His Excellency Max Puig, Secretary of State for the Environment and Natural Resources, welcomed the participants on behalf of the Government of the Dominican Republic and opened the session.

3. Messrs Graziano and Prado thanked the Government of the Dominican Republic for the excellent preparations for the session. They stated that the Regional Forestry Commissions provided a regional mechanism to discuss and carry forward policy and technical issues of common interest to the member countries. They added that, to further enhance the valuable contribution of forests to humanity, it was necessary to strengthen integration between the forest and agricultural sectors as well as all sectors working towards the social and economic development of countries. They specified that the 24<sup>th</sup> Session would focus on topics of importance to the region, including the implementation of sustainable forest management, the conservation of forest biodiversity, codes of good practice and strategies for sustainable forest management, forest education and climate change. Lastly, they reiterated FAO's commitment, via its Regional Office, Subregional Office, Headquarters and country offices, to serve the needs of each participating country.

4. His Excellency Max Puig welcomed the delegates and observers to the meeting. He stated that, for the State Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources, the session provided an ideal opportunity to discuss and analyze policies and practices that affected forests not only in individual countries but also throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. He hoped that the session would become a platform for the launching of bold new action plans to promote the search for solutions to countries' shared problems of management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forest. He concluded by stating his firm conviction that a people-centred approach could increase the impact of forests on poverty alleviation and that forests had enormous potential for bringing a vital contribution towards improving the well-being of communities and ensuring environmental sustainability.

## **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Item 1)**

5. The Provisional Agenda was adopted without change.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS (Item 2)**

6. In accordance with Articles II-1 and II-5 of its Rules of Procedures, the Commission elected a Chair, three Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur. The following members of the Commission were unanimously elected:

Chair:	Héctor Miguel Abreu (Dominican Republic), Caribbean Subregional Group
Vice-Chairs:	Andrés Berterreche (Uruguay), Southern Cone Subregional Group Germán Espinoza (Ecuador), Amazon Subregional Group Luis Ernesto Barrera (Guatemala), Meso-America Subregional Group
Rapporteur:	Jorge L. Menéndez (Argentina)

Mr Carlos Marx R. Carneiro, Senior Forestry Officer, FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, acted as Secretary.

## **OVERVIEW OF FORESTRY ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST TO THE REGION (Item 3)**

7. The Secretariat introduced document FO:LACFC/2006/3.1 "Overview of forestry activities of interest to the Region: Review of LACFC and other FAO supported activities, including follow-up to the recommendations of the 23rd Session of the Commission".

8. The Commission was informed of the forestry activities that had been carried out by the Commission during the period 2004-2006 and by FAO under its Regular Programme. The Secretariat highlighted the publication of the study "Global Forest Resources Assessment 2005" (FRA 2005), institutional strengthening, support to national forest programmes, sustainable forest development, conservation and protection of biodiversity, the valuation of goods and services derived from forests, the protection of forest resources, forest education and forest financing.

9. The Commission was also informed of FAO's forestry activities under its Field Programme. The Secretariat indicated that the programme had remained stable during 2005-2006, with the implementation of 21 national projects in 12 countries of the region, together with nine regional and interregional projects. The total budget for these projects amounted to US\$57.6 million. The thematic areas covered by the Field Programme had essentially been support to the design and implementation of forestry policies and the strengthening of forest institutions within the framework of national forest programmes, with special support to sustainable forest management at small producer and rural community levels.

10. The Commission examined and approved the actions that had been taken in follow-up to the recommendations and requests it had made at its 23rd Session.

11. The Commission recommended that the FAO Forestry Department support the identification and mobilization of funds to strengthen the technical capacity of the countries of the region to conduct FRA 2010 and to support the compilation of information.

12. The Commission also recommended to the FAO Forestry Department that decisions on FRA 2010 relating to the region be more decentralized, with the more active involvement of the LACFC in its decisions and appropriate collaboration with the other organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF).

13. The Commission requested that these recommendations be brought to the attention of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO).

14. Delegates expressed their concern over the future financing of the FAO Field Programme in the region. The Commission recommended that this matter be brought to the attention of COFO and also recommended that the FAO Forestry Department and the Commission follow up accordingly.

15. The Secretariat introduced document FO:LACFC/2006/3.2 "Overview of forestry activities of interest to the Region: Global activities".

16. The Commission was informed of a number of important events that had occurred since the previous LACFC meeting in connection with the international forestry debate, cooperation and other issues related to sustainable forest management. The Commission also listened with interest to a presentation by the representative of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) on the latest Forum-related developments.

17. The Secretariat invited the Commission to discuss ways in which the commitments of the international dialogue on forests could be implemented more effectively at regional, subregional and national levels.

18. The Commission highlighted the importance of the Regional Forestry Commissions and recommended to the FAO Forestry Department that they play a more active role in the collaboration and dialogue between the UNFF and the regional processes, and in helping their members collectively support sustainable forest management actions and other aspects of global strategic forest objectives. It was agreed to bring the matter to the attention of COFO.

#### **SPECIAL SESSION: IMPLEMENTING SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT (Item 4)**

19. The Secretariat introduced document FO:LACFC/2006/4.1 "Implementing sustainable forest management: Progress towards sustainable forest management" and presented a preliminary report under preparation by FAO on progress towards sustainable forest management in the region. The Commission was invited to discuss the report and to validate or modify its findings.

20. The Commission thanked the Secretariat for its presentation of this important report and asked its members to send their comments directly to the FAO Forestry Department.

21. The Secretariat introduced document FO:LACFC/2006/4.2 "Implementing sustainable forest management: The search for excellence in sustainable forest management in Latin America and the Caribbean".

22. The Commission was briefed and consulted on a proposed study to identify and document exemplary cases of sustainable forest management in the region. The study would be widely disseminated among stakeholders to promote the application of good sustainable forest management practices. It would be conducted under the aegis of the LACFC by the FAO Regional Office, in close collaboration with the Forestry Department at Headquarters.

23. The Commission warmly welcomed the proposal, emphasizing the need for such a study that would help raise awareness and publicize successful cases that endorsed sustainable forest management.

24. The Commission was in full agreement that the study should be carried out under the aegis of the LACFC and be broad-based and participative in scope. The methodology and criteria for the selection of the case studies would be defined by a group of regional experts,

whose selection would also involve the Chair and Vice-Chairs of the LACFC. In particular, the Commission recommended to the FAO Forestry Department that the study should be prepared in collaboration with organizations having experience in this field, such as the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE), the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), the Central American Indigenous and Peasant Coordinator of Communal Agroforestry (ACICAFOC), and the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Model Forests, among others.

25. The Secretariat introduced document FO:LACFC/2006/4.3 “Implementing sustainable forest management: Strategies and codes of best forest practices – their role in promoting sustainable forest management”.

26. The Commission was informed of initiatives led by FAO, at the request of statutory bodies, COFO and the International Council of Forest and Paper Associations, to develop voluntary codes and guidelines to promote best practices in the forest sector. Specific information was given on the Planted Forests Code and the Fire Management Code. The Secretariat invited the Commission to comment on these codes and on FAO's function in coordinating and harmonizing the development and application of codes of best practice in the forest sector.

27. The countries indicated the inadvisability of employing the term “code” because of its regulatory and binding connotations. They requested the FAO Forestry Department to reconsider the matter and to replace the use of the term “code” with “voluntary guidelines”. In addition, a number of countries expressed their concern that an instrument of such importance had not been sufficiently discussed, with the broad involvement of countries.

28. Several countries emphasized that FAO's discussions on developing a voluntary code on planted forests should take into account the wider context of current international negotiations and should, in particular, be in concordance with the UNFF. They expressed their willingness to discuss the development of such voluntary guidelines, in conformity with the mandate established by COFO. Brazil and Venezuela indicated that they did not favour the development of codes for addressing forest-related issues. They stated that the matter should receive ongoing attention during the intersessional period, with initial discussion at the forthcoming COFO session to consider the positions of all the member countries regarding the attendant political and legal implications.

29. The Commission was also informed of progress in the development of a fire management code, an initiative that had emerged from the Ministerial Meeting on Forests and the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of COFO, both held in March 2005. Although the code was not yet available for comment by the countries, it would soon be posted on the FAO website. The reservations regarding the use of the term “code” also applied in this case, and the Commission requested the FAO Forestry Department to review the matter.

30. With regard to the strategy to promote national and international collaboration for wildland fires, some countries asked the FAO Forestry Department to consider the necessary links between the regional initiatives and the global initiative.

31. The Commission was informed of the results of the pre-Commission workshop on regional and subregional strategies of cooperation for the prevention, control and combat of wildland fires. The workshop was briefed on the formulation process for the regional cooperation strategy for fire management in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the

respective subregional strategies for Central America, the Caribbean and South America, as a result of the respective FAO Technical Cooperation Project .

32. The recommendations were considered by the Commission which acknowledged the work done by the countries and urged them to apply the established strategies. It also requested that the FAO Forestry Department support countries in this initiative. The recommendations of the workshop are listed in *Appendix D*.

33. The Secretariat introduced document FO:LACFC/2006/4.4 “Implementing sustainable forest management: Regional cooperation to promote SFM - report of the pre-Commission workshop”.

34. The Commission was informed of the findings of the pre-Commission workshop. The recommendations were considered by the Commission, which acknowledged the work done by the countries and urged them to strengthen the structures and activities of their national forest programmes and to establish mechanisms for fostering regional and subregional dialogue under those programmes. It requested the FAO Forestry Department to support them in this regard. The recommendations of the workshop are listed in *Appendix D*.

35. The workshop was supplemented by a panel discussion to formulate the conclusions and recommendations that were submitted to the Commission.

#### **INFORMATION ITEMS (Item 5)**

36. The Secretariat introduced document FO:LACFC/2006/5.1 “Information items: Forest education in Latin America and the Caribbean; Progress in the Regional Technical Cooperation Networks; and Briefing on the outcome of the III Latin American Forestry Congress (III CONFLAT)”.

37. The Commission was informed of the progress of the FAO study on the status and trends of forest education in Latin America. The Secretariat also reported on the activities of the Regional Technical Cooperation Networks sponsored by the FAO Regional Office. The Commission listened with interest to a presentation on the aims and activities of the Latin American and Caribbean Network of Model Forests. The Commission also took note of the outcome of the III Latin American Forestry Congress held in Bogotá, Colombia, in November 2005.

38. The Secretariat introduced document FO:LACFC/2006/5.2 “Information items: Climate change issues”.

39. The Commission was informed of selected issues relating to climate change which is emerging as one of the major challenges of the Twenty-first century. More specifically, the issues related to opportunities and challenges for Latin America and the Caribbean arising from afforestation and reforestation projects, and the generation of bioenergy and biofuels under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

**ACTIVITIES OF THE SUBREGIONAL GROUPS OF THE COMMISSION: REPORTS ON ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2004-2006 AND WORKPLANS 2006-2008 (Items 6.1 and 6.2)**

40. The Commission noted that, under these agenda items, the Subregional Groups were to report on their previous workplans and to prepare new workplans with priorities and activities that could be realistically accomplished before the next LACFC session. The proposed workplans for 2006-2008 are provided in *Appendix E*.

**IN-SESSION SEMINAR: BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY IN FORESTRY IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (Item 7)**

41. The Secretariat introduced document FO:LACFC/2006/7 "In-session Seminar: Biological diversity in forestry in Latin America and the Caribbean".

42. The Commission was informed that the objectives of the In-session seminar were to:

- provide an overview of key programmes relating to forest biodiversity in the region;
- act as a forum for discussion of existing programmes of forest diversity in the region and to consider the need for new approaches;
- identify possible concrete actions by the Commission, FAO, countries or other organizations.

43. The countries were informed of a series of initiatives relating to the conservation, management and use of forest biological diversity.

44. The representative of Spain's Ministry of the Environment invited the countries of the region to join a network of directors general responsible for conservation under the Iberoamerican Summit. A number of countries expressed their interest in the initiative. Brazil stated that it would refer the matter to its government.

45. The representative of CATIE proposed a Regional Alliance on Forest Biodiversity in Latin America and the Caribbean. A number of countries expressed their interest in the initiative. Brazil stated that it would refer the matter to its government.

46. The subregional organizations, the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD) and the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), presented their actions plans for managing forest resources and conserving biological diversity.

47. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity presented an overview of the Convention's programme of work on forest biodiversity, highlighting the impact of shrinking forest cover on biological diversity.

48. FAO reported on the changes that would be introduced in FRA 2010 to meet the requirements for information on the biodiversity of forests and woodland areas.

49. The countries engaged in lively debate on the above topics. The debate was the subject of a report prepared by the Secretariat.



**REGIONAL ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE COMMISSION FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY (Item 8)**

50. The Commission recommended that the FAO Forestry Department support the identification and mobilization of funds to strengthen the technical capacity of the countries of the region to conduct FRA 2010 and to support the compilation of information.

51. The Commission recommended to the FAO Forestry Department that decisions on FRA 2010 relating to the region be more decentralized, with the more active involvement of the LACFC in its decisions and appropriate collaboration with the other organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF).

52. Delegates expressed their concern over the future financing of the FAO Field Programme in the region. The Commission recommended that this matter be brought to the attention of COFO and also recommended that the FAO Forestry Department and the Commission follow up accordingly.

53. The Commission highlighted the importance of the Regional Forestry Commissions and recommended to the FAO Forestry Department that they play a more active role in the collaboration and dialogue between the UNFF and the regional processes, and in helping their members collectively support sustainable forest management actions and other aspects of global strategic forest objectives. It was agreed to bring the matter to the attention of COFO.

54. The countries underscored the importance of the National Forest Programme Facility in supporting the formulation and application of the national forest programmes with the broad participation of civil society. They requested that the FAO Forestry Department and donor countries continue supporting the countries of the region through this mechanism.

55. The Commission recognized that the increased involvement of civil society in the intergovernmental dialogue was enriching and more productive with the inclusion of actors affected by government policies. The Commission recommended that this matter be brought to the attention of COFO to promote intergovernmental dialogue with private sector entities, non-governmental organizations and grassroots and indigenous groups, as a mechanism of cooperation.

56. The Commission requested the support of COFO to consolidate the formation of the Latin American and Caribbean regional and subregional cooperation networks on wildfire management, and to facilitate and support implementation of the cooperation strategies established and presented at LACFC 2006.

**OTHER BUSINESS (Item 9)**

57. The representative of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) informed the Commission that the II Latin American IUFRO Congress would be held in La Serena, Chile, in October 2006. He also reported that the IUFRO Special Programme for Developing Countries was organizing a pre-Congress workshop on the policy-research interface. LACFC participants were invited to attend both events.

**PLACE AND DATE OF THE NEXT SESSION (Item 10)**

58. With regard to the date and place of the next session, the delegation of the United States of America renewed its offer made at the previous LACFC session in San José, Costa Rica, to host the Twenty-fifth Session of the LACFC in Puerto Rico, in 2008, in conjunction with the

meeting of the North American Forest Commission (NAFC). Ecuador also expressed an interest in hosting the next session. Several countries supported the offer of the United States of America and asked Ecuador to consider hosting the Twenty-sixth Session, in 2010. Cuba and Venezuela opposed the idea of holding a joint meeting with the NAFC.

**ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND CLOSURE OF THE SESSION (Item 11)**

59. The draft report was adopted by the Commission with minor amendments and some clarifications.

60. The session was closed by Messrs José Antonio Prado and Carlos M. Carneiro, on behalf of FAO, and by Mr Héctor Miguel Abreu, on behalf of the Dominican Republic.

**APPENDIX A****AGENDA**

1. Opening of the Session and adoption of the Agenda.
2. Election of Officers.
3. Overview of forestry activities of interest to the Region.
  - 3.1 Review of LACFC and other FAO supported activities, including follow-up to the recommendations of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Commission.
  - 3.2 Global activities.
4. Special session: Implementing sustainable forest management.
  - 4.1. Progress towards sustainable forest management.
  - 4.2. The search for excellence in sustainable forest management.
  - 4.3. Strategies and codes of best forest practices: their role in promoting sustainable forest management.
    - (a) Code of practice for planted forests.
    - (b) Regional wildland fire strategies: report of the pre-Commission workshop.
  - 4.4 Regional cooperation to promote SFM: report of the pre-Commission workshop.
5. Information items:
  - 5.1. Forest education in Latin America and the Caribbean.
  - 5.2. Progress in the Regional Technical Cooperation Networks.
  - 5.3. Climate change issues.
  - 5.4. Briefing on the outcome of the III Latin American Forestry Congress (III CONFLAT).
6. Activities of the Subregional Groups of the Commission.
  - 6.1. Reports on accomplishments (2004-2006).
  - 6.2. Workplans for 2006-2008.
7. Biological diversity in forestry in Latin America and the Caribbean. (In-session Seminar).
8. Regional issues identified by the Commission for the attention of the Committee on Forestry (COFO).
9. Other business.
10. Place and date of the next Session.
11. Adoption of the report and closing of the Session.

**Pre-Commission workshops**

- Regional and Subregional strategies of cooperation for the prevention, control and combat of wildland fires. (half a day: Sunday)
- Regional cooperation to promote SFM (national forest programmes: implementation of IPF/IFF proposals for action; the Puenbo process; financial mechanisms for SFM) (full day: Sunday)

**APPENDIX B****LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

Chairman: Héctor Miguel Abreu (Dominican Republic)

Vice-Chairmen: Andrés Berterreche (Uruguay)  
Germán Espinoza (Ecuador)  
Luis Ernesto Barrera (Guatemala)

Rapporteur: Jorge L. Menéndez (Argentina)

Secretary: Carlos Marx R. Carneiro

**ARGENTINA**

Jorge Luis Menéndez  
Director de Bosques  
Secretaría de Ambiente y Desarrollo  
Sustentable  
San Martín 451, piso 3  
1004 Buenos Aires  
Tel: (54-11) 434 88488, 434 88499  
Fax: (54-11) 434 88486  
Email: jmenendez@medioambiente.gov.ar

Fernando Enrique Epele  
Coordinador Nacional  
Plan Nacional de Manejo del Fuego  
Secretaría de Ambiente y Desarrollo  
Sustentable  
San Martín 451, piso 2, Of. 229  
Buenos Aires  
Tel: (54-11) 434 88484/8619  
Fax: (54-11) 434 88620  
Email: fepele@medioambiente.gov.ar

Ester Malacari  
Directora de Forestación  
Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería, Pesca  
y Alimentos (SAGPyA)  
Av. Paseo Colón 982 - Anexo Jardín  
1063 Buenos Aires  
Tel: (54-11) 434 92102  
Fax: (54-11) 434 92103  
Email: emalac@mecon.gov.ar

Liliana Corinaldesi  
A cargo Área de Economía e Información  
Dirección de Forestación  
Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería,  
Pesca y Alimentos (SAGPyA)  
Av. Paseo Colón 982 - Anexo Jardín  
1063 Buenos Aires  
Tel: (54-11) 434 92106/81  
Fax: (54-11) 434 92181  
Email: lcorin@mecon.gov.ar

**BRAZIL**

Simone Meira Dias  
Diplomática, 2ª Secretaria  
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores  
Palacio do Itamaraty – DEMA – S. 439  
Brasilia, D.F.  
Tel: (55-61) 341 16674  
Fax: (55-61) 332 25523  
Email: simone@mre.gov.br

Rócia Oliveira Silva  
Gerente de Cooperación Multilateral  
Agencia Brasileña de Cooperación (ABC)  
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores  
Palacio Itamaraty, Anexo I, 8 Ândar  
Brasília, D.F.  
Tel: (55-61) 341 16899  
Fax: (55-61) 332 25523  
Email: rocia@abc.mre.gov.br

Bernardo Paranhos Velloso  
 Jefe de la División de Medio Ambiente  
 Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Anexo  
 I, Sala 439  
 Brasilia, D. F.  
 Tel.: (55-61) 3411 8447  
 Fax: (55-61) 3411 8446  
 Email: bernardo@mre.gov.br

## COLOMBIA

Rubén Darío Guerrero Useda  
 Profesional Especializado  
 Dirección de Ecosistemas  
 Ministerio de Ambiente, Vivienda y  
 Desarrollo Territorial  
 Calle 37, N° 8-40, piso 2  
 Bogotá  
 Tel: (571) 332 3434, ext. 2340/2343  
 Fax: (571) 340 6206  
 Email: rdguerrero@minambiente.gov.co

Doralice Ortiz  
 Directora General  
 Corporación Aldea Global  
 Cra. 14, 14-59 Edificio La Macarena, Of.  
 204, Armenia  
 Quindío  
 Tel: (57-09-6) 745 8634  
 Fax: (57-09-6) 746 6756  
 Email:  
 aldeaglobal@redforestalcolombia.org

Alberto Leguizamó Barbosa  
 Presidente Junta Directiva  
 Asociación Colombiana de Ingenieros  
 Forestales, ACIF  
 Calle 14, N° 7-33, Of. 403  
 Bogotá, D.C.  
 Tel: (571) 566 5732  
 Fax: (571) 2814912  
 Email: acif@acif.com.co

## COSTA RICA

Jorge Rodríguez  
 Viceministro  
 Ministerio del Ambiente y Energía  
 (MINAE)  
 Apartado 10.104  
 1000 San José  
 Tel: (506) 233 4533, ext. 205  
 Fax: (506) 222 4161  
 Email: vicemi@minae.go.cr

Gilbert Canet Brenes  
 Gerente de Manejo de los Recursos  
 Naturales  
 Sistema Nacional de Areas de  
 Conservación (SINAC)  
 Ministerio del Ambiente y Energía (MINAE)  
 Apartado 10.104  
 1000 San José  
 Tel: (506) 283 8004, ext. 126  
 Fax: (506) 283 8004, ext. 109  
 Email: gilbert.canet@sinac.go.cr

Juan José Jiménez Espinoza  
 Coordinador Estrategia para el Control de  
 la Tala Ilegal  
 Sistema Nacional de Areas de  
 Conservación (SINAC)  
 Director Proyecto TCP/COS/3003  
 Ministerio del Ambiente y Energía  
 Apartado 10.104  
 1000 San José  
 Tel: (506) 283 8004, ext. 147  
 Fax: (506) 283 7118  
 Email: juan.jimenez@sinac.go.cr

Evelyn Chavez Jaén  
 Coordinadora Area de Manejo Comunitario  
 de Bosques  
 Asociación Coordinadora Indígena y  
 Campesina de Agroforestería Comunitaria  
 (ACICAFOC)  
 Del Pizza Hut de los Colegios de Moravia  
 50 Sur y 50 metros al noroeste  
 Moravia  
 Tel: (506) 240 6274  
 Fax: (506) 241 1996  
 Email: agroforestal@acicafoc.net

Berny Salazar Morales  
 Guardarecursos  
 Asociación de Desarrollo Indígena del  
 Territorio Bribrí  
 Shiroles, Talamanca  
 Tel: (506) 711 1667  
 Fax: (506) 711 1731  
 Email: aditibri04@yahoo.com /  
 bs\_ar20@yahoo.com

### **CUBA**

Elías Linares  
 Director Nacional Forestal  
 Dirección Nacional Forestal  
 Ministerio de Agricultura  
 Av. Boyeros y Conill  
 Plaza de la Revolución  
 La Habana  
 Tel: (537) 881 7875, 884 5476  
 Fax: (537) 881 7875  
 Email: elias@enet.cu

Raúl González Rodríguez  
 Especialista Manejo del Fuego  
 Cuerpo de Guardabosques  
 Calle 2 N° 610 e/ 25 y 27  
 Plaza de la Revolución  
 La Habana  
 Tel: (537) 53 6183  
 Fax: (537) 53 5079  
 Email: cgbosque@mn.mn.co.cu

### **CHILE**

Juan Claudio Rodríguez Acuña  
 Gerente de Desarrollo y Fomento Forestal  
 Corporación Nacional Forestal (CONAF)  
 Avda. Bulnes 286  
 Santiago  
 Tel: (56-2) 390 0387  
 Fax: (56-2) 672 7651  
 Email: jcrodrig@conaf.cl

Aquiles Neuschwander  
 Fundación para la Innovación Agraria  
 (FIA)  
 Ministerio de Agricultura  
 Loreley 1582  
 La Reina  
 Tel: (56-2) 431 3000  
 Fax: (56-2) 431 3064  
 Email: aquilesn@fia.gob.cl

Manuel Segundo Llao Calcumil  
 Vicepresidente  
 Movimiento Unitario Campesino y de  
 Etnias de Chile (MUCECH)  
 Portugal 623  
 Santiago  
 Tel: (56-2) 222 6578  
 Fax: (56-2) 222 6572  
 Email: mucech@mucech.tie.cl

### **DOMINICA**

Eric Hypolite  
 Director of Forestry, Wildlife and Parks  
 (Ag.)  
 Forestry, Wildlife and Parks Division  
 Ministry of Agriculture and the  
 Environment  
 Botanical Gardens  
 Roseau  
 Tel: (1-767) 448 2401, direct: 448 2471  
 ext. 3417  
 Fax: (1-767) 448 7999  
 Email: forestry@cwdom.dm

### **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

Héctor Miguel Abreu Aquino  
 Subsecretario de Recursos Forestales  
 Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente  
 y Recursos Naturales  
 Edif. ODC, 3ª planta, Centro de los Héroes  
 Santo Domingo  
 Tel: (1-809) 533 5183  
 Fax: (1-809) 533 9039  
 Email:  
 recursosforestales\_repdom@yahoo.com

José Enrique Báez Ureña  
Director General de Reforestación  
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente y  
Recursos Naturales  
Autopista Duarte Km. 6½, Edif. SEA  
Santo Domingo  
Tel.: (1-809) 227 7332 / 227 7427  
Fax: (1-809) 227 7426  
Email: burena3000@hotmail.com

Yoni Rodríguez  
Director Protección y Manejo Forestal  
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente y  
Recursos Naturales  
Edif. ODC, 3ª planta, Centro de los Héroes  
Santo Domingo  
Tel.: (1-809) 533 5183  
Email: yonirodriguez@hotmail.com

Donata Antonia Gutiérrez  
Directora de Investigación y Capacitación  
Forestal  
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente y  
Recursos Naturales  
Subsecretaría de Recursos Forestales  
Av. Héroes de Luperón  
La Feria  
Tel.: (1-809) 567 4300 / 533 5188 ext. 246  
Fax: (1-809) 533 9030  
Email: donatag11@hotmail.com

Elías del Rosario Vargas  
Director de Planificación y Política  
Forestal  
Subsecretaría de Recursos Forestales  
Edificio Gubernamental Juan Pablo Duarte,  
piso 14  
Santo Domingo  
Tel.: (1-809) 688 0902; 682 4430  
Fax: (1-809) 685 4950  
Email: eliasvargas12@gmail.com

Maximiliano Familia Sánchez  
Director de Operaciones Forestales  
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente y  
Recursos Naturales  
Edif. ODC, 3ª planta, Centro de los Héroes  
Santo Domingo  
Tel: (1-809) 533 5183  
Fax: (1-809) 508 3309

Graviel Peña  
Director ESNAFOR  
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente  
y Recursos Naturales  
Escuela Nacional Forestal Jarabacoa  
La Vega  
Tel: (1-809) 399 2634  
Fax: (1-809) 248 0289  
Email: gravielp@hotmail.com

Gerónimo Abreu  
Encargado Programa Nacional de  
Prevención y Control de Incendios  
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente  
y Recursos Naturales  
Estancita N° 27 Jarabacoa, La Vega  
Santo Domingo  
Tel.: (1-809) 533 5183  
Fax: (1-809) 533 9039  
Email: gero12@hotmail.com  
geronimoabreu@yahoo.es

Eli Rafael Martínez Mena  
Encargado Departamento Investigaciones  
Subsecretaría de Recursos Forestales  
Escuela Forestal Jarabacoa, La Vega  
Santo Domingo  
Tel.: (1-809) 533 5183, ext. 245  
Email: occidentalia58@hotmail.com

María Priscilia Peña Ceballos  
Asistente Técnica  
Subsecretaría de Areas Protegidas y  
Biodiversidad  
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente  
y Recursos Naturales  
Av. Reyes Católicos esq. Máximo Gómez  
Mts. de Santo Domingo  
Tel: (1-809) 472 4204/2601  
Fax: (1-809) 472 4012  
Email:  
priscilia.pena@medioambiente.gov.do

Ramón Alberto Díaz  
Coordinador Técnico Recursos Forestales  
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente  
y Recursos Naturales  
Calle 9, N° 8 Ed. Palmas de Mallorca  
Apto 1ª, Renacimiento  
Tel: (1-809) 533 5183  
Fax: (1-809) 534 8432  
Email: rdramondiaz@hotmail.com

Juan Reyes Quiñones  
 Proyectos forestales  
 Centro de Investigación de Desarrollo  
 Agroforestal (CEDAF)  
 José Amado Soler 51  
 Santo Domingo  
 Tel.: (1-809) 544 0616  
 Email: j.reyes@cedaf.org.do

Bernabé Mañón Rossi  
 Presidente  
 Cámara Forestal Dominicana  
 Apartado N° 1, Villa Altagracia  
 Santo Domingo  
 Tel: (1-809) 241 2440  
 Fax: (1-809) 559 2440  
 Email: camaraforestalrd@gmail.com

Mamerto Valerio Bueno  
 Director / Representante Regional  
 Enda – Caribe  
 Apartado 3370  
 Santo Domingo  
 Tel: (1-809) 385 0421  
 Fax: (1-809) 385 2359  
 Email: direccion@endadom.org.do

Alberto Rodríguez Liviano  
 Presidente  
 Asociación Nacional Profesionales  
 Forestales (ANPROFOR) / Cuerpo de Paz  
 Calle Alberto Lanrancuent N° 7, suite 301  
 Ensanche Naco  
 Santo Domingo  
 Tel: (1-809) 540 0447  
 Email: anprofor@yahoo.com

Domingo Carrasco  
 Vicerrector Investigaciones  
 Director Departamento de Recursos  
 Naturales  
 Instituto Superior de Agricultura  
 Apartado 166, La Herradura  
 Santiago R.D.  
 Tel: (1-809) 247 0082  
 Fax: (1-809) 247 0085  
 Email: dcarrasco@isa.edu.do

Humberto Checo  
 Director Ejecutivo  
 Proyecto Río Yaque (PROCARYN)  
 Estela Geraldino N° 7, Jarabacoa  
 Santo Domingo  
 Tel: (1-809) 574 6727; 753 8899  
 Fax: (1-809) 574 6994; 241 6104  
 Email: humberto.checo@gmail.com

## ECUADOR

Germán Espinoza  
 Director Nacional Forestal  
 Ministerio del Ambiente  
 Av. Amazonas y Eloy Alfaro  
 Edificio MAG, piso 8  
 Quito  
 Tel: (593-2) 256 3542  
 Fax: (593-2) 250 6446  
 Email: forestal@ambiente.gov.ec /  
 gespinoza@pontonet.ec

Juan Carlos Palacios  
 Director Ejecutivo  
 Corporación de Manejo Forestal  
 Sustentable, COMAFORS  
 Calle Manuel Purapa 4529  
 Quito  
 Tel: (593-2) 3316601; 3316614  
 Fax: (593-2) 243 7366  
 Email: jcpalacios@comafors.org

Gustavo Galindo  
 Responsable de Políticas Forestales  
 Dirección Nacional Forestal  
 Ministerio del Ambiente  
 Av. Amazonas y Eloy Alfaro  
 Edig. MAG, piso 8  
 Quito  
 Tel: (593-2) 256 3542  
 Email: ggalindo@ambiente.gov.ec

Hans Thiel  
 Punto Focal para Latinoamérica  
 Proyecto VERIFOR  
 Av. Coruña 1379 (N26-231) entre  
 Orellana y San Ignacio  
 Quito  
 Tel: (593-2) 22 20730  
 Fax: (593-2) 250 7310  
 Email: hthiel@plus.net.ec



**GUATEMALA**

Luis Ernesto Barrera Garavito  
Gerente  
Instituto Nacional de Bosques, INAB  
Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y  
Alimentación  
7a. Avenida 12-90 "A" Zona 13  
Ciudad de Guatemala  
Tel: (502) 247 21065, 236 18068/69  
Fax: (502) 208 114012  
Email: gerencia@inab.gob.gt

Edwin Oliva  
Coordinador Programa Forestal Nacional  
Instituto Nacional de Bosques (INAB)  
7ª Avenida 6-80, Zona 13  
Código 01013  
Ciudad de Guatemala  
Tel: (502) 244 02819  
Fax: (502) 244 02819  
Email: Pafg@terra.com.gt /  
pfn@inab.gob.gt

Víctor Armando López Illescas  
Presidente Junta Directiva  
Asociación de Forestería Comunitaria  
Ut'z Ché  
3 Calle 2-04, Zona 1, San Pedro Piruja  
Jalapa  
Tel: (501-2) 792 2 0892  
Email: coobosquevali@yahoo.com

**GUYANA**

James Singh  
Commissioner of Forests  
Guyana Forestry Commission  
Lot 1 Water Street Kingston  
P.O.Box 1029  
Georgetown  
Tel: (1-592) 225 3898  
Fax: (1-592) 226 8956  
Email: Commissioner@forestry.gov.gy

**HONDURAS**

Roberto Medina  
Asesor de la Gerencia General  
Corporación Hondureña de Desarrollo  
Forestal (COHDEFOR)  
Apartado Postal 1378  
Tegucigalpa  
Tel: (504) 223 8898  
Fax: (504) 223 8898  
Email: robermedinac@yahoo.com

Juan Blas Zapata  
Coordinador  
Agenda Forestal Hondureña (AFH)  
Col. Palmira  
Av. República de Perú N° 402  
Tegucigalpa  
Tel: (504) 238 5530  
Fax: (504) 238 1342  
Email: afh@sdnhon.org.hn

Avilio Alvarez  
Presidente  
Asociación de Cooperativas Agroforestales  
de Río Plátano  
Comunidad de Las Marías  
Dulce Nombre de Culmi  
Olancho  
Tel: (504) 711 0435  
Fax: (504) 711 0436  
Email: coaforpla2004@yahoo.com

**JAMAICA**

Keith D. Porter  
Senior Director  
Forestry Department  
173 Constant Spring Road  
Kingston 8  
Tel: (1-876) 924 2667/8  
Fax: (1-876) 924 2626  
Email: kporter@forestry.gov.jm

Ms. Ava-Gail Gardiner  
Director, Chair Conservation Committee  
Jamaica Tree Growers Association  
43 Charlemong Drive, FLA A N° 4  
Kingston  
Tel: (876) 970 080, 873 6101  
Fax (876) 970 080  
Email: agardiner@cwjamaica.com

**MEXICO**

Luz María Ortiz Ortiz  
 Directora para la Agenda Verde  
 Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos  
 Naturales  
 Periférico Sur 4209, piso 1, Ala "A"  
 Jardines en la Montaña  
 México D.F.  
 Tel: (52-55) 5628 0600, Ext. 1207  
 Email: luz.ortiz@semarnat.gob.mx

**NICARAGUA**

Fátima del Carmen Calero  
 Directora Fomento Forestal  
 Instituto Nacional Forestal (INAFOR)  
 Km 8 ½ Carretera a Masaya  
 Managua  
 Tel: (505) 233 0012/13  
 Fax: (505) 233 0012  
 Email: fcalero@inafor.gob.ni  
 fatima.calero@gmail.com

Jader Francisco Guzmán Neira  
 Director de Políticas Forestales  
 Ministerio Agropecuario y Forestal  
 (MAGFOR)  
 Km. 8½ Carretera a Masaya  
 Managua  
 Tel.: (505) 276 0575; 276 0200/ 05,  
 ext. 1024  
 Fax: (505) 276 0575  
 Email: jguzman@magfor.gob.ni

Jossué Leonel Brenes Blanco  
 Responsable de Proyectos  
 Asociación para el Desarrollo de la Costa  
 Atlántica "Pana-Pana"  
 Tel: (505) 792 2473  
 Fax: (505) 792 2473  
 Email: panapana@bilwinet.com /  
 jlbb76@yahoo.com

**PANAMA**

Carlos Melgarejo  
 Jefe, Departamento de Desarrollo y  
 Manejo Forestal  
 Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente, ANAM  
 Apartado 0843-00793  
 Balboa, Ancón  
 Tel: (507) 315 0902  
 Fax: (507) 315 0902  
 Email: c.melgarejo@anam.gob.pa

Ricardo Brown Salazar,  
 Coordinador Nacional  
 Proyecto Formulación del Plan Nacional  
 Forestal  
 Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente, ANAM  
 Apartado 0843-00793  
 Balboa, Ancón  
 Tel: (507) 314 0255; 315 0902  
 Fax: (507) 314 0255; 315 0902  
 Email: r.brown@anam.gob.pa /  
 rbrown@ecored.net

Helvecia Bonilla  
 Jefe del Departamento de Desastre  
 Ambiental, Coordinadora Nacional de  
 Incendios Forestales, Coordinadora del  
 Grupo de Manejo del Fuego de la CCAD  
 Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente  
 Apartado 0843-00793  
 Balboa, Ancón 767-D  
 Tel: (507) 315 0855, ext. 3180  
 Email: h.bonilla@anam.gob.pa /  
 cholybd@yahoo.com

**PARAGUAY**

Damiana Mann  
 Jefe del Departamento de Educación y  
 Extensión Forestal  
 Servicio Forestal Nacional (MAG)  
 Tel: (595-21) 524 382  
 Fax: (595-21) 524 382  
 Email: damidel@cu.com.py

**SURINAME**

Mr. Iwan.Krolis  
General Director  
Foundation for Forest Management and  
Production Control (SBB)  
Ministry of Physical Planning, Land and  
Forest Management  
Dr. Martin Luther Kingweg perc. 283  
Paramaribo  
Tel: (597) 48 3 131  
Fax: (597) 48 3051  
Email: sbbsur@sr.net

**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

Johnny Seepersad  
Acting Deputy Conservator of Forests  
Forestry Division  
Ministry of Public Utilities and the  
Environment  
Long Circular Road, St. James  
Port-of-Spain  
Tel: (1-868) 622 3217/4521  
Fax: (1-868) 628 5503  
Email: forestry@tstt.net.tt

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Ariel Lugo  
Director  
International Institute of Tropical Forestry  
(IITF)  
USDA Forest Service  
Jardín Botánico Sur, 1201 Calle Ceiba  
San Juan, PR 00926-1119  
Tel.: (1-787) 766 5335  
Fax: (1-787) 766 6263  
Email: alugo@fs.fed.us

Elizabeth Mayhew  
Latin America and Caribbean Program  
Coordinator  
USDA Forest Service  
1099 14th Street, NW 5500W  
Washington, DC 20005  
Tel: (1-202) 273 4753  
Fax: (1-202) 208 3160  
Email: lmayhew@fs.fed.us

**URUGUAY**

Andrés Berterreche  
Director General  
Dirección General Forestal  
Ministerio de Ganadería, Agricultura y  
Pesca  
Cerrito 318, CP 11000  
Montevideo  
Tel: (59-82) 915 1900  
Fax: (59-82) 915 1900, int. 131  
Email: aberterreche@mgap.gub.uy

**VENEZUELA**

Olga Pérez  
Directora General  
Dirección General de Bosques  
Ministerio del Ambiente y de los  
Recursos Naturales  
Centro Simón Bolívar, Torre Sur, piso 22  
El Silencio  
Caracas  
Tel: (58-212) 408 1252  
Fax: (58-212) 408 1254  
Email: operez@marn.gov.ve

Juan Carlos González Ortega  
Tercer Secretario adscrito a la Unidad  
Medioambiental  
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores  
Torre MRE, Piso 16, esq. de Carmelitas  
Caracas 1010  
Tel: (58-212) 806 4326  
Fax: (58-212) 606 4359  
Email: jcgo85@yahoo.es /  
juan.gonzalez@mre.gov.ve

**REPRESENTATIVES OF UNITED NATIONS AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES****United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)**

Barbara Tavora-Jainchill  
Programme Officer  
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
1 UN Plaza DC1 1258  
New York, NY 10017, U.S.A.  
Tel: (1-917) 367 3265  
Fax: (1-917) 367 3186  
Email: tavora-jainchill@un.org

**Convention on Biological Diversity (CDB)**

Kalemani Mulongoy-Jo  
Principal Officer  
Scientific, Technical and Technological Matters Division  
413, Saint Jacques Street, suite 800  
Montreal, Quebec  
Canada H2Y 1N9  
Tel: (1-514) 287 7027  
Fax: (1-514) 288 6588  
Email: jo.mulongoy@biodiv.org

**OBSERVERS FROM INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND  
NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS****Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)**

José Rente Nascimento  
Especialista Principal en Recursos Naturales  
1300 New York Ave. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20577, U.S.A.  
Tel: (1-202) 623 3752  
Fax: (1-202) 312 4025  
Email: renten@iadb.org

**Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE)**

Fernando Carrera  
Investigador  
7170, Turrialba, Costa Rica  
Tel: (506) 558 2318  
Fax: (506) 558 2048  
Email: fcarrera@catie.ac.cr

Roger Alberto Villalobos Soto  
Especialista Manejo Forestal Diversificado  
7170, Turrialba, Costa Rica  
Tel: (506) 558 2318  
Fax: (506) 558 2057  
Email: rvillalo@catie.ac.cr

**Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO)**

Carlos Salinas Montes  
Coordinador Proyecto Biodiversidad  
SHIS - QI 05, Conjunto 16, Casa 21 - Lago Sul  
CEP 71615-160 Brasilia, DF, Brasil  
Tel: (55-61) 3248 4119  
Fax: (55-61) 3248 4238  
Email: csalinas@otca.org.br / csalinasmontes@hotmail.com

Carlos Enrique Aragón Castillo  
Asesor Senior  
SHIS - QI 05, Conjunto 16, Casa 21 - Lago Sul  
CEP 71615-160 Brasilia, DF, Brasil  
Tel: (55-61) 3248 4119  
Fax: (55-61) 3248 4238  
Email: carlos.aragon@otca.org.br

Lillian Carrillo Meza  
Jr. Lampa N° 545  
Lima, Perú  
Tel: (51-1) 311 2627  
Fax: (51-1) 311 2628  
Email: lcarrillo@ree.gob.pe

**Comisión Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo (CCAD)**

Marco Antonio González Pastora  
Secretario Ejecutivo  
Blvd. Orden de Malta N° 470  
Santa Elena, Antiguo Cuscatlán, La Libertad  
San Salvador, El Salvador  
Tel: (503) 2248 8843  
Fax: (503) 2248 8894  
Email: mgonzalezp2003@yahoo.com

**Regional Activity Center of Specially Protected Areas for Wildlife (RAC/SPAW)**

Melina Roth  
Project Manager  
Cité Guillard, chemin des Bougainvilliers Imm Diren  
97/100 Basse-Terre Guadeloupe (FWI), France  
Tel: 0 (590) 41 04 52  
Fax: 0 (590) 99 35 65  
Email: melina.roth@guadeloupe.ecologie.gouv.fr

**Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)**

César Sabogal  
Senior Scientist  
Management and Silviculture of Tropical Forests  
c/o EMBRAPA Amazonia Oriental  
Trav. Dr. Enéas Pinheiro s/n, Belém  
Pará, Brasil  
Tel: (55-91) 4009 2650  
Fax: (55-91) 4009 2651  
Email: c.sabogal@cgiar.org

**World Conservation Union (IUCN)**

Alberto Salas  
Coordinador Regional Biodiversidad y Uso Sostenible  
Oficina Regional para Mesoamérica  
Moravia, Costa Rica  
Tel: (506) 241 0101  
Fax: (506) 240 9934  
Email: alberto.salas@iucn.org

Consuelo Espinoza Proaño  
Oficial de Programa Bosques y Economía Ambiental  
Oficina Regional para América del Sur  
Shyris 2680 y Gaspar de Villaroel PH  
Quito, Ecuador  
Tel: (593-2) 226 1075  
Fax: (593-2) 226 3075  
Email: consuelo.espinosa@sur.iucn.org

**International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)**

Santiago Barros  
Coordinador WP 6.03.04  
Red de Información Forestal para América Latina y el Caribe  
Instituto Forestal  
Huérfanos 554  
Santiago, Chile  
Tel: (56-2) 693 0700  
Email: sbarros@infor.cl

**The Nature Conservancy**

Alfredo Nolasco Morales  
Coordinador  
Programa de Manejo del Fuego  
México D.F., México  
Tel: (52-55) 5661 1153  
Fax: (52-55) 5661 2175  
Email: anolasco@tnc.org

**Tropenbos International**

Kees van Dijk  
Tropenbos International  
P.O. Box 232  
6700 AE Wageningen, The Netherlands  
Tel: (31-317) 49 5501  
Fax: (31-317) 49 5520  
Email: kees.vandijk@tropenbos.org

**OBSERVERS FROM PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS****Canadian Natural Resources Group (CNRG)**

Dick Mynen  
Director  
Suite 900, 1188 West Georgia Street,  
Vancouver, British Columbia  
Canada V6E 4A2  
Tel: (1-604) 602 5248  
Fax: (1-604) 683 6450  
Email: dick.mynen@tdb.bc.ca

Martin Watts  
Director  
Suite 900, 1188 West Georgia Street,  
Vancouver, British Columbia  
Canada V6E 4A2  
Tel: (1-604) 602 5248  
Fax: (1-604) 683 6450  
Email: martin\_watts@telus.net

**FAO MEMBER NON-MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION****Ministry of Environment, Spain**

José Luis Herranz Saez  
Director General para la Biodiversidad  
Gran Vía de San Francisco  
4-28005 Madrid, Spain  
Tel: (34-9) 596 4829  
Fax: (34-9) 596 4871  
Email: jherranz@mma.es

**Junta de Castilla y León**

Miguel Segur Pelayo  
Consultor  
Dirección General Medio Natural  
Apartado Postal 5  
47080 Valladolid, España  
Tel: (34-983) 141 626  
Fax: (34-983) 141 601  
Email: msegur@forestales.net

**Deutsche Gesellschaft für technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)**

Daniel Draeger  
Project Officer  
Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1-5  
P.O. Box 5180  
65726 Eschborn, Germany  
Tel: (49-6196) 79 7158  
Fax: (49-6196) 79 80 7158  
Email: daniel.draeger@gtz.de

Wibke Thies  
Project Officer  
Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1-5  
P.O. Box 5180  
65726 Eschborn, Germany  
Tel: (49-6196) 79 6354  
Fax: (49-6196) 79 80 6354  
Email: wibke.thies@gtz.de

Richard Modley  
Asesor Política Forestal - Nicaragua  
Secretaría Ejecutiva PUEMBO II  
Optica Nicaragüense 2c arriba  
Managua, Nicaragua  
Tel: (505) 266 6060  
Email: richard.modley@gtz.de

Claudia Mayer  
Asesora  
Organización de Cooperación Amazónica  
SHIS - QI Conjunto 16 Casa 21, Lago Sul  
Brasilia, D.F., Brasil  
Tel: (55-61) 324 84119  
Fax: (55-61) 324 84238  
Email: claudia.mayer@gtz.de



**Instituto da Conservação da Natureza (ICN)**

João Manuel Silva Alves  
Vice-Presidente  
Rua de Santa Marta, 55  
1150-294 Lisboa, Portugal  
Tel: 351) 213 507950  
Fax: (351) 213 507984  
Cel.: (351) 969 833296  
Email: alvesj@icn.pt

**HOST COUNTRY SECRETARIAT**

Teresa Disla  
Encargada del Centro de Información  
Forestal  
Subsecretaría de Recursos Forestales  
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente  
Piso N° 14, EOG “Juan Pablo Duarte”  
Tel: (1-809) 688 0902  
Fax: (1-809) 685 4950  
Email: tedisla@gmail.com

Joseline Altagracia Genao Díaz  
Técnica en Cómputos  
Subsecretaría de Recursos Forestales  
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente  
Piso N° 14, EOG “Juan Pablo Duarte”  
Tel: (1-809) 688 0902  
Fax: (1-809) 685 4950  
Email: joseline.genao@gmail.com

Sol Teresa Paredes Menada  
Encargada Departamento de Planificación  
Subsecretaría de Recursos Forestales  
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente  
Piso N° 14, EOG “Juan Pablo Duarte”  
Tel: (1-809) 688 0902  
Fax: (1-809) 685 4950  
Email:  
solteresapm@hotmail.com

Teresa Gil  
Encargada de Industrias Forestales,  
Región Norte  
Subsecretaría de Recursos Forestales  
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente  
Piso N° 14, EOG “Juan Pablo Duarte”  
Tel: (1-809) 688 0902  
Fax: (1-809) 685 4950  
Email:  
pautas.ambientales@hotmail.com

Mercedes Guzmán Concepción  
Asistente de la Dirección de Investigación  
y Capacitación Forestal  
Subsecretaría de Recursos Forestales  
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente  
Av. Héroes de Luperon, La Feria  
Tel.: (1-809) 533 5183, ext. 245  
Email:  
mercedesguzman@hotmail.com

Claudia Quezada  
Secretaria  
Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente  
Piso N° 14, EOG “Juan Pablo Duarte”  
Tel: (1-809) 688 0902  
Fax: (1-809) 685 4950  
Email:  
clauquez04@hotmail.com

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS (FAO)**

José Graziano Da Silva  
Regional Representative for Latin America  
and the Caribbean  
FAO Regional Office for Latin America and  
the Caribbean  
Casilla 10095  
Santiago, Chile  
Tel: (56-2) 337 2100  
Fax: (56-2) 337 2101  
Email: Jose.GrazianoDaSilva@fao.org

José Antonio Prado  
Director  
Forest Resources Division  
Forestry Department  
FAO  
Rome, Italy  
Tel: (39-06) 570 55978  
Fax: (39-06) 570 55137  
Email: joseantonio.prado@fao.org

Antonio Morales  
FAO Representative in Dominican Republic  
Av. Anaconda 9, prox. Bahoruco  
A.P. 11206  
Santo Domingo  
Dominican Republic  
Tel: (1-809) 5370909 Ext. 270/271  
Fax: (1-809) 5313707  
Email: FAO-DOM@field.fao.org

Merilio Morell  
FAO Representative in Panama  
Williamson place 760 AB  
Ancón, Panama  
Panama  
Tel: (507) 314 0255  
Email: merilio.morell@fao.org

Carlos M. Carneiro  
Senior Forestry Officer  
FAO Regional Office for Latin America and  
the Caribbean  
Casilla 10095  
Santiago, Chile  
Tel: (56-2) 337 2214  
Fax: (56-2) 337 2136  
Email: Carlos.Carneiro@fao.org

Ignacio Bustos  
Regional Adviser, National Forest  
Programmes  
FAO Regional Office for Latin America  
and the Caribbean  
Casilla 10095  
Santiago, Chile  
Tel: (56-2) 337 2189  
Fax: (56-2) 337 2136  
Email: Ignacio.Bustos@fao.org

Mario Mengarelli  
Forestry Officer  
FAO Regional Office for Latin America  
and the Caribbean  
Casilla 10095  
Santiago, Chile  
Tel: (56-2) 337 2213  
Fax: (56-2) 337 2136  
Email: Mario.Mengarelli@fao.org

Claus M. Eckelmann  
Forestry Officer  
FAO Subregional Office for the Caribbean  
P.O. Box 631-C  
Bridgetown, Barbados  
Tel: (1-246) 4267111  
Fax: (1-246) 4276075  
Email: Claus.Eckelmann@fao.org

Eduardo Mansur  
Forestry Officer (National Forest  
Programmes)  
Forestry Policy and Institutions Service  
Forestry Department  
FAO  
Rome, Italy  
Tel: (39-06) 570 54688  
Fax: (39-06) 570 55137  
Email: eduardo.mansur@fao.org

Nancy Ayub  
Secretary  
Forestry Group RLCO  
FAO Regional Office for Latin America and  
the Caribbean  
Casilla 10095  
Santiago, Chile  
Tel: (56-2) 337 2215  
Fax: (56-2) 337 2136  
Email: Nancy.Ayub@fao.org

María Isabel Vergara  
Administrative Assistant  
Forestry Group RLCO  
FAO Regional Office for Latin America and  
the Caribbean  
Casilla 10095  
Santiago, Chile  
Tel: (56-2) 337 2188  
Fax: (56-2) 337 2136  
Email: MariaIsabel.Vergara@fao.org

Jessica Casaza  
Consultant  
FAO Regional Office for Latin America  
and the Caribbean  
Casilla 10095  
Santiago, Chile  
Tel: (56-2) 337 2186  
Fax: (56-2) 337 2101  
Email: jessica.casaza@fao.org

Torsten Frisk  
Consultant  
FAO Regional Office for Latin America  
and the Caribbean  
Casilla 10095  
Santiago, Chile  
Tel: (56-2) 233 0098  
Email: torstenfrisk@terra.cl

#### INTERPRETERS

Agnès Boonefaes  
Robert McCollum  
Jocelyn Caminero de Croes  
Luis García Marsan

## APPENDIX C

## LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Agenda Item	Code	Title
1	FO:LACFC/2006/1	Provisional agenda
3	FO:LACFC/2006/3.1	Overview of forestry activities of interest to the Region: "Review of the LACFC and other FAO supported activities, including follow-up to the recommendations of the 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sesión of the Commission"
3	FO:LACFC/2006/3.2	Overview of forestry activities of interest to the Region: "Global activities"
4	FO:LACFC/2006/4.1	Special session: Implementing sustainable forest management. "Progress towards sustainable forest management"
4	FO:LACFC/2006/4.2	Special session: Implementing sustainable forest management. "The search for excellence in sustainable forest management in Latin America and the Caribbean"
4	FO:LACFC/2006/4.3	Special session: Implementing sustainable forest management. "Strategies and codes of best forest practices: their role in promoting sustainable forest management"
4	FO:LACFC/2006/4.4	Special session: Implementing sustainable forest management. "Regional cooperation to promote SFM: report of the pre-Commission workshop"
5	FO:LACFC/2006/5.1	Information items: Forest education in Latin America and the Caribbean; Progress in the Regional Technical Cooperation Networks; Briefing on the outcome of the III Latin American Forestry Congress (III CONFLAT)
5	FO:LACFC/2006/5.2	Information items: Climate change issues
7	FO:LACFC/2006/7	In-session Seminar: Biological diversity in forestry in Latin America and the Caribbean

**Information documents**

FO:LACFC/2006/Inf.1	Information Note for Participants
FO:LACFC/2006/Inf.2	Provisional timetable
FO:LACFC/2006/Inf.3	List of documents

**APPENDIX D****RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PRE-COMMISSION WORKSHOPS ON  
WILDLAND FIRES AND REGIONAL COOPERATION TO PROMOTE  
SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT****1. Pre-Commission workshop on regional and subregional strategies of cooperation for the prevention, control and combat of wildland fires**

The aim of the Pre-Commission Workshop was to submit and analyze the Regional Wildland Fire Management Cooperation Strategy and Subregional Strategies in Central America, Caribbean, and South America. Later, over the course of the Commission Session, to report on the Workshop results as well as recommendations drawn up.

Delegates of the countries to the Commission Session attended the Workshop together with fire management specialists representing non-governmental organizations.

During the Workshop, it was pointed out that the development of the regional cooperation strategy and mutual assistance subregional strategies have been the result of the TCP/RLA/3010 Regional Project of FAO Technical Cooperation Programme, which aim was to strengthen regional country capacities to prevent, control, and fight wildland fire and create frameworks for the implementation of bilateral and multilateral agreements.

In the process of strategies presentation and analysis, participants made recommendations to the Commission and to Commission's member countries.

**Recommendations for the Commission**

- To adopt the Regional Wildland Fire Management Cooperation Strategy and Subregional Strategies, and implementation mechanisms.
- To recommend FAO to facilitate and support countries in strengthening national strategies for a better implementation of Regional and Subregional Strategies.
- To encourage member countries to implement lines of action recommended in the strategies, on the basis of human and budgetary resources availability.
- To favour the formal link between the Fire Management Central American Working Group (institutionally approved within the framework of the Central American Commission on Environment and Development - CCAD), in the Regional Strategy, through a Memorandum of Understanding between CCAD Executive Secretariat and FAO Regional Office as LACFC Executive Committee secretariat.
- To recommend the official recognition of the Working Groups in the Central America, Caribbean, and South America network before the Global Wildland Fire Network, the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR), and other UN Agencies.
- To try that Commission's biannual sessions Programme includes progress review regarding the implementation of Regional and Subregional Strategies.

## **LACFC member country recommendations**

- To strengthen the definition of mechanisms with a view to implementing bilateral and multilateral agreements, reaching consensus with the rest of the countries on fire management cooperation principles, norms and procedures, as well as formalize its membership in Subregional Fire Management Working Groups.
- To support the creation of a regional cooperation proactive environment aiming at promoting training and research on fire ecology, to sustain fire management and rehabilitation of affected areas, as well as favour agreements to draw up and spread information about fire forecast and control.
- To foster a national platform to build, promote, and link fire management Central American, Caribbean, and South American Working Group network with the Global Wildland Fire Network of the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR).

### **2. Pre-Commission workshop on regional cooperation to promote sustainable forest management**

48 representatives of various LACFC member countries, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, civil society entities, indigenous community representatives, and international cooperation organizations participated in this workshop carried out June 25. The aim of this workshop was to get acquainted with different projects supporting National Forestry Programmes (NFP) in the region, and get input for discussions at the 24th LACFC Session about three main topics: cooperation amongst regional countries to strengthen NFP and facilitate the sustainable forest management (SFM), the regionalization of forest dialogue, and the LACFC role in these processes.

The following conclusions and recommendations were issued:

#### **On regional cooperation to strengthen NFPs**

- The NFPs are dialogue processes and compilation of local, national, regional, and global agendas of actors and sectors having influence on, or being benefited from forests, to formulate and implement national SFM policies. High priority should be given by governments to set up and strengthen ongoing dialogue mechanisms by acknowledging the importance and capacities of subnational and local actors to determine intersectorial agendas and provide input to national, regional, and international decisions.
- SFM features require guaranteeing long term political support, which is why cooperation among countries of the regions plays an important role in terms of SFM promotion, fostering, and assistance. Likewise, it is also required that international bodies and agreements continue providing support to a favourable environment for SFM policies which may contribute to national development and global conditions improvement.
- Up to a large extent, regional and international cooperation may contribute to NFPs, in terms of sharing knowledge, resources, and other institutional capacities, as well as harmonize policies regarding bordering problems based on the shared responsibility principle. Among other aspects which could benefit from these cooperation there is a higher appreciation and use of functions, goods, and services provided by forests, related markets for the same, and implementation of public and private SFM funding strategies through traditional as well as innovative instruments. Regional and subregional agencies for political, technical, and economic integration have an important role to play. Besides,

processes regarding local forest management and community access to forest benefits may be strengthened in those countries having similar conditions.

### **About regionalization of the international dialogue on forests and national and local execution of agreements**

- In order to fully implement agreements, it is necessary to identify opportunities they may offer for the SFM, enhance the knowledge different actors have about them, and train organizations in charge of promoting their execution as well as monitor compliance. It is necessary to analyze the effectiveness of international negotiations and related instruments.
- Such effectiveness is related to its appropriateness and adaptation to characteristics, needs, and potentiality of resources, agents, and national forest processes, so their proposal and negotiation should be based on international fora representatives' consultation to national and local actors.
- The international global dialogue will be enriched from a permanent link with regional and subregional levels, which may ease the formulation and implementation of the international regime at a national level. Regional dialogue mechanisms should be structured to strengthen national dialogue and vice-versa. CCAD and ACTO are considered the suitable organizations to take on these tasks in their respective subregions and it is suggested to establish or adapt relevant bodies in charge of these tasks at the Southern Cone and the Caribbean.

### **On LACFC role**

Based on LACFC characteristics and its subregional scope which coincides with the ones of the organizations previously referred to, LACFC is in an excellent stance to play an integrating role for forest dialogue in Latin America and the Caribbean, relate national and subnational levels of said dialogue with the regional level, and contribute to link the latter with the global dialogue.

Based on the above, LACFC agenda should be better connected to the international agenda, providing relevant and timely input to develop said agenda as well as monitor results. It would be appropriate that LACFC turns into a space where COPs and UNFF processes in relation to the region may be developed and assessed.

In order LACFC could better respond to the great the diversity of SFM actors, preserving its original constitution based on governmental membership, LACFC agenda should be opened towards a greater participation of the civil society, including private entrepreneurship agenda, and reflecting the intersectorial characteristics regarding forest development; all of which requires to intensify the development of a Commission's participatory agenda at subregional level, with a clear representation of various actors interests.

**APPENDIX E****PROPOSED 2006-2008 WORKPLANS OF THE SUBREGIONAL GROUPS*****WORKPLAN OF THE CARIBBEAN SUBREGIONAL GROUP***

Countries present at the Session: Cuba, Dominica, United States of America, Guyana, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago. Dominican Republic holds the Vice-presidency of the Caribbean Subregional Group for the period 2006-2008.

The work of this Subregional Group to carry out specific tasks in groups of countries having similar ecologic and social conditions was ratified.

Currently, work is being done in three main groups:

- a) Small and medium size English speaking island: Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Granada, Trinidad and Tobago, and Barbados.
- b) Spanish and French speaking islands: Cuba, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico (USA) and Haiti.
- c) Countries with large forest extensions: Belize, Guyana, French Guyana, Suriname.

Having set up the working groups in the way described above does not preclude other countries' to take place in a different one, since participation in any of the activities will ultimately depend on the theme and interest of a specific country.

Apart from these three groups it was also set up a Forest Fire Management Working Group for the Caribbean. This Group agreed to suggest as a focal point the Fire Management Specialist of Cuba's Forester Brigade attending the session.

**Activities Plan for the period 2006 - 2008****1. Information management, exchange, and communication**

The Subregional Group admitted the need to improving internal communication and the importance of technical meetings as an important goal to improve understanding and acquaintance of forest situation in the Caribbean.

In order to facilitate the exchange of publications and technical documents, the International Institute of Tropical Forestry (IITF) put its Web site "The Caribbean Foresters": <http://www.caribbeanforesters.org/> at the disposal of the group as a platform to publish technical documents of interest for the Caribbean Group.

The use of this site will not affect the Subregional Group decision of suggesting a place within LACFC Web site to exchange information from the Group as agreed upon at LACFC Session, 2004. The aim of this site is to set a link to exchange information among national forest managers, the FAO forests' information system, and other Caribbean organizations Web sites related to forest sector or the biodiversity conservation.



## **2. Forest fires management**

The Group agreed to implement the 2006–2011 Caribbean Fire Management Cooperation Strategy. The strategy defines a series of actions and subregional workshops in detail, to improve cooperation regarding fire management in the Caribbean.

## **3. Forest research**

Forest research is considered a priority issue for most Caribbean countries. The need to strengthen applied research to respond to forest management modern challenges was reasserted. However, despite this need was recognized, most of the countries reported a deficiency, and in many cases, a decrease in research activities.

In April 2007 Cuba will hold the 4<sup>th</sup> National Forest Congress which will be focused on forest research regarding forest management and agroforestry. The Cuban delegate suggested that this Congress could serve to revitalize forest research in the Caribbean. He put at the disposal of the Group members, the results of forest research carried out in Cuba via electronic means and printed format. Likewise, the ITTF offered its forest information service through its Web site and bookstore.

A theme of common interest to strengthen research is the importance of forest for the biodiversity conservation.

## **4. Development of a methodology to value forest environmental services.**

The need to develop a methodology to value forest environmental services in terms of drinkable water supply as well as tourism was determined. However, although the non-wood forest value is recognized, no Caribbean country pays a compensation for these services, since they are lacking a methodology to value the same.

There was a suggestion to develop case studies to work on forest services appraisal. These case studies will be developed in English and Spanish speaking countries. It was also suggested that these case studies be spread via e-mail to all Group members to be discussed at fora such as the Caribbean Foresters meeting. The final goal will be to develop a practical and simple methodology to value forest services. The advantage to carry out this study within the Subregional Group framework is that the methodology will be accepted in the Caribbean.

### **Additional themes related to bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the Caribbean**

Jamaica highlighted the need to improve the national capacity to recultivate bauxite ore mine areas. Cuba put its experience in this field at the disposal of the Group.

Dominican Republic pointed out the need to improve the forest extension system towards small forest owners and surrounding communities. Cuba offered copies of its “Extension Manual” prepared by the Forestry Directorate.

Several countries defined cooperation in the forest education area as necessary. Within this framework, it is advisable to explore on the possibilities to use the FAO Representative’s Technical Cooperation Programme mechanism to invite forest training experts as visiting experts.

### **National Forest Programmes**

The Subregional Caribbean Group recognizes the importance of developing a national forest programme. Jamaica and Cuba are receiving support from the Mechanism for the national forest programmes to continue developing their programmes. In 2005 the NGO *Caribbean Natural Resources Institute* (CANARI) signed an agreement with the Mechanism to support training for those interested in the participatory development of forest policies in seven Caribbean countries.

The Subregional Group advises the countries to continue working in the development of their national forest programmes and resort the Mechanism for help.

### ***WORKPLAN OF THE MESO-AMERICA SUBREGIONAL GROUP***

Countries present at the Session: Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama. Guatemala holds the Vice-presidency of the Meso-American Subregional Group for the period 2006-2008.

### **General considerations**

The two-year work plan has been formulated with the following considerations regarding forest policies planning, coordination, follow-up, and assessment, and activities agreed:

1. Member countries of the Subregional Group acknowledge the importance of National Forest Programmes (NFPs) as a reference framework for sector policies' planning, follow-up, and assessment. In this sense, support should be provided towards its implementation.
2. The Technical Committee on Forests (TCF) of the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD) shall bear responsibility regarding the implementation of the Work Plan follow-up and assessment mechanisms.
3. National Forest Services shall be in charge of linking FAO's representations in the countries of the Subregion to the work plan execution and follow-up, and request their participation to attain the support of other sectors (health, agriculture, finances, tourism, among others).

### **General Work Plan**

#### **Follow-up to the Central American Forestry Strategy (CAFS)**

A key aspect of the work plan will be the ongoing update and implementation of CAFS. The following are the topics of this strategy and the ones which are part of the same and are more directly related to the two-year work plan:

- Forest funding national strategies.
- NFPs status at the light of Puenbo II Initiative themes.
- Study of the regional illegal logging (transboundary areas) and its application at national level.
- Compromise and dialogue mechanisms.
- CAFS revision, update, and harmonization.

### **New issues requiring financial support**

During the two-year period the following activities requiring financial support will be carried out:

- Systematization of the Central American experiences on Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and its view at international level.
- Strengthening of the community forest management.
- Forest inventories of Central American countries, with a view to the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA).
- VI Central American Forest Congress which will be held in El Salvador, 2007.
- Intersectorial policy (Agroenvironmental Agenda).
- Alignment of the international cooperation and assistance.

### **Activities to be carried out during the two-year period**

The following activities and subactivities have been established for the implementation of the 2006-2008 Work Plan:

#### 1. Forest funding national strategies

Subactivities:

- To validate and internalize financial mechanism proposals of consultant teams by State Forest Authorities (AFE).
- To coordinate with financial authorities at national level.
- To socialize information with local actors prior the end of the exercise.
- To share experiences at Subregional level.

#### 2. NFP status (Puembo II Initiative)

Subactivities:

- To establish a strong coordination among working teams (consultants). Establish the necessary mechanisms in each country (agendas, documents, among others) to align international cooperation.
- To validate and internalize financial mechanism proposals of consultant teams by State Forest Authorities (AFE).
- To coordinate with financial authorities at national level.
- To socialize information with local actors prior the end of the exercise.
- To share experiences at Subregional level.
- Regional Intersectorial Workshop.

#### 3. Commerce studies and transboundary illegal logging, and application at national level

Subactivities:

- To establish work teams at a national level between AFE and CATIE consultants to work on the initiative and revise work plans. To follow-up consultant teams work to guarantee objectivity and rationality.
- To elaborate terms of reference for regional and national studies.

4. Regional strategy for trade control and illegal logging strengthening national strategies.

Subactivity:

- Regional workshop to revise results and its application at national level. How to apply the regional study and how to develop national strategies.

5. Mechanisms (tables) of forest compromise, and communication and promotion systems

Subactivities:

- Systematization of participation (lessons learned). The workshop is under design.
- Regional workshop to exchange experiences and lessons learned. These tables must tackle on NFP issues.
- Strengthen national tables based on regional experiences.

6. CAFS update, review, and harmonization

Subactivities:

- To socialize the report of the Ministers' meeting held in Panama.
- To update CAFS regional actors.
- To review the communication channels within CAFS framework based on the agreement signed by the ministers.

7. To visualize SFM positive experiences in Central America at regional and international level

Subactivity:

- To review and spread successful SFM cases in countries of the region. To communicate and spread (systematization and lessons learned) the Central American experience as regards sustainable forest management, coordination mechanisms, and institutional management.

8. Strengthening community and indigenous people forest management activities

Subactivities:

- To provide support and technical assistance for the markets. To establish the difference between peasant and indigenous experiences.
- To promote strategic alliances.
- To provide local actors with access to relevant information.
- To have financial access and develop capacities.

9. Forest information and monitoring systems

Subactivities:

- National and regional forest inventories (getting prepared for CAFTA).
- Strengthen countries information systems.

10. VI Central American Forest Congress, El Salvador 2007

Subactivity:

- To support the El Salvador Congress Organizing Committee.

11. Implementation of the Fire Management Central American Strategy

Subactivity:

- To officialize and manage resources for the implementation of the same.

***WORKPLAN OF THE SOUTHERN CONE SUBREGIONAL GROUP***

Countries present at the Session: Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay. Uruguay holds the Vice-presidency of the Southern Cone Subregional Group for the period 2006-2008.

As a result of the Delegates meeting of countries making up the LACFC Southern Cone Subregional Group, the following strategic lines to be carried during the two-year period 2006-2008 were developed:

**1. Information system of criteria and indicators within the Montreal Process**

This proposal comes from the previous period and it is expected to be executed during the current two-year period. In this sense, it is expected to include the contribution from the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA-2005) for the basic information gathering.

**General objective:** To promote sustainable forest development as from forest monitoring from an ecosystemic concept of the same.

**Specific objectives:**

- To partially assess the conservation of biological diversity, soils, and water, and maintenance of the productive capacity of forest ecosystems, contribution to the global carbon cycle, and multiple socioeconomic benefits.
- To strengthen related educational and promotion activities.

**Results:** Total or partial construction of at least fifteen Montreal Process indicators and the internalization of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) at local population level.

**Activities:**

- To gather the necessary information to build the indicators.
- To publish SFM educational documents and spread them.
- Promotion activities with emphasis on SFM.

**2. Agro-silvopastoral systems**

**General objective:** To optimize soil use in small endeavours taking into account the social, economic, and environmental aspects.

**Result:** To promote comprehensive management focused on small producers.

**Activities:**

- To exchange and systematize experiences adapted to national realities.
- To install Demonstrative Units leading to experiences which could be replicated once adapted to each specific reality.

**3. Subregional Forest Health System**

**General objective:** To strengthen South American country capacities regarding forest health.

**Result:** To set up a network to implement an Early Warning and Exchange System to solve common problems.

**Activities:**

- To systematize national situations.
- To promote interinstitutional coordination.
- To promote and strengthen the exchange of information among countries.
- To set up an Early Warning Network.

**4. Development of a data base of binational and multinational activities in the Subregion.**

**Objective:** To have collective and detailed information of forest activities of interest for the group of countries in the Subregion.

**Results:** To have an ordered and easy-to-access data base of forest activities in the countries of South America as well as countries of other Subregional Groups providing updated information about events and processes regarding forest issues.

**Activities:** To establish, by means of a focal point, the information that will feed a data base referred to events, processes, agreements, and development in countries of the Subregional Group and other Subregional Groups.

### ***WORKPLAN OF THE AMAZON SUBREGIONAL GROUP***

Countries present at the Session: Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela. Ecuador holds the Vice-presidency of the Amazon Subregional Group for the period 2006-2008.

The Group considered important to enable a virtual space in the FAO Regional Office Web site or in the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) Web site, so the countries may have access to updated information. The Group suggested to providing room for reviewing the Work Plan progress via videoconferences. It also recommended that FAO should provide resources to support the Group president in the fulfilment of its responsibilities.

The Group reasserted its will to work towards promoting a sustainable forest management, developing the international agenda and promoting the funding of activities which will allow these goals to be achieved. It also pointed out the need to establish resources raising mechanisms, and the importance that FAO and ACTO supports the achievement of the Work Plan.

**1. Information system**

To promote cooperation among countries to develop a forest information system in the Region.

**Proposed activities:**

- Training in forest coverage assessment:
  - Feasibility analysis for the application of the China-Brazil Earth Resources Satellite/ Real Time Deforestation Detection (CBERS/DETEC) in the countries of the Subregion.
  - To install and train local/national institutions for the appropriate functioning of the forest coverage monitoring system with a regional approach, in a training workshop in Brazil for 25 persons.
- Information about national accounts:
  - A study of the forest sector accounting system in the system of national public accounts.
  - A workshop with national forest and public funding sector authorities to discuss criteria to include forest sector public accountancy in a disaggregated way into the national public account systems. The Ministry of the Environment of Brazil has prepared a draft of terms of reference which will be submitted by the Group President to the consideration of the Group. The Subregional Workshop will be held in Ecuador.

**Input and possible funding sources:**

A videoconference with the countries was carried out in March 2006, to agree and receive contributions from countries to develop the activity funded by FAO.

ACTO will coordinate and manage resources to carry out training courses in the CBERS/DETEC system. The Brazilian Government, through the Brazilian Cooperation Agency, the ACTO, and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) will finance the event.

It was agreed that the Government of Ecuador will request ITTO resources to realize the national accounts component. Funds will be managed by ACTO.

**2. International agreements**

To promote discussion rooms on International Agreements implementation at a regional level, and reflect on the agreements, experiences, and regional demands.

**Proposed activities:**

- To carry out a videoconference among participants of the Subregional Group to suggest activities and procedures.
- To establish a follow-up mechanism of Panel and Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (PIB/FIB) action proposals.
- To create a space to gain access to information provided by countries.
- Preparatory workshop to define Amazon countries stance and the Agenda for the 7th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests in April 2007.

**Input and possible funding sources:**

FAO may contribute with the necessary resources for a videoconference or a consultant for one month to prepare the activity. Country representatives shall complete resources to carry out the activity.

### **3. Compromise and dialogue mechanisms**

To promote within countries, an institutionalized space of dialogue and compromise of the forest sector, defining its operational principles.

#### **Proposed activities:**

- To widen the study carried out within the framework of national forest programmes.
- To carry out a consultation workshop involving different stakeholders of the civil society for the definition of principles.

#### **Input and funding sources:**

FAO could contribute with the necessary resources for a videoconference or a consultant to begin preparing the activity. The Group will manage complementary resources from ITTO and ACTO to carry out the activities.

### **4. Funding mechanisms**

To define the necessary conditions to raise/attract investments and funds for a sustainable forest management.

#### **Proposed activities:**

- To carry out a study about the international cooperation amount for a sustainable forest management in the Amazonian Region.
- To schedule a workshop to discuss the sustainable forest management investment in the Amazonian region with the funding and international cooperation agents.
- To carry out a study on variables/factors constraining/stimulating investment and funding, in general and specifically for a sustainable forest management.
- To promote an internal debate on the issue in countries of the region.
- To promote a debate with investors for this sector.

#### **Input and possible funding sources:**

Member countries of the Subregion will provide their contribution as well as the Financial Mechanism Project implemented by FAO/GTZ, with the financial assistance of the Netherlands.

### **5. Other issues of interest to be considered**

The Group deemed forest training as highly important activity; however, it considered that an additional activity could overload the Work Plan for the period. Hence, the Group advised FAO to continue providing support to this important issue under its Regular Programme.



**MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION**

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