The eighth day of UNFF-2, ministers and delegates engaged in a dialogue with heads of CPF member organizations. Delegates also met in Working Group I in the morning and evening to address combating deforestation and forest degradation, and in a contact group in the afternoon and evening to consider criteria for the review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests.

MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE WITH THE CPF

UNFF-2 Chair Knut Øistad opened the high-level ministerial segment, announcing that Colombian Environment Minister Juan Mayr would chair the segment. Chair Øistad presented the Chair’s summary of the multi-stakeholder dialogue. The INTERNATIONAL UNION OF FOREST RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS (IUFRO) called for increased resources for and recognition of research, as well as language on “science-based” SFM where possible. A representative of SMALL-SCALE FOREST OWNERS AND FOREST INDUSTRIES supported public-private partnerships, secure land tenure rights and a stable policy environment. A representative for NGOs AND INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS called on the WSSD to, inter alia: launch a global initiative to combat illegal harvesting and trade; set specific target dates to reverse forest degradation; and announce initiatives to address underlying causes of forest degradation.

Hosni El-Lakany, Chair of the CPF, explained that the CPF’s objectives are to strengthen collaboration and coordination among its members, and support the UNFF’s work. Venezuela, for the G-77/CHINA, noted that dialogue with heads of CPF organizations will help developing countries formulate national policies. Spain, for the EU, recommended that the CPF and the UNFF Secretariat elaborate a reporting framework to guide UNFF-3 preparations. Chair Mayr explained that the dialogue would address: cross-sectoral harmonization, including fostering synergies between forest-related instruments and organizations; forests and current international political and policy agendas; forest conservation, protection and use; and financing for SFM. Government representatives and CPF members introduced each topic, followed by discussion.

CROSS-SECTORAL HARMONIZATION: COSTA RICA stressed that the multi-functionality of forests requires cross-sectoral approaches, and highlighted the need for cross-sectoral coordination and harmonization of policies in national-level planning. FINLAND recommended that regional institutions and forest-related instruments be encouraged to promote specific action on forest law enforcement, illegal trade and voluntary certification schemes, and encouraged CPF members to develop a conceptual framework of criteria and indicators with measurable key indicators for broader implementation. Hosni El-Lakany, Assistant Director-General, FAO Forestry Department, stressed the need to coordinate national forest policies with other sectoral policies, and highlighted integrated land use policies and programmes as a successful example of a multi-sectoral approach. Klaus Töpfer, UNEP Executive Director, highlighted the important role of forests in carbon sequestration and biodiversity conservation, and in overcoming poverty. Dennis Tirpak, UNFCCC Coordinator, discussed recently agreed forestry and land-use activities under the Kyoto Protocol, which could lead to new sources of income for forest owners who want to “grow” carbon. Sergio Trindade, International Center for Research on Agroforestry, proposed establishing “national sustainable development forest missions” to harmonize and integrate various initiatives. The US said the CPF’s role is critical in facilitating and supporting implementation of the proposals for action. COLOMBIA cited illicit crops as a major cause of deforestation, and stressed the need to address underlying causes such as drug consumption in developed countries. ECUADOR said structural changes and drug trafficking must be addressed.

FORESTS AND CURRENT INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL AND POLICY AGENDAS: SOUTH AFRICA stated that deforestation and forest degradation continue, despite adoption of SFM policies, and noted that forest degradation can only be addressed by reversing the cycle of poverty and powerlessness in underdeveloped regions. The UK emphasized: raising the profile of forests on the international political agenda; moving from dialogue to action; forging new partnerships between governments, business and civil society; and combating illegal logging.

Nitin Desai, Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs, noted the “tremendous erosion of public funding for forestry.” He underscored the importance of connecting the forest agenda with the broader agenda of sustainable development. David Kaimowitz, Director General of CIFOR, highlighted links between forests, poverty and human welfare, and highlighted the contribution that forests can make to sustainable development. Frank Pinto, UNDP, noted the need to improve the design and implementation of regulatory frameworks to remove perverse incentives that encourage unsustainable practices. COSTA RICA urged greater regional cooperation in Central America for implementing the proposals for action. CHINA stressed that poverty eradication cannot be divorced from the multiple benefits of forests. The NETHERLANDS emphasized the importance of private investment in contributing to SFM.

FOREST CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND USE: ECUADOR said traditional methods of conservation are insufficient and stressed the need for concrete incentives for sustainable use of forests.
support from multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), a good
scape and ecosystem approach, more effective coordination and

members to take into consideration all lessons learned and apply them
programmes. Delegates also agreed to encourage countries and CPF

innitiatives and to conduct analyses of underlying causes,” but did not
efforts to incorporate relevant research results into national policy
of deforestation and forest degradation” and “facilitate countries’
programmes of CPF members should “address the underlying causes

importance of addressing sustainable livelihoods, and highlighted progress in forest
landscape restoration. COLOMBIA advocated ethics as a reference
point for negotiations at WSSD. COSTA RICA highlighted national

success in forest restoration, and stressed the need for regional coopera-
AUSSTRIA advocated cross-sectoral planning, and underscored the role of the private sector. The FAO supported a shift from
conservation to sustainable use, and BRAZIL said international insti-
tutions should respect national agendas. GREENPEACE highlighted
conservation, sustainable use, and equitable benefit-sharing, and
called for application of the ecosystem approach and the precautionary

FINANCING FOR SFM: MALAYSIA called for increased ODA and
a global forest fund. LATVIA underscored the need for well-
designed national forest policies, political will, and mobilization of
domestic resources for implementing the IPF/IFF proposals for action.

odia urged the international donor community to connect the goal of
poverty eradication to the sustainable management of all types of
forests. Mohamed El Ashry, CEO of the GEF, stressed the need to
leverage private capital and strengthen policies and institutions for
implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action. Manoel Sobral,
ITTO Executive Director, reiterated that SFM is uncompetitive
compared to plantation forestry and other land uses, and said greater
economic value must be attached to SFM.

Odis Knudsen, World Bank, said SFM will be funded primarily
through the private sector, stressing the importance of attracting
socially and environmentally responsible investment. Noting a lack of
progress on financing, BRAZIL supported establishing a global forest
fund and addressing external debt.

WORKING GROUP I

COMBATING DEFORESTATION AND FOREST DEGRA-
dATION: Working Group I, chaired by Hossein Moeini (Iran), met in
the morning and evening to discuss the draft text on combating defor-
estation and forest degradation. Delegates debated the nature of the
outcomes of this agenda item, noting its applicability to other substan-
tive agenda items, and agreed that the draft text would include "lessons
learned" and "future steps." They also agreed to include a section on
country experiences in UNFF-2's final report.

Lessons Learned: Delegates agreed to include text on: the signifi-
cance of domestic law enforcement and illegal international trade; and
the encouragement of projects, programmes and initiatives at the inter-
national level. Delegates agreed to bracket references to trade. Dele-
gates also forwarded references on finance to the ad hoc expert group
on finance and transfer of ESTs.

Future Steps: Delegates agreed that capacity-building
programmes of CPF members should "address the underlying causes
of deforestation and forest degradation" and "facilitate countries' efforts to incorporate relevant research results into national policy
initiatives and to conduct analyses of underlying causes," but did not agree whether to invite CPF members to "develop" or "enhance" such
programmes. Delegates also agreed to encourage countries and CPF
members to take into consideration all lessons learned and apply them
as appropriate.