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## ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY COMMISSION

### TENTH MEETING OF THE APFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chiang Mai, Thailand, 21-22 October 2014

### PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING APFC- AND FAO-SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. This note reports on progress in implementing APFC- and FAO-supported activities and initiatives since the 25<sup>th</sup> session of the APFC, which was convened in Rotorua, New Zealand, in November 2013. It serves as a basis for reviewing follow-up to the specific requests and recommendations stemming from the Commission.

2. The 25th session of the APFC produced 31 recommendations, of which 10 were generated for the attention of governments and FAO and 21 were generated for the attention of FAO. The table below summarizes the progress made and action taken.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE 25th SESSION OF THE APFC AND FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS TAKEN BY FAO

Recommendations	Actions taken
<i>For the attention of governments and FAO</i>	
1. Give increased attention to forest landscape restoration, including natural regeneration of forests, and developing natural regeneration strategies to complement intensive planted forest programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A regional TCP project on promoting assisted natural regeneration (ANR) method of forest restoration is being implemented in Cambodia, Indonesia and Lao PDR.</li> <li>- Forest and grassland restoration was included as an agenda item for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific held in March 2014, resulting in six recommendations for FAO to further support member countries in promoting forest and grassland restoration.</li> <li>- At the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO) held in June 2014, Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Mechanism was launched as a new global programme of FAO to help countries to achieve their commitments towards the Bonn Challenge and the Aichi Targets with regards to forest and landscape restoration.</li> </ul>
2. FAO, as a GEF agency, should support the formulation and implementation of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SFM-related GEF projects are being/have been formulated in Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Myanmar, Sri</li> </ul>

<p>new forestry-related GEF projects and programmes, particularly under the upcoming sixth replenishment period of the Facility</p>	<p>Lanka, and the South Pacific on various aspects of forestry and natural resource management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In Myanmar, FAO has finalised a GEF project document on “Sustainable Cropland and Forest Management in Priority Agro-ecosystems in Myanmar”.</li> <li>- The Myanmar GEF project employs a concept which aims to identify and pilot specific, replicable interventions for reducing emissions from forest and land use sectors, in parallel with REDD+ readiness efforts under the UN-REDD programme, also used in Mongolia, China and South Pacific projects.</li> <li>- In Cambodia, FAO has developed a PIF for a GEF project targeting LDCF funds to address climate change adaption in coastal communities. The project includes a significant mangrove management component.</li> <li>- In the Pacific, GEF projects dealing with improved forestry practices, establishment of forest assessment and monitoring mechanisms and SFM/REDD+ are being implemented in the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Kiribati and Tonga under the GEF-5 STAR Allocation.</li> <li>- A GEF project is being developed under LCDF on “Reducing vulnerability to forest fires in Myanmar” with an indicative budget of USD 4 million. A draft PIF is currently being developed.</li> <li>- FAO is implementing a project (GCP /MON/008/GFF) on “Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, SFM and carbon sink enhancement into Mongolia's productive forest landscapes” (2014-2018).</li> <li>- FAO is working with a number of countries in the Asia-Pacific region to formulate GEF projects addressing biodiversity, climate change mitigation, land degradation and SFM/REDD+ focal areas, which are under various stages of development.</li> </ul>
<p>3. Member countries explore opportunities to interface activities on building community resilience with the International Year of Family Farming (2014)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO collaborated MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) organized a regional consultation forum on the Role of Family Farming in the 21st Century: Achieving the Zero Hunger Challenges by 2025 on 7-10 August, in Chennai, India. This consultation resulted in the Chennai Declaration with the objective of formulating and shaping policy and development work, for building a more equitable region, contributing to a hunger-free world.</li> </ul>
<p>4. Member countries participate actively in the 2015 Global Forest Resources Assessment and submit their reports in a timely manner</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All member countries in the region have submitted their country reports for the Global Forest Resources Assessments (FRA) 2015 through the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ). Country submissions are being finalized in discussion with the FRA country focal points, and compilation of the data has begun.</li> </ul>
<p>5. Member countries report on progress in developing new wood-processing capacity at subsequent APFC sessions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- N/A</li> </ul>

<p>6. Seize the opportunity for promoting the importance of the forestry sector that is presented by growing recognition of the links between forests and climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The 32nd session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (March 2014) recognized the importance of restoration of grasslands and forests for climate change mitigation and adaptation, and the promotion of ecosystem services.</li> <li>- The seventh executive forest policy short course held in Nadi, Fiji (12-23 May 2014) was designed to provide insights on the implications of climate change on the Pacific countries and discuss options available to address the challenges through better policy development and implementation.</li> <li>- Through a global event on International Day of Forests (IDF), FAO promoted the importance of forests and trees, vis-à-vis climate change, in ensuring the sustainability of ecosystems, providing valuable goods and services, and supporting livelihoods and reducing hunger. Many awareness raising events and campaigns on forestry and climate change related themes were observed in many countries of the region.</li> <li>- FAO convened a Discussion Forum at the Forest Asia Summit on sustainable landscapes, green growth and poverty reduction. The event involved speakers from private sector, ASEAN-led initiative on social forestry, FAO, AFoCo, etc. It was well attended.</li> </ul>
<p>7. Work to increase disaster preparedness and build greater understanding of the roles of trees and forests in mitigating natural disasters and supporting post-disaster recovery</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A draft roadmap for a regional strategy on forests and natural disasters is currently under preparation.</li> <li>- A concept note for conducting an assessment and developing a publication on forests and droughts is being formulated.</li> <li>- FAO has mobilized over USD 39.7 millions to support the Philippines to cope with and recover from Typhoon Haiyan. Efforts have also been placed on supporting post-disaster recovery and increasing country resilience against future disasters through the integration of forestry and agroforestry into national strategies. Specifically, FAO helps 32,500 small scale coconut farmers build alternative livelihoods and providing 3,000 upland framers with seedlings and training to rehabilitate agroforestry systems. FAO is promoting the natural regeneration of coastal ecosystems and the recovery and protection of related livelihoods by distributing seeds and planting materials.</li> </ul>
<p>8. Provide technical support to build capacities in member countries to address climate change adaptation at policy levels and to strengthen resilience and implementation of climate change adaptation measures at community levels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Through a government cooperation programme supported by the U.S. government, FAO is implementing a project in Bangladesh on “Strengthening the Environment, Forestry and Climate Change Capacities of the Ministry of the Environment and Forestry and its agencies (GCP/BGD/053/USA).</li> </ul>
<p>9. Support the development of a stand-alone sustainable development goal on forests and emphasized the need to raise the profile of forests in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and that</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO encouraged member countries to propose stand-alone SDG goals on forestry through the representatives based in New York.</li> <li>- This recommendation was also brought forwarded to the 22nd session of COFO.</li> </ul>

<p>member countries actively engage in the discussions on a forest-related SDG through the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals established through the Rio+20 process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Member countries actively sought to ensure forest issues were adequately addressed in the SDGs and worked to secure balance between protection aspects and sustainable use of forests.</li> <li>- FAO helped member countries to identify 14 thematic areas to its work in contributing technical knowledge to support the Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</li> <li>- Based on its expertise in these 14 themes, FAO co-led the preparation of inter-agency issues briefs on sustainable agriculture (with IFAD) and food security and nutrition (with WFP and IFAD) at the 3rd OWG in May 2013, and, together with UNEP, co-led the preparation of issues briefs on oceans and seas, forests and biodiversity at the 8th OWG in February 2014.</li> <li>- FAO co-led technical inputs among UN agencies for three of the <a href="#">17 goals and 169 targets</a> in the post-2015 development agenda concluded by the OWG on SDGs.</li> <li>- FAO has prepared an extensive information kit accessible through the post-2015 development agenda website. The kit provides a broad coverage of FAO's technical expertise and focus in sustainable development, including involvement in the post-2015 development agenda and background to the UN's global development goals.</li> </ul>
<p>10. Forestry interests should be strongly represented in national delegations and/or in national processes to develop priorities for presentation to the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific</p>	<p>The 32nd session of the FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific recognized the importance of restoration of grasslands and forests for climate change mitigation and adaptation, and the promotion of ecosystem services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Conference stressed the importance of identifying and addressing the underlying causes of grassland and forest degradation and loss, and urged FAO support for related analysis and the formulation of action plans for addressing such factors;</li> <li>- The conference highlighted the many environmental, social and economic benefits that can accrue from effective forest and grassland restoration, while stressing the need for safeguards to ensure that restoration activities protect and enhance biodiversity and respect the rights and interests of local people, especially indigenous people and traditional forest and grassland dwellers.</li> <li>- The conference requested FAO support in the following areas related to forest and grassland restoration: advocacy and awareness-raising; capacity building and policy formulation; innovative financing; livelihood development; information exchange; and mechanisms for multi-sectoral approaches.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>For the attention of FAO</i></b></p>	
<p>1. Assist countries in understanding and accessing sources of forest financing and in preparing high-quality proposals</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO has been assisting and working with a number of member countries in preparing proposals for GEF funding and other donors to seek financing for forestry-related</li> </ul>

for seeking financing	projects.
<p>2. Collaborate with partner organizations, the private sector and other FLEGT support programmes to raise awareness on evolving international demand-side legality requirements, through regional information or training workshops and other mechanisms, giving particular attention to supporting the needs of small-scale producers and increased engagement with the private sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Since the October 2013 “Regional Workshop on Capacity Building Needs to Support FLEGT in Asia”, the FAO-FLEGT programme has started implementation of a number of country-specific activities focused on support to the private sector (Indonesia, Vietnam) and small-scale producers/communities (Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal). Additional support to the private sector and SMEs (Sabah-Malaysia, Philippines, Myanmar) and smallholder/community producers (Vietnam) has been approved and will soon to be launched.</li> <li>- The 3rd Phase of the FAO-EU FLEGT programme (2015-2020) will have a specific component in support of the private sector. Priority activities will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Completing joint learning and stock taking of private sector support actions, assessing what has stimulated engagement in governance processes, gaps and needed actions;</li> <li>▪ Assessing domestic market dynamics, barriers to formal production and possible incentives for legal production;</li> <li>▪ Providing learning opportunities for the private sector, including the development of training information and modules and learning seminars;</li> <li>▪ Promoting business fora that support legality understanding and business to business and south-south exchange;</li> <li>▪ Promoting opportunities for SMEs, women, indigenous peoples and other vulnerable segments of society to access capital and other resources required for successful and legal businesses;</li> <li>▪ Supporting stakeholder processes to develop policy and regulatory frameworks that promote equitable access and inclusion of the private sector in legal timber production, supply chains and trade;</li> <li>▪ Developing and testing micro finance mechanisms for micro and small enterprises, particularly for vulnerable segments of society such as women and indigenous peoples.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- A joint FAO-EFI “Assessment of challenges and opportunities for engagement with and support to the private sector in the context of the EU-VPAs” will inform this reinforced support (2015-2020) to the private sector. Initial case studies will include Indonesia and Cameroon.</li> <li>- The FAO-EU FLEGT programme is also planning on developing online e-training modules on FLEGT. An online survey has been developed to collect feedback from private sector, civil society and Government stakeholders on priority capacity-building needs. The results of this survey will guide the development of the e-training modules which are to be linked to FAO’s SFM toolkit.</li> </ul>

<p>3. Explore the potential for establishing a regional mechanism for sharing information related to trade in illegally logged timber in collaboration with other partners and member countries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A regional assessment of the feasibility for establishing a regional mechanism has been developed in collaboration with United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC). The assessment will start before the end of 2014.</li> <li>- FAO participated in an ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) technical workshop on transnational environmental crime. The inclusion of illegal wildlife and timber trade on ASEAN's list of "serious transnational crimes" is now being considered and will need further support.</li> </ul>
<p>4. Build awareness of the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests, through regional and national workshops and training-of-trainers, and facilitating the sharing of experiences and approaches in implementing the Guidelines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security were prepared through a multi-stakeholder process facilitated by FAO. Regional technical workshops to raise awareness of the Guidelines were organized in Thailand and Fiji in July/August 2013.</li> <li>- FAO is implementing a regional Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) on "Strengthening Forest Tenure for Sustaining Livelihoods and Generating Income" to enhance the contribution of forests to the livelihoods and income of forest dependent communities. The expected project outcome is "strengthened regulatory frameworks and institutional capacity of pilot countries on forest tenure".</li> <li>- FAO organized a 9-day training (8-16 September 2014) for facilitators on "Strengthening Forest Tenure Systems and Governance" for 7 Asian countries namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam. The training aimed to strengthen key forestry facilitators to improve their in-country facilitation in support of forest tenure reform and improved governance of forest tenure reform.</li> </ul>
<p>5. Conduct additional analysis on the impacts of drivers of change on forests</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO is conducting a study on "Drivers of change affecting forests in the Mekong: Toward the formulation of action plans for Greater Mekong Sub-region countries". The study will provide policy recommendations and include a national action plan including priority interventions. A regional workshop will be conducted in November 2014.</li> </ul>
<p>6. Build resilience in forests, landscapes and forest-dependent communities to natural disasters, including developing a regional action plan in relation to forests and natural disasters</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A draft roadmap for a regional strategy on forests and natural disasters is in preparation. The roadmap will identify and help to prioritise areas of potential advantage for information and knowledge sharing in relation to forests and natural disasters in various countries and subregions.</li> <li>- FAO joined with numerous other international organizations in supporting recovery efforts in the Philippines following Typhoon Haiyan (November 2013); working in collaboration with Philippine Government agencies, support is being given for forestry and agroforestry recovery activities, rehabilitation of coastal beach and mangrove forests, soil erosion control, nursery rehabilitation, disaster risk assessment, and measures to build resilience against future disasters.</li> <li>- FAO is collaborating with the Royal Government of</li> </ul>

	<p>Bhutan in implementing a project on “Strengthening the Role of Communities in Climate Change Mitigation through Participatory Forest Management” (2014-2015).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO is supporting the implementation of a five-year GEF LDCF project on “Strengthening the adaptive capacity and resilience of rural communities using micro watershed approaches to climate change and variability to attain sustainable food security in Cambodia (FSP)”.</li> <li>- FAO is currently preparing a special issue of Unasylva addressing the roles and opportunities for forests and forestry in post-disaster recovery and disaster risk reduction; the issue is scheduled for release by the end of 2014.</li> </ul>
7. Produce a knowledge product on forests and droughts in Asia and the Pacific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A concept note for conducting an assessment and developing a publication on forests and droughts is being formulated.</li> </ul>
8. Provide technical support for strengthening national capacities for forest monitoring and assessment, and efforts to harmonize data collection and reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO provides support to the development of National Forest Monitoring Systems through the UN-REDD programme in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam, through the development and dissemination of normative guidance documents and capacity building events.</li> <li>- Through UN-REDD country programmes in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam, FAO develops Action Plans for National Forest Monitoring Systems in the context of REDD+, covering activities for the development of Satellite Land Monitoring Systems, National Forest Inventories and Greenhouse Gas Inventories for the Forest Sector</li> <li>- Through the UN-REDD programme, FAO supports the development of regional and country-specific allometric equations which allow the development of accurate growth models and emission factors</li> <li>- Through the UN-REDD programme, FAO has organised regional ‘lessons learned’ programmes on National Forest Monitoring Systems and Reference Emission Levels in Bangkok and Hanoi.</li> <li>- FAO has continued to support and provide capacity building to member countries in reporting of national forest monitoring data under the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2015.</li> <li>- FAO will be providing a resource person to a regional workshop to assess gaps and build capacity in forest resources assessment in Southeast Asia, which will be held in November 2014 in Indonesia as part of a regional project of AFoCO.</li> <li>- FAO is supporting the implementation of a TCP project in Myanmar on “Strengthening Myanmar’s National Forest Monitoring System – Land Use Assessment and Capacity Building (TCP/MYA/3501)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO is supporting the implementation of a project on “Promoting sustainable forest management by developing effective systems of forest planning, monitoring and control in Papua New Guinea (GCP/PNG/003/AUL). The project is focusing on strengthening elements of the Logging Code of Practice, particularly with a focus on RIL, road building and silviculture.</li> <li>- FAO has developed a proposal on “Strengthening National Forest Inventory and Satellite Land Monitoring System in support of REDD+ in Bangladesh” for funding by USAID.</li> </ul>
<p>9. Continue to give high priority to promoting forest landscape restoration and forest rehabilitation, including giving attention to watershed management and soil and water conservation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) Mechanism was launched at the 22<sup>nd</sup> COFO in June 2014 as a new global programme of FAO to help countries to achieve their commitments towards the Bonn Challenge and the Aichi Targets with regards to forest and landscape restoration.</li> <li>- FAO is conducting a regional synthesis on forest landscape restoration in collaboration with member countries and RECOFTC. The study reviewed the status of forest restoration in seven countries in the Asia-Pacific region, and the policy and technical environments for implementing forest landscape restoration in them. Based on these findings, FAO-RECOFTC are exploring the means to support the countries in the region to expand the forest restoration activities at the national levels.</li> <li>- FAO is collaborating with the International Model Forest Network and APFNet to implement a project on “Forest Restoration at the Landscape Level in Asia: A Unique Model Forest Approach.” The project aims to build the capacity of communities, local officials and other partners to rehabilitate forests as a means to restore degraded land, increase forest cover, improve forest quality and enhance livelihoods.</li> <li>- FAO continues to support member countries in building their capacity in developing natural regeneration of forests strategies through a regional TCP project in Cambodia, Indonesia and Lao PDR on “Applying assisted natural regeneration (ANR) for restoring forest ecosystem services in Southeast Asia” – Phase two.</li> <li>- FAO is exploring the potential of developing a GEF project to promote sustainable forest landscape management and increased flow of ecosystem services through greener coffee production in Viet Nam.</li> <li>- FAO is supporting the formulation of a GEF project in the Philippines with a strong forest restoration component.</li> <li>- FAO has developed an umbrella program proposal for a global watershed management program, linked to climate change issues.</li> <li>- The FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, continues to collaborate with the UPLB Institute of Agroforestry in producing APANews, a newsletter devoted to disseminating and promoting knowledge and experience related to agroforestry development.</li> </ul>
<p>10. Develop a regional action plan on</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In collaboration with RECOFTC, a multi-country study on</li> </ul>

gender mainstreaming into forest policies in collaboration with partner organizations	Mainstreaming Gender Issues in Forest Policies of Developing Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission Member Countries has been implemented. The study comprises preparation of a baseline analysis of integration of gender in forest policies of representative member countries of the APFC including development of recommendations for mainstreaming gender within forest policies of countries in the region.
11. Assist countries in understanding and responding to international agreements, participating in dialogues and formulating proposals for donor support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO supported CBD in organizing two capacity building workshops for South, Central, Southeast and North Asia to develop the capacity of member countries in developing and implementing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).</li> <li>- In February 2014, FAO, in collaboration with RECOFTC, organized an expert discussion on the key outcomes of COP 19 negotiations in Warsaw to provide forest sector stakeholders in the region with succinct and accurate information on the implications of COP 19 discussions and their significance to forest policy decisions and practice.</li> <li>- FAO supported national workshops and processes in India and Mongolia on implementation of the Non-legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests.</li> </ul>
12. Explore mechanisms to support special diagnostic missions to interested countries with a view toward fostering an enabling environment for rational and competitive wood processing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No activities have been undertaken yet to address this recommendation.</li> </ul>
13. Work closely with partner organizations within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to support REDD+ initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Through the UN-REDD programme, FAO works in the context of the ‘One UN’ approach with UNDP and UNEP to support countries across the world in their efforts towards REDD+ Readiness. In Asia and the Pacific, the programme works in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam</li> <li>- In Viet Nam, the UN-REDD programme has developed into a ‘phase II’ programme, where work concentrates on demonstration of a results-based payments system for policies, measures and actions on the ground which are designed to reduce net emissions from the forest sector. This programme will serve as a global pilot. In this programme, FAO supports the development of provincial REDD+ action plans and the implementation of actions identified in these plans.</li> <li>- The Cambodia UN-REDD National Programme will be implemented until June 2015, by which time FAO will have helped the country to finalise the design of a National Forest Inventory and Greenhouse Gas Inventory. FAO is also participating in the development of a comprehensive National REDD+ Strategy responding to the elements in the ‘Warsaw Framework’.</li> <li>- In Indonesia, FAO is supporting the UN Office for REDD+</li> </ul>

	<p>Coordination (UNORCID) to develop and implement proposals for demonstration activities and results-based payments under the Letter of Intent between Norway and Indonesia, and in developing and piloting a Participatory Governance Assessment (PGA) to complement efforts to develop a national Safeguards Information System (SIS) for REDD+.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In Myanmar, FAO has contributed to the development of a REDD+ Readiness Roadmap, under the UN-REDD programme, the implementation of which has been initiated.</li> <li>- In Nepal, through UN-REDD targeted support, FAO has initiated the development of monitoring protocols for REDD+ policies and measures through proxy indicators, and a review of Institutional, policy, legislative and regulatory status in the context of REDD+.</li> <li>- In Sri Lanka, FAO is the lead agency in the UN-REDD National Programme and has supported the establishment of a Programme Management Unit, a review of Institutional, policy, legislative and regulatory status in the context of REDD+, and initiation of a NFMS action plan.</li> <li>- In Papua New Guinea, FAO supports the design and initiation of a National Forest Inventory and satellite monitoring system, and the development of a draft forest reference emission level for submission to the UNFCCC.</li> <li>- Through UN-REDD programme, (UNJP/BGD/057/UNJ-GLOBAL) FAO is supporting Bangladesh on its UN-REDD National Programme. The project inception will be held in last quarter of the 2014.</li> <li>- FAO is collaborating with SPC for the implementation of a regional project to strengthen national forest monitoring systems for REDD+ in the Pacific. This project is delivering capacity building to all Pacific Island Countries on forest inventory and forest monitoring.</li> </ul>
<p>14. Support regional sharing of information, forest data and experiences related to the roles of forests in climate change adaptation, in collaboration with other international and regional partners and established mechanisms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A concept note for conducting an assessment on community-based adaptation to climate change is being formulated.</li> </ul>
<p>15. Strengthen FAO's role in the global forest architecture, especially the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, taking into account the review of the international arrangement on forests to be conducted for the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests in 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The APFC Secretariat has responded to the UNFF questionnaire for the eleventh session of the UNFF Forum reporting on its regional activities and initiatives.</li> <li>- FAO continues to play a key role in chairing the CPF.</li> </ul>
<p>16. Support the process of consideration and development of a sustainable</p>	<p>See recommendation 9 above for the attention of Governments and FAO.</p>

development goal (SDG) on forests and particularly the development of relevant targets and indicators	
17. Provide training on the use of the sustainable forest management (SFM) Toolbox when completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The SFM Toolbox, an interactive web platform to support knowledge sharing for sustainable forest management implementation at local, sub-national and national levels, was launched at the 22nd session of COFO in June 2014.</li> <li>- Additional modules of the Toolbox are being developed and refined.</li> <li>- Consideration is currently being given to appropriate capacity development work to promote the use of the Toolbox.</li> </ul>
18. Continue work with other organizations to harmonize definitions and streamline forest-related reporting, building on the work of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting and on the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All member countries in the region have submitted country reports for FRA 2015 using the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ). The CFRQ was developed with ITTO and other regional data collection partners in cooperation with countries of the Montreal Process to collect data on selected variables just once, to be shared among the data collection partners. The use of CFRQ has been an important step forward in reducing reporting burden and improving data consistency</li> </ul>
19. Strengthen international cooperation on fire-related activities and support regional networks and initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A PIF for a GEF LDCF project on fire management in Myanmar is currently being developed, partly to address Myanmar's commitments under the ASEAN Transboundary Haze Agreement.</li> </ul>
20. Develop methodologies, standard definitions and terminology to support the collection, analysis and reporting of data on the contributions of trees and forests to food security and nutrition, and to provide guidance and assistance to member countries in implementing such activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FAO is currently implementing the Regional Rice Initiative – Phase II, which includes capacity building and assessment on Trees outside Forests (TOF) to enable informed decision-making that optimize tree and forest resources for sustainable development and food security. Countries included in this Initiative are Indonesia, Lao PDR and the Philippines.</li> <li>- Publications were finalized on under-utilized indigenous foods in Asia-Pacific (including forest foods) and edible insects in Lao PDR.</li> </ul>
21. Explore the potential for incorporating a high-level ministerial component as part of the XIV World Forestry Congress.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A Forestry Officer (Japanese national) has been recruited to coordinate and support the organization of XIV WFC, particularly in promoting high-level participation by member countries in the region at the Congress.</li> </ul>