

**Report of the seventh session of the**

# **COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY**

**Rome, 7-11 May 1984**



## PREVIOUS SESSIONS

First session	—	Rome, 8-13 May 1972
Second session	—	Rome, 22-29 May 1974
Third session	—	Rome, 22-27 November 1976
Fourth session	—	Rome, 15-19 May 1978
Fifth session	—	Rome, 26-30 May 1980
Sixth session	—	Rome, 3-7 May 1982

REPORT  
OF THE  
SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY

Rome, 7 - 11 May 1984

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Rome, 1984



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MATTERS REQUIRING ATTENTION BY THE COUNCIL

The attention of the Council is drawn to:

(i) The Committee's assessment of the potentials and problems of, and prospects for, Forestry beyond 2000, with special emphasis on the role of forestry in development. The Committee reiterated its concern at the continued excessive deforestation and neglect of the world's forest resources and recommended heightening political awareness of the critical importance for the future of mankind of adequate attention being given to the world's forests in the period to the year 2000 and beyond (paras. 8 to 34).

(ii) The Committee's review of FAO's programmes in forestry and endorsement of the medium-term objectives and priorities. The Committee recommended that FAO prepare a study on the interrelationship between forestry and food security for the attention of the 1985 meetings of the Committee on Food Security, the Committee on Agriculture and other appropriate FAO bodies. The Committee also appealed to donor countries to increase assistance to forestry in tropical and arid zones and that FAO's leadership role in forestry be further strengthened (paras. 46 to 54).

(iii) The Committee's support of the Austrian proposal that at the Ninth World Forestry Congress in Mexico special attention be paid to the conservation of forests and that 1985 be proclaimed International Year of the Forest (para. 57).



## INTRODUCTION

1. The Seventh Session of the Committee on Forestry of the FAO Council was held at FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy, from 7 to 11 May 1984.
2. The Session was attended by delegates from 83 member countries of the Committee, by observers from four other FAO Member Nations and from the Holy See, by representatives of the Economic Commissions for Africa and Europe, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Labour Organization, the World Bank and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), as well as by observers from five other international organizations. The list of participants is given in Appendix B.
3. The Chair was taken by Mr R. M. Peterson (USA). The Director-General, Mr Edouard Saouma, opened the Session.

### Adoption of the Agenda

4. The Agenda was adopted. The Agenda is set out in Appendix A to this report. The list of documents is given in Appendix C.

### Election of Officers and designation of the Drafting Committee

5. The Committee elected unanimously as Chairman Mr G. D. Holmes (UK) and as First Vice-Chairman Mr C. L. Bhatia (India).
6. As Vice-Chairmen representing the FAO regions of Africa, Latin America, North America, Near East, and the South-West Pacific, the Committee elected:

Africa	Mr E. M. Mnzava (Tanzania)
Latin America	Mr H. H. Kugler (Argentina)
North America	Mr R. Herring (Canada)
Near East	Mr M. R. Agag (Libya)
South-West Pacific	Mr D. R. Gregory (Australia)

7. The Committee appointed the following to the Drafting Committee:

Mr J. L. Whitmore	(USA)
Mr J. Bawak Besong	(Cameroon)
Ing. J. Castro Ordoñez	(Guatemala)
Mr M. Gaillard	(France)
Mr D. R. Gregory	(Australia)
Mr Farouk Al Ahmed	(Syria)
Mr Qin Fengzhu	(China)

Mr J. L. Whitmore was elected Chairman of the Drafting Committee.

## FOREST POLICY ISSUES

### Forestry beyond 2000 - potentials, problems and prospects with special emphasis on forest policies for:

#### (a) Temperate regions

8. The Committee acknowledged that there was greater community awareness of forestry issues including recognition of the need to rehabilitate rural land and to promote the establishment of trees on farms, etc. In considering the adequacy of information and the

importance of developing perspectives on the future development of the sector, the Committee emphasized the importance of both national and international outlook studies which consider both commercial products of the forest and also its environmental and recreational services in determining the socio-economic contribution of forests, and stressed FAO's advantageous position in developing perspectives on the trade in forest products. The Committee considered that a first requirement in such studies was an adequate assessment of forest resources and a clear recognition of the fact that there was competition for limited land resources, though this was not as intensive as in other regions. The demand for recreation and environmental services had given a more important role to forestry in view of its social and ecological effects and benefits. The inclusion of an adequate assessment of factors impairing forest production, such as fire and infestations of pests and disease, was also important. Of immediate concern was an assessment of the effects of atmospheric pollution and acid rain on the potential of forests to fulfil both their productive and environmental roles.

9. The Committee recommended that FAO maintain a full programme of information assembly and assessment of the outlook for the forestry sector on a continuing basis to enable a continuing assessment by governments and international agencies of the forestry situation.

10. The Committee agreed that approaches to management of forests must involve the continuity and commitment at all levels commensurate with the long-term production cycle, but must also have the flexibility necessary to allow responsiveness to changing demands and perceptions of society.

11. The Committee stressed the need for effective communication with different sectors of society; this was of primary importance if responsible management was to be assured. It noted the consultative mechanisms developed in a number of countries, including examples of national consultations on the priorities for land use and allocation of resources in the forest sector, consultations on environmental questions and the requirement for environmental impact assessment for major development projects.

12. The Committee recommended to governments that adequate provision be made for consultation with all areas of community interest in the development of forest policy and major programmes. The Committee also noted that in the international sphere there was a large number of non-governmental organizations relating to the forestry sector and agreed that their advice or guidance could be of value in identifying community priorities or mobilising support and funding.

13. The Committee agreed that delivery of products and services of the forest in the future was dependent upon adequate funding and investment. In many countries this was dependent upon the availability of government finance. Even where this was the conventional source, the Committee stressed that it was important to mobilise other sources and to involve top financial institutions and industry. The latter could be motivated to invest in forests where this ensured the continuity of raw material supply. Noting that in some cases profit sharing contracts between small forest owners and financial sources stimulated production in the small owner sector, the Committee agreed that these and similar arrangements were important means for financing forestry activities. The Committee recognized that an important pre-condition of successful activities was that they be economically viable. If this were well recognized, not only would the investment of cash be forthcoming but it would motivate the organization of community effort to carry through forestry projects.

(b) Humid tropics

14. The Committee agreed with the analysis of the problem and reiterated its concern about the present rate of depletion of forest resources currently estimated at some 11 million ha per year in the humid tropics and that it would continue beyond the year 2000. Viewing the

problem from a global perspective, however, masked the true picture of the situation. The problem of forest loss varied from acute in some areas to remote in others. Thus, to develop national plans, it was necessary to categorize the problem to the local level. The Committee recommended that conservation of forest resources, rational use and renewal of existing forest resources, afforestation and reforestation must constitute a high priority both in FAO's programmes and in the development programmes of Member Governments.

15. The Committee identified several reasons for the continuing depletion of forest resources, including:

- (a) pressure on forest land for food and other agricultural crop and animal production, resulting from increased population, continuing poverty and unemployment in rural areas;
- (b) improper land management such as irrational agricultural methods and imprudent logging and exploitation;
- (c) infrastructure projects such as hydro-electric dam projects, power lines, large-scale construction, communications projects and urban expansion;
- (d) forest fires and forest pests and diseases in some areas.

16. Recognizing the increasing pressure of population and the greater need for food, the Committee acknowledged the fact that substantial areas of the humid tropical forests will, in the future, be converted to agricultural use. The Committee recommended that governments, with the support of FAO, collate and disseminate information on appropriate technologies, ensuring that conversion be the least wasteful. In this context, the Committee also recommended that FAO review and disseminate information on examples where deforestation had been stopped through provision of opportunities to local populations to improve the productivity of their agriculture and of their skills, thereby increasing their self-sufficiency.

17. The Committee agreed that in order to keep deforestation in the humid tropics under control, an integrated approach was required. An important part of this integrated approach was education and training, research - especially on diversified land use systems - multiple use of forest products to include food production, and more efficient utilization by the industry of both the existing stands and their raw material as supplied to the industry. The Committee stressed that forestry programmes needed to become more multi-disciplinary and that agronomists, sociologists and animal husbandry experts and foresters needed to participate in forestry planning and that foresters should be included in national land use planning, if the need to produce more food and wood was to be met.

18. Recognizing that tropical forests constitute an important source of valuable raw material and commodities for international trade as well as local markets and needs, the Committee recommended collaboration between producing and importing nations. This should ensure the needed investment in conservation, research, improved management and fuller utilization and conservation of the rich genetic resources as well as appropriate renewal of the tropical forest. The Committee requested FAO to foster this collaboration.

(c) Arid and Mediterranean zones

19. The Committee, recognizing the important role of forestry in rural development, recommended the closer integration of forestry with agricultural and pastoral uses through the active participation of people so as to ensure that the function of the forest in preventing desertification would not be jeopardized. Considering the importance of

socio-economic aspects in the design of projects for arid areas, the Committee recommended that governments establish appropriate participatory mechanisms to ensure the community's support to and fuller involvement in government programmes. The Committee agreed that greater forestry investment was necessary in order to reverse the desertification process. The analysis of projects could not be made adequately on a narrow view of economic benefits but had to recognize and, as far as possible, quantify the social and environment benefits derived.

20. Considering the crucial role of arid zone forestry in protecting the environment as well as an inseparable component of the total land use systems in the dry regions, the Committee recommended that governments review and adjust, where appropriate, their land use policies and their legislative and administrative structures to ensure a systematic integration of forestry in rural development. Recognizing that there was a considerable need for training, the Committee further recommended that governments strengthen the training of forestry personnel at all levels and include appropriate elements in the content and curricula of forestry courses to promote a better understanding of arid zone forestry in its overall role in rural development and desertification control.

21. The Committee further recommended that international and regional cooperation and information exchange be fostered by FAO in anti-desertification methods and emphasized the promotion of research, particularly to identify drought-resistant tree species. In this respect, the Committee noted the relevance of agro-forestry systems, the creation of shelterbelts and of technologies for water harvesting and for the conservation of soil moisture.

22. The Committee recommended that FAO continue and expand work in arid and dry zone forestry and pay more attention to desertification problems, especially where these have impact on people. Noting that the conservation of gene pools of native species in the dry zones was of critical importance, the Committee urged FAO to strengthen its efforts in this regard and stressed that both field activities and research on tree species suitable for arid zone forestry be expanded.

(d) The global level (a world perspective)

23. In summing up the discussion at the regional levels with a view to facilitating a review of the global level, the Assistant Director-General for Forestry underlined the developmental context within which forestry existed. Development was a dynamic process implying satisfaction of present needs and the creation of new ones, resulting from the satisfaction of the former needs. One task of forestry was, thus, to achieve the right balance between meeting present and future needs from the sector. In prescribing for the future, it was necessary to also draw from the experience of the past, as well as from forecasts for the future.

24. Central to the challenge of development was the task of achieving social justice and an equitable distribution of benefits - a task which had been clearly spelt out at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development. This had underlined the need to stress the social mission of forestry and to harmonize this with the missions of protecting the environment and of production.

25. He suggested that a number of issues had emerged from the earlier regional discussions which warranted further consideration in terms of the global perspective. These included the need to take a holistic approach to the forest resource, recognizing its multiple outputs; the overriding need that people participate in the decision-making process; the impact of industry on forestry and people through the logging process; the need to bring certain forestry concepts up to date; and the question of what qualities would the forester of the future need.

26. The Committee supported the concept that the overriding concern for forestry in the future must be the maximization of the contribution it could make to the well-being of the people of the world. There was as yet insufficient stress on the human dimension in forestry.

27. The Committee stressed that the potential contribution of forests to human welfare had never been greater. At the most fundamental level forests were essential for food security. The protection or enhancement of the environment needed for continued production of food could be nothing less than a basic goal of society. Without this the very land base on which mankind depended would be further reduced and degraded, together with the wealth of other outputs of the forest essential to meeting people's basic needs and developmental aspirations.

28. The Committee drew attention once more to the dependence of half of mankind on energy from wood in order to cook food, to the forests as a source of the greater part of the world's genetic resource base which ensured its biological diversity, and to the forests as a source of raw materials for a range of industries and products which contributed considerably to the development process. The Committee also stressed the enormous differences in access to the benefits from the forest experienced by different countries and different sections of society.

29. The Committee expressed concern at the lack of political awareness of the consequences of continued excessive deforestation and of neglect of the world's forest resources. Society could not afford the further damage and destruction caused by such impacts of other sectors as the irreversible degradation of soil through alienation of forest land to non-sustainable agricultural use, or the damage and destruction to the resource resulting from air pollution arising from industrial emissions. The Committee recommended that every possible measure be taken in every country to accelerate the process of heightening political awareness of the critical importance for the future of mankind of adequate attention being given to the world's forests in the period to the year 2000 and beyond.

30. The Committee recognized that the forestry profession and forestry institutions had the principal responsibility for developing and disseminating the information which would permit better understanding and awareness of what needed to be done. The Committee recommended that countries build upon the successes that had been achieved, and requested FAO to accelerate the process of comparative analysis of successful developments in order to make more widely known experience which indicated the requisites for successful action. The Committee emphasized proper species selection and effective tree breeding practices, greater attention to multiple purpose species and multiple uses of forest land, and fuller integration of trees into land use systems outside the forest as areas needing urgent and sustained attention.

31. The Committee noted the conclusions of a recent meeting - the Global Possible - namely, that much greater investment was required if the needs of the forestry sector were to be met. The Committee stressed the need for an action programme aimed at reducing tropical deforestation and control of desertification before the year 2000. Such a programme should address the issue of how to translate the technical assistance efforts of FAO and of other agencies into large-scale, self-sustaining agriculture, forestry and forest industries development projects that would help take the pressure off tropical forests, rehabilitate watersheds and ensure supplies of fuelwood and of other forest products for the rural and urban poor. The Committee agreed that if forestry were to attract the additional funding needed it must become more efficient and cost effective.

32. The Committee stressed the need to make all such action fully responsive to the needs, concerns, possibilities and aspirations of the people concerned. It was essential that they be fully involved and participate in all stages of forestry and forest industry and in the

benefits from the forests and forest products. The Committee endorsed the reorientation of forestry programmes in the direction of rural development and the integration of social with productive and protective objectives. The Committee emphasized the need for governments to remove disincentives to people's participation in forestry activities created by some existing land tenure, rights of usage and taxation situations, and to develop incentives, support mechanisms and local institutions appropriate to forestry activities.

33. The Committee underlined the importance of the forestry profession being properly qualified to meet the changing demands that the future will bring. The changes that had occurred in the past years had already made clear that concepts, policies and education and training in forestry needed to be revised. Foresters must be properly equipped for the management and communication responsibilities they now face. However, it cautioned that the principal goal of forestry education should be to produce persons qualified in a clearly defined forestry profession, who understood the skills of other professions and were able to work with them in order to bring these skills effectively to bear on forestry issues.

34. The Committee recommended that FAO take particular note of the areas of emphasis recorded above in formulating and implementing its programme for the forestry sector.

#### MATTERS REFERRED TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE

##### (a) Decisions of FAO governing bodies of interest to the Committee

35. The Committee noted document COFO-84/6 on this item and the additional clarification offered on the cooperation between the Forestry Department and the newly-created Research and Technology Development Division in the fields of environment and energy. The Committee recommended that FAO and UNCTAD, and in particular the Committee on Forest Development in the Tropics or the proposed International Tropical Timber Organization, ensure, through close collaboration, the avoidance of overlap in their respective activities.

##### (b) Matters referred to the attention of the Committee by Regional Forestry Commissions and other FAO Statutory Bodies in forestry which held sessions subsequent to the Sixth Session of COFO

36. The Committee took note of the recommendations made by the various Statutory Bodies in forestry that had met since its Sixth Session, as summarized in Secretariat Note COFO-84/7 and supplemented by the Chief, Policy and Planning Service, with regard to the recent sessions of the North American and the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commissions. The Committee requested that its appreciation be transmitted to the Commonwealth Forestry Bureaux of the services rendered to the world community and expressed the hope that these will continue at the current high level.

##### (c) Progress report on follow-up to the recommendations of the Sixth Session of the Committee

37. In seeking further information on certain reported actions in Secretariat Note COFO-84/8, the Committee noted: a) that reports of specific tripartite reviews were not available but a synthesis of such reviews and evaluation missions, aimed at analysing the constraints to implementing sound forestry strategies, was given in Secretariat Note COFO-84/9 (Implementation of the Forestry for Development strategy adopted by the Committee at its Fifth Session) and also included in the Field Programme Review presented regularly to the FAO Council and Conference; b) the difficulties in: i) implementing twinning arrangements aimed at strengthening forestry research in developing countries, due principally to financial constraints; ii) strengthening institutional capacity in developing countries, due to lack of qualified staff; c) that the legal status of the AFC/EFC/NEFC Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions "Silva Mediterranea" was under review and

that a session of that body was planned for 1985; d) the close cooperation between FAO and ILO in forest workers' training, especially at the vocational level.

38. The Committee stressed the need for closer cooperation between FAO and existing data banks in the strengthening of the computerized data bank on tropical forest resources as well as the creation of regional data banks.

Implementation of the Forestry for Development strategy adopted  
by the Committee at its Fifth Session (May 1980)

39. The Committee recognized that a proper assessment of the progress achieved in implementing the Forestry for Development strategy should rest on an analysis of the policy changes, consistent with the principles of the strategy, adopted in developing countries, and the assistance priorities of donor countries. It was informed that while it was too early to draw real conclusions on these aspects the type of assistance requested by countries was definitely changing and donors had shown great interest in financing activities in the area of the Strategy. Clear shifts had taken place in FAO forestry programmes to increase the allocation of financial resources and manpower to activities related to the strategy, all of which had been accomplished in the context of little growth in overall resources. While this was a serious constraint, the Organization also faced problems in mobilising specialized expertise with the necessary multi-disciplinary knowledge and experience required in the implementation of the strategy and institutional weaknesses which severely limited countries' capacities to adopt the new directions in forestry development.

40. The Committee agreed that important gaps remained in the state of knowledge in this area and recommended that FAO analyse experiences, particularly of successful projects, and disseminate the lessons learned related to factors which determine such success through training activities. The Committee requested that this be reported to its next Session.

41. With respect to the budgetary reallocations affecting strategy-related activities, the Committee stressed that a proper assessment should be carried out in the context of an analysis of the evaluation, over an extended period, of the amount of financial resources made available to the Forestry Major Programme as a whole.

REVIEW OF FAO'S PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE FORESTRY SECTOR

(a) Review of forestry field programmes

42. The Committee noted that while there had been a declining trend in the funding capability of the UNDP, nevertheless UNDP remained the major source of international funding for the forestry field programme. The Committee welcomed the increase in projects operated under the FAO/Government Cooperative Programmes, as well as in Unilateral Trust Funds (UTFs) and assistance provided through FAO's Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) particularly aimed at promoting follow-up funding and investment. Some delegates, however, cautioned against excessive reliance on TCP as a primary source of funding.

43. The Committee endorsed the priorities set out in document COFO 84/10, and the policy of structuring forestry field programmes in support of national objectives of development in general, and rural development in particular, and requested FAO to give continued full assistance to Member Countries in the formulation and execution of forestry field projects, particularly within the framework of the Forestry for Development strategy.

44. The Committee indicated its satisfaction with the provision for monitoring, evaluation and control of the ongoing forestry field projects. It recommended that these efforts be maintained, that publicity be given to success stories, and that these reviews be consolidated from time to time in order to derive critical lessons from past experience towards

improved design and selection of projects. Such continued efforts would contribute to greater awareness of forestry field projects and the need for increased national and international funding for forestry field programmes. At the same time, the Committee recommended that both the recipient and the donor countries and agencies give full support to the efforts and initiatives of FAO for strengthening the forestry field programme.

45. Recognizing the increasing needs of the developing countries, the Committee appealed to donor governments and agencies to increase their contribution to FAO's extra-budgetary resources for the forestry field programme. The Committee also recommended that countries organize their national priorities to ensure that fullest possible use of available funding be made to support urgent forestry projects. Consideration should be given to the various sources of funding, including the UNDP, the FAO/Government Cooperative Programmes and Unilateral Trust Funds, either from their own resources and/or from loans and credits from financial institutions such as the World Bank, IFAD and regional development banks, and bilateral donors.

(b) Review of progress made in 1982-83 and main features of the programme of work in forestry for 1984-85

(c) FAO's medium-term objectives and programmes in forestry

46. The Committee considered these two items together and supported the long-term strategies and proposals for future programmes contained in document COFO-84/12. In discussing the setting of priorities, the Committee recommended that these focus on actions needed to meet the principal problems and challenges to forestry identified in the course of the analysis of "Forestry beyond 2000" and that within this range of actions emphasis be given to the basic measures which needed to be taken in order to underpin more specific regional and local actions.

47. The Committee recommended that highest priority be given to strengthening the contributions of forestry to rural development, to maintaining and expanding the support that forestry provides to agricultural production and food security, and to conserving the global gene pool. The Committee endorsed further emphasis within the programme on the greater participation of local people in the benefits of forestry.

48. The Committee further recommended that within the range of actions that needed to be taken in these areas, priority be given to those which FAO was particularly well qualified to conduct, and for which there was no other comparable source of support. In this connection it supported the emphasis given to providing the informational and analytical base necessary in order to identify what needed to be done. The work on forest resources assessment and on outlook studies was of particular importance in this respect.

49. The Committee stressed the fundamental importance of institutional strengthening for any development within the forestry sector. It recommended that high priority be accorded to education and training, particularly at the technical level. The Committee also stressed the need for development support communication in order to assist rural people to understand better the role of forestry relevant to their needs.

50. The Committee drew attention to the critical role of research, and in particular to research related to species selection and genetic improvement. This was central to developing more effective efforts in the urgent areas of energy, protection and improved productivity. Availability of suitable, productive species was essential for all programmes to provide fuelwood supplies, building materials and fodder, protection against desertification in arid areas, improve the productivity of land use in upland areas and other situations where agriculture needed to be concerned with tree growing, and raise productivity of forest lands. The Committee commended FAO's work in this field and,

recognizing the importance of the international coordination of the work of genetic improvement and seed supply that the Organization provided, urged that this be further strengthened.

51. In its discussions of the individual components of the forestry programme, the Committee underlined the importance of FAO's work in improving the efficiency of production and utilization. This should include attention to productivity in logging, fuller use of the available species and materials, including mangroves and wildlife, and through the development of new uses and outlets for forest products. It was also important to continue to develop means of greater local involvement in utilization and processing, and cooperation among producers, in order to strengthen their marketing position. Attention was drawn to the need for quarantine measures in forest products trade.

52. The Committee stressed the continuing need to alert world communities at all levels to the destructive impacts on the world's forest resources. These included, in addition to the degradation and destruction of tropical forests, growing damage due to fire, particularly in the Mediterranean region, and the very serious impact of air pollution in and adjacent to industrialized regions. The Committee called for the development of sound analytical information on the nature and extent of the linkages between such changes in the forest sector and other aspects of overall development, and recommended that FAO prepare a study on the interrelationship between forestry and food security. The Committee recommended that this paper be brought to the attention of the 1985 meetings of the Committee on Food Security, the Committee on Agriculture and other appropriate FAO bodies. This study should also make clear the nature of the measures that needed to be taken to counter the threat to food production posed by excessive deforestation, and would also clarify the magnitude of the resources needed. It supported the recommendation of the Committee on Forest Development in the Tropics that FAO elaborate proposals for action programmes in this area.

53. The Committee recommended that countries and international agencies place greater emphasis on ensuring the efficiency of projects in the sector through more rigorous definition and regular review of their objectives, better design, and through monitoring and quantitative evaluation. It drew attention to the need for assistance in training cadres of experienced, realistic planning staff for this purpose, and urged FAO to continue its efforts in this field.

54. Considering that the investment needs of world forestry were truly staggering, the Committee noted with satisfaction that the Twenty-Second FAO Conference had expressed the hope that increased resources would be made available for future forestry programmes. Noting the concern expressed by the Committee on Forest Development in the Tropics about the decreasing share of resources made available to forestry at a time when the forestry sector was experiencing a uniquely serious situation, and recognizing that millions of people depended on forests for wood, food and energy, the Committee recommended that donor countries be invited to increase assistance to forestry in tropical and arid zone regions through multilateral and bilateral arrangements and that FAO's leadership role in forestry be further strengthened.

#### OTHER MATTERS

##### (a) Ninth World Forestry Congress

55. The Delegate of Mexico introduced the discussion with the assistance of slides and drew attention to the most important forestry aspects of the country. He informed the Committee of the progress made by his country in the organization of the Ninth World Forestry Congress, which could be summarized as follows:

- (a) the Mexican Organizing Committee had been set up and was working actively;

- (b) the theme of the Congress had been chosen: "Forestry Resources in the Integrated Development of Society", and a logo had been designed;
- (c) the programme of activities, agenda, structure and themes to be discussed at the Congress had been worked out jointly with the Associate Secretary-General from FAO and with the assistance of the Forestry Department;
- (d) the chosen site of the Congress was the Hotel de México in Mexico City;
- (e) an International Forestry Exhibition would be organized during the Congress;
- (f) a provisional programme of study tours before and after the Congress had been prepared;
- (g) a number of satellite meetings were planned, some to be organized jointly with FAO, such as the consultation on the control of desertification;
- (h) a letter had been sent to Forest Services throughout the world inviting them to participate in the Congress and to set up national organizing committees;
- (j) the Delegation extended a cordial invitation to all members of COFO to participate in the Ninth World Forestry Congress.

The Committee complimented and thanked the Mexican Delegation for the excellent presentation.

(b) Proposal for the conservation of world forest resources

56. Mr E. Plattner, Head of the Austrian Delegation, introduced the background note on Agenda Item 8 "Proposal for the Conservation of World Forest Resources" in which he pointed out that a concerted action would be required to conserve the forests of the world.

57. As the problem required international cooperation, and in order to draw the attention of the world community to accelerate the necessary actions, the Austrian Delegation proposed that at the Ninth World Forestry Congress in Mexico special attention be paid to the conservation of forests, and that 1985 be proclaimed the International Year of the Forest. The Committee strongly agreed with the Austrian proposal; however, it drew attention to the shortness of time and the importance of adequate preparation.

58. The Delegate of France clarified the scope of the message recently sent by the President of the Republic of France, and current Chairman of the EEC, to the European Association for the Protection of Nature. The President hoped that the 1985 World Forestry Congress would be the occasion for raising awareness, at the highest political level, of the need for forest protection. The President's message was in support of the Austrian proposal.

59. The Committee noted that the Director-General hoped that an item on forestry conservation would be included in the agenda of the FAO European Regional Conference. Furthermore, the Director-General had decided that the FAO World Food Day would feature conservation and sound utilization of forest resources, and to transmit to the FAO Council and the UN General Assembly the Committee's recommendation that 1985 be declared the Year of the Forest.

(c) Date and place of next session

60. In accordance with Rule XXXI of the General Rules of the Organization (GRO), the Committee agreed that past practice be continued and that its next session be held early in 1986, the exact date to be established as provided by this Rule.

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Election of Officers and designation of Drafting Committee

FOREST POLICY ISSUES

3. Forestry beyond 2000 - potentials, problems and prospects with special emphasis on forest policies for:
  - (a) temperate regions
  - (b) humid tropics
  - (c) arid and Mediterranean zones

MATTERS REFERRED TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE

4. (a) Decisions of FAO governing bodies of interest to the Committee
  - (b) Matters referred to the attention of the Committee by Regional Forestry Commissions and other FAO Statutory Bodies in forestry which held sessions subsequent to the Sixth Session of COFO
  - (c) Progress report on follow-up to the recommendations of the Sixth Session of the Committee
5. Implementation of the Forestry for Development strategy adopted by the Committee at its Fifth Session (May 1980)

REVIEW OF FAO'S PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE FORESTRY SECTOR

6. (a) Review of forestry field programmes
- (b) Review of progress made in 1982-83 and main features of the programme of work in forestry for 1984-85
- (c) FAO's medium-term objectives and programmes in forestry

OTHER MATTERS

7. The Ninth World Forestry Congress
8. Proposal for the conservation of world forest resources
9. Other business
10. Date and place of next session
11. Adoption of Report



LIST OF DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS  
LISTE DES DELEGUES ET OBSERVATEURS  
LISTA DE DELEGADOS Y OBSERVADORES

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Ministère du Développement Rural

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Chinese Academy of Forestry

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Ministry of Forestry

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Embajada de la República del Ecuador  
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Division, Horticultural Research Institute  
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Wildlife Conservation & Dev. Authority  
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Conferenza Permanente del Legno

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Forestry Administration		MOHD. YASIN SALLEH	Rome
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Principal Researcher		<u>MALI</u>	
Institute of Forest Genetics		Délégué	
<u>LESOTHO</u>		N. SANAGHO	Bamako
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GCP/LES/026/SWE		Suplentes	
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Alternate		de México ante la FAO	
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Adviser		Representación Permanente de los Estados	
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<u>MADAGASCAR</u>		National Forest Service	
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Dakar

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Mbabane

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Bangkok

Alternates

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Deputy Managing Director  
Forest Industry Organization  
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PISAN LUETONGCHARG  
First Secretary, Royal Thai Embassy  
Rome

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Délégué

M. ABDELHADI  
Représentant permanent de la  
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Rome





International Labour Organisation  
Organisation internationale du travail  
Organización Internacional del Trabajo

B. STREHLKE  
Manufacturing Industries Branch

Geneva

World Bank  
Banque mondiale  
Banco Mundial

J. SPEARS  
Senior Forestry Adviser

Washington DC

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade  
Accord général sur les tarifs douaniers et le commerce  
Acuerdo General sobre Aranceles Aduaneros y Comercio

H. G. LEONHARDT  
Counsellor, Agriculture Division

Geneva

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OBSERVATEURS DES ORGANISATIONS INTERGOUVERNEMENTALES  
OBSERVADORES DE LAS ORGANIZACIONES INTERGUBERNAMENTALES

Inter-American Development Bank  
Banque interaméricaine de développement  
Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo

K. J. KEIPI  
Forestry Specialist

Washington DC

OBSERVERS FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS  
OBSERVATEURS DES ORGANISATIONS NON GOUVERNEMENTALES  
OBSERVADORES DE LAS ORGANIZACIONES NO GUBERNAMENTALES

International Technical Tropical Timber Association (ITTTA)  
Association technique internationale des bois tropicaux (ATIBT)  
Asociación Técnica Internacional de las Maderas Tropicales

G. LEMAIGNEN  
Président

Paris

International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO)  
Union internationale des instituts de recherches forestières  
Unión Internacional de Organizaciones de Investigación Forestal

R. MORANDINI  
Direttore, Istituto Sperimentale per la Selvicoltura

Arezzo

World Federation of Trade Unions  
Fédération syndicale mondiale  
Federación sindical mundial

G. CASADEI  
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syndicale mondiale

Rome

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OBSERVATEURS D'ORGANISATIONS N'ENTREtenant PAS DE RELATIONS OFFICIELLES AVEC LA FAO  
OBSERVADORES DE ORGANIZACIONES QUE NO MANTIENEN RELACIONES OFICIALES CON LA FAO

International Federation of Building and Woodworkers (IFBWW)  
Fédération internationale des travailleurs du bâtiment et du bois (FITBB)  
Federación Internacional de Trabajadores de la Construcción y la Madera (FITCM)

R. GERDIN  
Trade Union Economist  
Swedish Wood Industries Workers Union

Stockholm



LIST OF DOCUMENTS

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3(b)	COFO-84/4	Forestry Beyond 2000 - Prospects and Problems in the Humid Tropics
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4(a)	COFO-84/6	Decisions of FAO Governing Bodies of Interest to the Committee
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5	COFO-84/9 COFO-84/9-Corr.	Implementation of the Forestry for Development strategy adopted by the Committee at its Fifth Session (May 1980)
6(a)	COFO-84/10	Review of Forestry Field Programmes
6(b)	COFO-84/11	Review of Progress made in 1982-83 and Main Features of the Programme of Work in Forestry for 1984-85
6(c)	COFO-84/12	FAO's Medium-Term Objectives and Proposals for Future Programmes of Work in Forestry
8	Background Note	Year of the Forest (Measures for the Conservation of the Forests)

Information Documents

COFO-84/Inf. 1	Provisional Timetable
COFO-84/Inf. 2	List of Documents
COFO-84/Inf. 3	Rules of Procedure of the Committee and Present and Past Officers
COFO-84/Inf. 4	Provisional List of Delegates and Observers





## MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE 1984-85

(as at 30 June 1984)

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Algeria	Guatemala	Poland
Angola	Honduras	Portugal
Argentina	Hungary	Romania
Australia	India	Rwanda
Austria	Indonesia	Saint Lucia
Bangladesh	Iran	São Tomé and Príncipe
Belgium	Iraq	Senegal
Bolivia	Ireland	Sierra Leone
Brazil	Israel	Spain
Bulgaria	Italy	Sri Lanka
Burundi	Jamaica	Sudan
Cameroon	Japan	Suriname
Canada	Jordan	Swaziland
Cape Verde	Kenya	Sweden
Chile	Korea, Rep. of	Switzerland
China	Lesotho	Syria
Colombia	Liberia	Tanzania
Congo	Libya	Thailand
Costa Rica	Madagascar	Trinidad and Tobago
Cuba	Malawi	Tunisia
Cyprus	Malaysia	Turkey
Czechoslovakia	Mali	Uganda
Denmark	Mexico	United Kingdom
Dominican Republic	Morocco	United States of America
Ecuador	Netherlands	Upper Volta
Egypt	New Zealand	Uruguay
El Salvador	Nicaragua	Venezuela
Ethiopia	Niger	Viet Nam
Finland	Nigeria	Yemen Arab Republic
France	Norway	Yemen, People's Dem. Rep. of
Gabon	Pakistan	Yugoslavia
Gambia	Panama	Zaire
Germany, Fed. Rep. of	Papua New Guinea	Zambia
Ghana	Peru	Zimbabwe