



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food  
and  
Agriculture  
Organization  
of  
the  
United  
Nations

Organisation  
des  
Nations  
Unies  
pour  
l'alimentation  
et  
l'agriculture

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

## COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY

### EIGHTEENTH SESSION

Rome, Italy, 13-16 March 2007

**XIII WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS**  
18-25 October 2009, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
*Forests in Development: a Vital Balance*

### Background

1. Every six years, a UN member country, in close collaboration with the Forestry Department of FAO, organizes the World Forestry Congress.
2. The Congress provides a global and participatory forum for the exchange of views and experience and for discussion of matters concerning all aspects of forestry. It provides the opportunity for the sector to produce an overview of the state of forests and forestry, in order to discern trends, adapt policies and raise awareness.
3. The Congress welcomes broad participation by members of government and international organizations, private companies, researchers, academia, forest owners and other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and stakeholders interested in the conservation, management and utilization of all types of forests.
4. Actions recommended by the Congress in a form of a declaration are applicable on a local, national, regional or world-wide basis. The outcome of the Congress is brought to the attention of the FAO Conference for possible endorsement of the declaration.

### Organization of the Congress

5. At its 128<sup>th</sup> Session, June 2005, the FAO Council selected Argentina to organize the XIII World Forestry Congress.
6. Argentina offered to hold the Congress in Buenos Aires, from 18 to 25 October 2009, followed by study tours. Buenos Aires offers excellent congress facilities as well as a rich variety of accommodation and cultural activities.

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7. Argentina has established an Organizing Committee, chaired by Dr. Javier de Urquiza, Undersecretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Forestry, with ample participation of governmental organizations, both federal and provincial, private companies, universities, forest owners associations and other NGOs. Mr. José Amigo has been designated as Secretary-General of the Congress.

8. The theme, *Forests in Development: a Vital Balance (Desarrollo Forestal: Equilibrio Vital)*, and the logo of the Congress were decided by the Organizing Committee in collaboration with FAO. They are now working together to define the programme and structure of the Congress.