



Towards a vision on forests in the post-2015 era

High Level Dialogue of Heads of Member Organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF)

Sunday, 6 September, 15:00 – 16:30

Durban, South Africa

(open event)

The World Forestry Congress, the largest gathering of forestry practitioners and policy makers worldwide, provides the backdrop for this dialogue among the Leaders of fourteen major international organizations and secretariats with substantial programmes on forests that together form the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF).

The theme of the World Forestry Congress - *Forests and people: investing in a sustainable future* - provides an excellent opportunity for the CPF Leaders to discuss the future of forests and forestry in light of current challenges and new opportunities, and with a view to strengthen sustainability in forestry and at the same time seeking integrated approaches for forests and other land uses.

2015 is a decisive year for forests and sustainable development in general. Just a few weeks after the Congress, the UN General Assembly is expected to adopt the post-2015 development agenda including an ambitious and comprehensive set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Throughout the process of the SDG development, the CPF and its members have provided significant technical inputs, helping to ensure that forests are adequately considered. In accordance with its mandate the CPF and its members will have a strong supporting role in the implementation of the SDGs and the post-2015 development agenda as they relate to forests.

In addition, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 21) will convene this December in Paris with the aim of achieving a legally binding and universal agreement on climate to keep global warming below 2°C. Forests will have a central role in achieving this ambitious goal.

In light of the new opportunities arising from the post-2015 development agenda and COP21, it is time to build a new global vision for forests, forestry and people aiming to achieve global forest and climate change goals. The High Level Dialogue of the CPF Leaders aims to deliver elements of such a vision and to highlight the role of the Partnership in ensuring the vision becomes reality. The outcomes of this dialogue will flow into the Congress deliberations and will contribute to the key messages emanating from the Congress.

Programme

15:00 – 15:10 Welcome and opening statement by José Graziano da Silva, Director-General of FAO and Chair of the CPF

15:10 – 16:20 Facilitated round table discussion on elements of a new vision for forests, forestry and people and of the role of CPF and its members in implementing the vision in the context of the post-2015 development agenda: collective actions and targeted contributions

16:20 – 16:30 Brief summary of conclusions by the Facilitator and closing by the Chair of the CPF