



## Minutes of the 59<sup>th</sup> Session of FAO Advisory Committee on Sustainable Forest-based Industries (ACSFJ) Rome, 5 April 2018

### Participants

Masataka Hayama	President, Japan Paper Association, Japan
David Rhodes	CEO, New Zealand Forest Owners Association, New Zealand
Timo Jaatinen	Director General, Finnish Forest Industries Federation, Finland
Klaus Windhagen	Director General, German Pulp and Paper Association, Germany
Bernhard de Galembert	Innovation and Bioeconomy Director, Confederation of European Paper Industries
Naci Gungor	Brand and Corporate Communications Manager Kastamonu integrated wood-based panel company, Turkey
Carina Hakansson	Director General Swedish Forest Industries Association, Sweden
Kwame Asamoah Adam	CEO, Ghana Timber Millers Organization, Ghana
Elizabeth de Carvalhaes	Executive President Ibá, Brazil
Ross Hampton	CEO Australian Forest Products Association
Donna Harman	President and CEO, American Forest and Paper Association, United States of America
Paul-Antoine Lacour	Director General, Union Française de l'industries des papiers, cartons et cellulose, France
Jane Molony	Executive Director, Paper Manufacturers Association of South Africa
Lorenz Klein v. Wisenberg	IFFA-International Family Forestry Alliance
Wu Shengfu	Professor Wu Shengfu, Vice President of China National Forest Product Industry
Natalia Canova	Forestry Manager, Ibá, Brazil
From FAO:	
Eva Müller	Director Forestry Policy and Resources Division, FAO
Mats Nordberg	ACSFJ Secretary, FAO
Thais Linhares-Juvenal	Team leader Forest Governance and Economics
On specific topics:	
Lars Gunnar Marklund	Forest Resource Assessment Expert
Jarkko Koskela	Biotechnology expert

### Item 1 - Opening of the session

The Chairman opened the session. Eva Muller welcomed the members and expressed her satisfaction with the high number of participants.

### Item 2 - Organizational matters

#### Adoption of the Agenda

Two other matters were announced under Item 7, concerning Forest Products Statistics and the resignation of the ACSFI Secretary. The provisional Agenda was adopted.

The Minutes of the 58<sup>th</sup> ACSFI session were approved without comments.

## Membership developments

ACSFI welcomed two new members: Professor Wu Shengfu, Vice President of China National Forest Product Industry Association, and President of China Wood Culture Association, and Forest Expert Lorenz Klein von Wisenberg, member of the International Family Forestry Alliance (IFFA).

## Rules of Procedure of the ACSFI

The finalization of the Rules of Procedure was delegated by the 58<sup>th</sup> Session to the Steering Committee. They were approved by the FAO Legal Department and distributed to the meeting for its consideration. The Rules of Procedure were approved by the Committee as presented.

## Steering Committee

According to the Rules of Procedure, the Steering Committee “in addition to the Chairperson, shall consist of four to six members, including the Vice Chairperson”. The present number is 6, in addition to the Chairperson, as a result of Carina Hakansson being elected as Vice Chairperson. This situation needs to be adjusted.

Further, “Steering Committee members shall serve for two years. In the interest of balancing the needs for both renewal and continuity, it shall be possible to reelect a member for one further period of two years.” It was noted that since a large part of the Steering Committee consists of members that have already served more than two years, this question needs to be handled, see further under Item 7.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Elected</u>
Masataka Hayama	2016 or earlier
Carina Hakansson	2017
Elizabeth de Carvalhaes	2016 or earlier
Bernard de Galembert	2017
Donna Harman	2016 or earlier
Jane Molony	2017
David Rhodes	2016 or earlier

Members interested in joining or resigning from the Steering Committee were requested to inform the secretariat as soon as possible and before the next Steering Committee meeting.

The importance of having geographic diversity as well as diverse interests represented in the Steering Committee was also pointed out.

FAO was asked to inform about the requirements (time requirements, resources, etc.) for Steering Committee members, to allow possible candidates to decide whether they are interested.

### **Item 3 - Keynote presentation by Sari Mannonen, Vice President, UPM Biofuels**

Sari Mannonen, Vice President of UPM Biofuels presented the company’s work on renewable fuels and other bio-based materials<sup>1</sup>.

### **Item 4 - FAO reports on the implementation of the previous ACSFI session**

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<sup>1</sup> Ms Mannonen’s Power Point presentation was posted on the ACSFI web page: [www.fao.org/forestry/industries/9808/en/](http://www.fao.org/forestry/industries/9808/en/)

### Establish contact links between the FAO and ICFPA communicators' networks

Maria de Cristofaro, FAO Forestry Officer, reported on the joint communication work between FAO and Ibá. FAO has helped disseminate Ibá's communication and received much positive feedback. Other members were encouraged to send their suitable materials, similarly. It was agreed that there is a need to increase communication on the positive aspects of using more wood, focusing on environmental and socioeconomic benefits (what problems trees can solve), but also on innovations. She mentioned the catchy topics of the moment from a communication perspective: people, farmers and innovation. She also highlighted the importance of continuing the open dialogue with NGO's – there are some common interests, related to forests' potential to contribute to sustainable development and climate goals.

Concerning the FAO media cards from the SW4SW campaign, it was proposed to include also a new card on the bio-based packaging.

ICFPA is interested in publishing the FAO video on bio-based packaging on its website.

Concerning internet-based media, it was noted that Facebook and similar products are most suited to reach the general public, whereas products such as Twitter are more effective for reaching a professional audience.

### Ensure that the forest work programme is adequately resourced

This issue was included in Item 5.

### Continue efforts to reinforce the role of the private sector.

This issue was discussed together with the SW4SW.

### Industry safety statistics

In its 58<sup>th</sup> Session, ACSFI requested FAO to investigate whether it can collect and disseminate forest sector accident and near accident statistics from member countries. This field is the mandate of ILO, and FAO is reluctant to enter into it. However, FAO Forestry is preparing a study on forest accidents and forest accident reporting, which is to be published in April-May this year.

### Definition of forests

ACSFI has requested FAO not to change its present definition of forests, and in particular to keep forest plantations as a category of forests in its statistical data. Lars-Gunnar Marklund presented how the definition of forests has developed, noting that the new FRA questionnaire includes a definition of forest plantations and specifically asks countries the proportion of forests that are temporarily unstocked. He added that industrial plantations and other planted forests are reported separately to the FRA 2020, but both under the parent category of forest.

### Forestry applications of biotechnologies in FAO regional dialogue meetings

Jarkko Koskela, FAO Forestry Officer, informed that FAO had organized two regional dialogue meetings on biotechnology<sup>2</sup> during 2017, one for the Asia Pacific region in Kuala Lumpur with 200

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<sup>2</sup> Recommendations and key messages can be found on:  
[www.fao.org/asiapacific/events/detail-events/en/c/1440/](http://www.fao.org/asiapacific/events/detail-events/en/c/1440/)  
and  
[www.fao.org/africa/events/detail-events/en/c/1035227/](http://www.fao.org/africa/events/detail-events/en/c/1035227/)

participants from 41 countries and one for Africa in Addis Ababa, with 160 participants. The objective of the meetings was to bring information and engage a wider range of stakeholders in the discussion on the role of biotechnologies in agriculture, food security and nutrition.

A third regional meeting, planned for Latin America, has been postponed to a not yet specified time, due to a lack of funding, which was regretted by the ACSFI members.

At its 57<sup>th</sup> and 58<sup>th</sup> sessions, ACSFI had asked FAO to highlight also the role of forests in these meetings. The results have been mixed, but a video produced for the Asia Pacific meeting was greeted positively. It was shown during the ACSFI session<sup>3</sup>.

The ACSFI emphasized that it would be important to hold the planned meeting in Latin America. Ibá would be willing to help with the organization.

FAO was requested to share any forest-related studies that were prepared for the regional meetings.

#### Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World initiative

The Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World (SW4SW) Global Meeting<sup>4</sup> was organized in Rome, 31 October – 1 November 2017, in collaboration between FAO, ACSFI, the World Bank, ITTO, CIFOR and the Finance Alliance for Sustainable Trade. ACSFI was represented in the Steering Committee and contributed actively to the organization and the event itself.

The purpose of the meeting was to:

- Raise awareness of the availability of sustainable wood products and their wide uses and benefits.
- Show how, when and where wood contributes to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Dispel perception of wood production as a driver of environmental damage and inequity.
- Unblock markets and finance for sustainable wood.

100 professionals from 40 countries across the globe attended the meeting. The meeting had a balanced stakeholder representation, including industry organizations, international cooperation organizations, governmental organizations and NGO's. Tweets generated during the event received 77300 impressions.

It was rewarding and encouraging that a set of common take-away messages could be formulated by this diverse group of participating organizations.

Thais Linhares-Juvenal, FAO Senior Forestry Officer, highlighted the good outreach after the SW4SW Global Meeting and mentioned, as examples, the invitation received to present the SW4SW on the Swedish Forest Industries Federation's annual Forum for Bioeconomy (April 17 2018), as well as, the strengthening of bioeconomy work related to wood products. She informed that FAO was coordinating with the ACSFI focal point for the SW4SW, Bernard de Gallembert, the contributions to the guidelines on sustainable bioeconomy and participation of the FAO Workshop Measuring the

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<sup>3</sup> The video can be seen on: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=EyacPtO6cs0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EyacPtO6cs0) or [www.youtube.com/watch?v=EyacPtO6cs0&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EyacPtO6cs0&feature=youtu.be)

<sup>4</sup> - A presentation of SW4SW can be found on: [www.fao.org/forestry/46700-0a274f69ab292a75be6ef89e8c4aa7566.pdf](http://www.fao.org/forestry/46700-0a274f69ab292a75be6ef89e8c4aa7566.pdf)-

- A Note to the FAO Council on the SW4SW was posted on the ACSFI webpage: [www.fao.org/forestry/industries/9808/en/](http://www.fao.org/forestry/industries/9808/en/)

- More information can also be found on the SW4SW website: [www.fao.org/forestry/sustainable-wood/en/](http://www.fao.org/forestry/sustainable-wood/en/)

Sustainability of Bioeconomy, in Berlin on 17 - 18 April 2018. She also informed that the SW4SW was being proposed as a joint initiative under the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and that a high-level event on the SW4SW would take place during the 24<sup>th</sup> session of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO 24) on July 16-20 2018.

The Committee welcomed the latest development on the SW4SW, expressed strong support for its continuation, in collaboration with the ICFPA and ACSFI member organizations and presented several suggestions to FAO:

- SW4SW can help to develop a new common language on wood products' communication and ACSFI members are encouraged to outreach to their Governments to convene the SW4SW objectives;
  - The SW4SW meeting to be replicated in the regions and fine-tune key messages to address regional perspectives. It was mentioned that members of the SW4SW could work with FAO to organize such regional meetings and convene the relevant audience;
  - Good examples of policies and production to be collected from ACSFI members;
- It was further noted, that in the WTO Green Product list, very few wood-based products are included. It was hoped for, that the SW4SW initiative could contribute to the inclusion of more wood-based products.

#### The publication on good examples

Mats Nordberg informed that the series of case studies of positive industry examples of forest-based value chains from different parts of the world, and which were published in the form of fact sheets and posters at the occasion of the SW4SW Global Meeting, are being further documented in a publication. Based on the advice of the ACSFI Steering Committee, the draft key messages of this publication were shared with ACSFI members before the session. Members were requested to provide comments in an e-mail to the Secretary (mats.nordberg@fao.org), before 30 April 2018.

#### The zero-deforestation report

The report is ready and has been printed after corrections were included, based on comments received during the ACSFI's 58<sup>th</sup> session.

#### Promoting bio-based packaging

The video script was revised based on comments received during the 58<sup>th</sup> ACSFI Session. The video<sup>5</sup> was screened during the meeting and welcomed by the Committee. It was noted that FAO, as a neutral body, can express some concerns about fossil-based packaging, which the forest industry may be more reluctant to express.

#### Policies on use of wood in construction

A draft pilot study from Argentina was presented. Argentina is running a programme for addressing the need for improved housing, through a set of initiatives, including federal government, provinces, banks and private enterprises. As a result of these initiatives, house construction in general as well as wood-based construction, have significantly increased.

The ACSFI welcomed this work and suggested that future case studies should address legislation, including "wood first policies" and insurance; tall wood buildings; innovation; and drivers of the use of wood in construction. It was emphasized that not only successful examples, but also failure cases should be presented.

#### **Item 5 - Highlights of FAO's work in 2018 and 2019**

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<sup>5</sup> The video can be viewed on [www.youtube.com/watch?v=vqJ3et8KK\\_o](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vqJ3et8KK_o)

Eva Müller presented key activities for 2018-19 with relevance to the ACSFI.

### Programme and Budget

The 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Conference, held in July 2017, approved FAO's reviewed Strategic Framework, its Medium Term Plan (MTP) 2018-21 and its Programme Work and Budget (PWB) 2018-19.

The programme and budget under the Strategic Objectives are closely aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). FAO's work contributes to 40 SDG targets, measured through 53 unique SDG indicators.

Priority areas in the Programme of Work are climate change adaptation and mitigation (+USD 3.7 million); sustainable agricultural production, including agroecology, genetic resources and governance (+USD 3.1 million); food systems including nutrition and food safety (+USD 2.8 million); work on statistics, including support for development and measurement of SDG indicators (+USD 1.9 million); and peacebuilding, in relation to food security, conflict analysis and partnerships (+USD 1.2 million).

Concerning staffing, the Forestry Department has received two new professional positions - for National forest assessments and Forest producer organizations. There is also recognition that additional technical capacity is required in the areas of Forest value chains, Disaster risk management, and Community-based forest management.

Looking at the total forestry budget for 2018-2019, the Regular Programme receives 26,6 million US dollars, as compared to 26,8 million for the previous biennium.

It should, however, be noted that extrabudgetary resources constitute more than 80 percent of forestry's total budget. The FAO Forestry programme in 2016-2017 had over 160 ongoing projects in more than 60 countries, valued at a total of US\$665 million.

### The SW4SW Initiative

The SW4SW Initiative builds on the key messages from the Global Meeting on SW4SW, with the principal goal to strengthen sustainable wood value chains to enhance their social, economic and environmental benefits from production to consumption. It operates at four levels: policy, operational, scientific and political. The SW4SW Initiative contributes to achieving the SDGs and the Global Forest Goals.

The Initiative will be launched in July 2018 and have a duration of four years: four years (July 2018 – July 2022). Its steering committee includes FAO (including ACSFI representative), CIFOR, ITTO, World Bank and WWF and its indicative budget is US\$14 million.

### Conference on Halting Deforestation and Increasing Forest Area

The International Conference Working Across Sectors to Halt Deforestation and Increase Forest Area – from aspiration to action, was organized in Rome 20 – 22 February by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), under the leadership of FAO.

The background to the Conference is that very ambitious goals have been set by the international community, concerning halting deforestation: United Nation's Sustainable Development Goal 15 (SDG 15 - Life on land) includes a target to halt deforestation by 2020. The United Nations Strategic

Plan for Forests 2017-2030 (UNSPF) includes a target to increase global forest cover by 3 percent by 2030.

Objectives of the Conference were to promote dialogue across sectors and stakeholder groups and benefit from the knowledge, experiences and perspectives of countries and experts to consider how we can collectively work to achieve the globally agreed targets of halting deforestation and increasing forest cover, and also to make recommendations, through UNFF13, to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development on actions to be undertaken globally and by countries to help achieve these targets.

The focus of the Conference was on best practices and a forward-looking approach.

The Conference had 300 participants, including forestry, non-forestry, government and non-government stakeholders (especially private sector and youth).

Conference outcomes including key messages are to be channelled through UNFF 13, to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF).

### International Day of Forests

The theme of the International Day of Forests 21 March 2018 was 'Forests and Sustainable Cities'. A video spot was produced in 9 languages and aired on 8 TV channels (among them, Antenne 24, CNN, Euronews and Sky tg 24). At FAO headquarters, an event was held, with invited mayors and architects, presenting interesting examples. At the event, the publication "*Forests and Sustainable Cities – Inspiring stories from around the world*" was launched.

The event generated 400 press articles, of which 31 top tiers (Nature, El Pais, Reuters, and others). Radio interviews and presentations were shared with 300 broadcasters. A photo contest was arranged with over 300 applications.

### State of the World's Forests (SOFO) 2018

The theme of the State of the World's Forests (SOFO) 2018 will focus on the contributions of forests to multiple SDGs, by:

- Providing evidence of the multiple contributions of forests - and of the people who use and manage them - to sustainable development in its three dimensions (economic, social and environmental);
- Identifying data gaps;
- Analyzing the full contributions of wood products to the economy;
- Providing examples of and recommendations for forest pathways to sustainable development.

The publication will be presented during COFO24.

### 24<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO 24)

The biennial sessions of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO) are held at FAO headquarters and bring together heads of forest services and other senior government officials, to identify emerging policy and technical issues, to seek solutions and to advise FAO and others on appropriate action. COFO 24, 16-20 July 2018, focuses on forests' contribution to the SDGs and will be built on six thematic building blocks:

- SOFO 2018.
- Forests and the SDGs: Progress towards SDG 15; Urban forestry; Biodiversity; and Forests for food security (CFS).
- Biennial theme: climate change (resilience, health and fire) .

- Progress in the implementation of previous decisions: Dialogue with statutory bodies – ACSFI; FAO's work on temperate and boreal forests.
- Strategic issues: FAO's work in forestry; Contribution to the UNSPF.
- High-level dialogues: Forests and the SDGs (ministerial level); Urban and peri-urban forestry.

During the week, a series of events will be arranged, presenting FAO's and its Members' and partner's global work on forestry.

### 1<sup>st</sup> World Forum on Urban Forests

The World Forum on Urban Forests<sup>6</sup>, to be held from 28 November to 1 December 2018 in Mantova, Italy, aims to:

- Support the process of the "New Urban Agenda" and optimising the potential of urban forests in contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG11);
- Strengthen international networking, exchange experiences and build partnerships;
- Create an international appointment (through periodic worldwide meetings) for the urban forest and green infrastructure actors and stakeholders;
- Prepare an international Declaration including a set of recommendations for future collaboration on urban forestry towards a better quality of life of world cities.

Already, 400 participants from 72 countries have pre-registered at this early stage.

### Discussion on Item 5

It was noted that the date of COFO coincides with the meeting of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in UN headquarters, New York on 9 - 18 July, including the ministerial meeting 16 -18 July.

Members were also informed about the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests<sup>7</sup> (UNFF13), to be held in UN headquarters, New York, from 7 to 11 May 2018.

## **Item 6 - Inputs of the ACSFI to FAO's Programme of Work 2018-19**

### ICFPA recommendations

- ICFPA welcomed the initiative on communication and recommended a continuation. An important area for future collaboration is bio-based packaging.
- ICFPA fully supports the SW4SW Initiative. It is important that it must be representative of the whole world.
- ICFPA will provide part of the funding to help support specific projects of FAO.
- ICFPA supports the continuation of the work related to policies for wood construction.

### ACSFI recommendations

ACSFI endorsed the recommendations of the ICFPA and made its additions, resulting in the following combined recommendations for FAO:

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<sup>6</sup> For more information, visit the website: [www.wfuf2018.com](http://www.wfuf2018.com)

Contact person: Simone Borelli, Forestry Officer, Forestry Department ([Simone.Borelli@fao.org](mailto:Simone.Borelli@fao.org)).

<sup>7</sup> [www.un.org/esa/forests/events/unff13/index.html](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/events/unff13/index.html).

- Secure efficient staffing and adequate resources for work on wood-based products, including in the secretariat of ACSFI.
- Continue the important work of preparing Statistics on forest products and the Forest Resources Assessment, and make more efforts to promote the importance of this work for wood use policy.
- Continue the initiative on communication, in collaboration with ICFPA and to consider forming a communication subcommittee.
- Continue to seek out new ways of communicating (considering new publics, new messages, new technologies, and different regions' perspectives). The focus should be not only on forests, but also on wood products and innovation, to demonstrate the positive message that the wood industry is dynamic, able to adapt to changing needs of the world. One specific important area for future collaboration is bio-based packaging.
- Continue to develop the SW4SW initiative, taking into account that it should represent interests from different regions of the world.
- Continue the work on promoting wood in construction and seek feedback from the Committee on how to advance the topic.
- Continue the work on best practices through case studies on diversified wood-based value chains.
- Continue collaboration between ICFPA, ACSFI and FAO on the bio-economy, including where FAO has been invited to contribute to national bioeconomy-related activities organized by or in collaboration with national and regional wood products industry associations.
- Consider working more on workers' education – possibly by pointing on the needs in international meetings and contact with governments.
- Consider promoting the forest sector to young people in developed countries. The International Forestry Student Association could provide one such opportunity as FAO has an MOU with the association.

### Emerging issues

Sustainable intensification: many countries are under pressure from fast population growth – biotechnology, innovation and new products (coming from wood and fibres) may provide part of the answers.

Role of forests in climate change mitigation: Although the forest contributions to reducing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and climate change have been recognized, there are still challenges related to the role of production forests' and the need of a broader range of forest products for a larger population in the future.

The discussion of whether forests are carbon sinks, will continue. Carina Hakansson will share material through the secretariat, demonstrating that trees are only good for the climate, while there is net growth, implicating that management and product use are key components.

### **Item 7 - Closing of the Session**

#### Date & Venue of the ACSFI 60<sup>th</sup> Session

Forest Products Association of Canada offers to host the next session, possibly in connection with the Woodrise event on 30 September – 3 October in Quebec City, the focus of which is on civil construction.

A Steering Committee meeting was proposed for the first quarter of 2019.

Dates remain to be confirmed.

### Election of Officers

There was no election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson, as both are in the middle in their terms of service.

Candidates interested in serving in the Steering Committee, and Steering Committee members that have served for more than two years and wished to resign were asked to inform the secretariat.

### Any other matters

Eva Müller informed that ACSFI Secretary Mats Nordberg would leave FAO and thanked him for his work with the ACSFI during the last two years.

Concerning Forest Product Statistics, it was informed that the 70<sup>th</sup> yearbook would be published during April-May this year. There is now a continuous series of data from 1946 onwards, which can be used by researchers, investors and by policy-makers in following progress on international agreements.

### Closing summary by ACSFI Chairperson

The Chair thanked the members for a fruitful meeting and rewarding discussion.

### Closing of the 59<sup>th</sup> Session

The ACSFI 59<sup>th</sup> Session was closed.