

## TENTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS FORUM ON FORESTS: 8-19 APRIL 2013

The tenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF10) opens today in Istanbul, Turkey. The meeting will address a range of topics including: an assessment of progress made on the implementation of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (the Forest Instrument) and towards achievement of the four Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs); regional and subregional inputs; forests and economic development, including forest products and services, national forest programmes and other sectoral policies and strategies, reducing the risks and impacts of disasters, and benefits of forests and trees to urban communities; emerging issues; enhanced cooperation, and policy and programme coordination, including the provision of further guidance to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF); and means of implementation (MoI) for sustainable forest management (SFM).

### A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE UNFF

The UNFF was established in 2000, following a five-year period of forest policy dialogue facilitated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF). In October 2000, the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), in resolution E/2000/35, established the UNFF as a subsidiary body, with the main objective of promoting the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

The UNFF's principal functions are to: facilitate implementation of forest-related agreements and foster a common understanding on SFM; provide for continued policy development and dialogue among governments, international organizations and Major Groups, as well as to address forest issues and emerging areas of concern in a holistic, comprehensive and integrated manner; enhance cooperation, and policy and programme coordination on forest-related issues; foster international cooperation and monitor, assess and report on progress; and strengthen political commitment to the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

The IPF/IFF processes produced more than 270 proposals for action towards SFM, which form the basis for the UNFF Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) and Plan of Action, which were discussed at annual sessions. Country- and Organization-Led Initiatives have also contributed to the UNFF's work.

**ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION:** The UNFF organizational session took place from 12-16 February 2001, at UN Headquarters in New York. Delegates agreed that the UNFF Secretariat would be located in New York, and made progress towards the establishment of the CPF, a partnership of 14 major forest-related international organizations, institutions and convention secretariats.

**UNFF1:** The first session of UNFF took place from 11-23 June 2001 in New York. Delegates discussed and adopted decisions on the UNFF MYPOW, a Plan of Action for the implementation of the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action, and UNFF's work with the CPF. Delegates also recommended establishing three *ad hoc* expert groups to provide technical advice to UNFF on: approaches and mechanisms for monitoring, assessment and reporting (MAR); finance and transfer of environmentally sound technologies (ESTs); and parameters of a mandate for developing a legal framework on all types of forests.

**UNFF2:** The second session of UNFF took place from 4-15 March 2002 in New York. Delegates adopted a Ministerial Declaration and Message to the World Summit on Sustainable Development and decisions on: combating deforestation and forest degradation; forest conservation and protection of unique types of forests and fragile ecosystems; rehabilitation and conservation strategies for countries with low forest cover; the promotion of natural and planted forests; specific criteria for the review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests (IAF); and proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for 2002-2005.

**UNFF3:** UNFF3 met in Geneva, Switzerland, from 26 May - 6 June 2003, and adopted six resolutions on: enhanced cooperation, and policy and programme coordination; forest health and productivity; economic aspects of forests; maintaining forest cover to meet present and future needs; the UNFF Trust Fund; and strengthening the Secretariat. Terms of reference were adopted for the voluntary reporting format and three *ad hoc* expert groups established to consider: MAR; finance and transfer of ESTs; and parameters of a mandate for developing a legal framework on all types of forests.

**UNFF4:** UNFF4 convened in Geneva from 3-14 May 2004, and adopted five resolutions on: forest-related scientific knowledge; social and cultural aspects of forests; MAR and criteria and indicators; review of the effectiveness of the IAF; and finance and transfer of ESTs. UNFF4 attempted, without success, to reach agreement on resolutions on forest-related traditional knowledge, enhanced cooperation, and policy and programme coordination.



**UNFF5:** UNFF5 took place from 16-27 May 2005 in New York. Participants were unable to reach agreement on strengthening the IAF and did not produce a ministerial statement or a negotiated outcome. They did agree, *ad referendum*, to four global goals on: significantly increasing the area of protected forests and sustainably managed forests worldwide; reversing the decline in official development assistance (ODA) for SFM; reversing the loss of forest cover; and enhancing forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits. They also agreed in principle to negotiate, at some future date, the terms of reference for a voluntary code or international understanding on forests, as well as MoI.

**UNFF6:** UNFF6 took place from 13-24 February 2006 in New York. Delegates generated a negotiating text containing new language on the function of the IAF, a commitment to convene UNFF biennially after 2007, and a request that UNFF7 adopt a non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests. UNFF6 also set four global objectives for the IAF to: reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through SFM, including through protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation; enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, and the contribution of forests to the achievement of internationally agreed development goals; increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests; and reverse the decline in ODA for SFM and mobilize significantly increased new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of SFM.

**UNFF7:** UNFF7 was held from 16-27 April 2007 in New York. After two weeks of negotiations culminating in an all-night session, delegates adopted the Forest Instrument and a MYPOW for the period 2007-2015. Delegates also participated in two Multi-Stakeholder Dialogues, a panel discussion with member organizations of the CPF, and the launch of preparations for the International Year of Forests 2011. Delegates agreed that a “voluntary global financial mechanism/portfolio approach/forest financing framework for all types of forests” would be developed and considered, with a view to its adoption at UNFF8.

**UNFF8:** UNFF8 was held from 20 April - 1 May 2009 in New York. Delegates discussed: forests in a changing environment, including forests and climate change, reversing the loss of forest cover and degradation, and forests and biodiversity conservation; and MoI for SFM. After an all-night session on the last night, delegates adopted a resolution on forests in a changing environment, enhanced cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination, and regional and subregional inputs. Delegates did not agree on a decision on financing for SFM, and decided to forward bracketed negotiating text to the Forum’s next session.

**SPECIAL SESSION OF UNFF9:** The special session of UNFF9 was held on 30 October 2009 in New York. The Forum decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental *ad hoc* expert group (AHEG) to formulate proposals on strategies to mobilize resources to support the implementation of SFM, the achievement of the four GOFs and the implementation of the Forest Instrument. The Forum also established a facilitative process to, *inter alia*: assist in mobilizing and supporting new and additional financial resources from all sources for SFM; identify, facilitate and simplify access to all sources of finance; identify obstacles to, gaps in and opportunities for financing SFM; and facilitate the transfer of ESTs and capacity building to developing countries.

**UNFF9:** UNFF9 took place from 24 January - 4 February 2011 in New York and launched the International Year of Forests 2011. The Forum adopted by acclamation a resolution on forests

for people, livelihoods and poverty eradication, which addressed *inter alia*: procedures for assessment of progress; increased regional and subregional cooperation; enhanced cooperation, including with Major Groups; and MoI, particularly the AHEG process.

### INTERSESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

**AHEG2:** The second meeting of the AHEG took place from 14-18 January 2013, in Vienna, Austria, to finalize recommendations on forest financing for consideration at UNFF10. The meeting discussed a variety of inputs on forest financing, including: key findings of the 2012 Advisory Group on Finance study on forest financing; outcomes of the CPF Organization-Led Initiative; outcomes of the facilitative process meetings on forest financing; actions on forests and economic development; findings of the study of the impacts of the price of carbon on forest financing; the private sector’s actions in forest financing; identification of national actions/strategies to mobilize financing for forests; and identification of international actions/strategies to mobilize financing for forests.

On the basis of these discussions, the Co-Chairs provided options for consideration by UNFF10 on: good governance; engaging all stakeholders and building partnerships; cross-sectoral collaboration; capacity building; engaging the formal/informal markets/private sector; developing national forest financing options; addressing SFM data, geographic and thematic gaps; financing the implementation of the Forest Instrument; ODA; regional cooperation; strengthening existing multilateral forest-related financing mechanisms and improving access to their resources; new and emerging funds; mainstreaming forests in development decision-making processes; and forests/post-2015 UN development agenda/sustainable development goals. The report was adopted by acclamation.

**INC-FORESTS:** The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Legally-Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe (INC-Forests) process was launched by the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe to negotiate a legally-binding agreement on forests in Europe, to be completed by 30 June 2013. INC-Forests1, held from 27 February - 2 March 2012, in Vienna, Austria, focused on providing guidance to the INC Bureau to elaborate the initial negotiating text of the mandated agreement. INC-Forests2, which was held from 3-7 September 2012, in Bonn, Germany, undertook a first reading of the initial text drafted by the Bureau, and revised the roadmap for the negotiation process and intersessional work.

The first session of INC-Forests3, which convened from 28 January - 1 February 2013 in Antalya, Turkey, completed the second reading of the draft negotiating text and began the third reading. The meeting was suspended and delegates agreed to reconvene from 3-5 April 2013, in St. Petersburg, the Russian Federation, to have additional time to complete key tasks before the convening of the last INC-Forests session from 10-14 June 2013 in Warsaw, Poland. These key tasks included: reaching a decision on whether to bring the agreement under the UN umbrella; initiating legal scrutiny of the final clauses of the agreement; negotiating financial and compliance provisions; and deciding on the roadmap for negotiations from St. Petersburg to the Extraordinary Ministerial Conference slated for late 2013 in Madrid, Spain, where the results of the negotiations will be presented to ministers for possible adoption and signature. INC-Forests3 decided *ad referendum* to bring the agreement under the UN umbrella and on preambular paragraphs. Other issues will be decided at INC-Forests4 in Warsaw, Poland.





## UNFF10 HIGHLIGHTS MONDAY, 8 APRIL 2013

The tenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF10) opened today in Istanbul, Turkey. The meeting convened in plenary throughout the day. In the morning session the plenary addressed the organization of work, the assessment of progress made on the implementation of the Forest Instrument, and forests and economic development. The Ministerial Segment of the meeting was also opened. In the afternoon, the plenary considered emerging issues and MoI for SFM, and the delegates heard statements as part of the Ministerial Segment.

### PLENARY

**ORGANIZATION OF WORK:** Wu Hongbo, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, opened UNFF10 and delegates recalled Bureau members elected at the first session of UNFF10: Srecko Juricic (Croatia); Mario Ruales Carranza (Ecuador); Shuli Davidovich (Israel); Saiful Azam Martinus Abdullah (Malaysia); and Anna Masinja (Zambia). They elected by acclamation Carranza as UNFF10 Chair and Co-Chair of the Ministerial Segment, and Abdullah as Rapporteur.

Delegates adopted the agenda (E/CN.18/2013/1/Rev.1) and accepted the nomination of Veysel Eroğlu, Minister of Forestry and Water Affairs, Turkey, as Co-Chair of the Ministerial Segment. UNFF10 Chair Carranza highlighted the organization of work for UNFF10, noting work would take place under two working groups after the Ministerial Segment concludes. Delegates agreed that Davidovich and Masinja will co-chair Working Group 1 and Juricic and Abdullah will co-chair Working Group 2.

**PROGRESS MADE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOREST INSTRUMENT:** UNFF Director Jan McAlpine summarized the Report of the Secretary-General on Assessment of Progress Made on the Implementation of the NLBI and Towards Achievement of the Four GOFs (E/CN.18/2013/2). She noted that the Forest Instrument's provisions are being increasingly incorporated into national policies and programmes, and highlighted a growing recognition of the socio-economic benefits of forests and evidence of the contribution of SFM to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

**FORESTS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** UNFF Director McAlpine presented the Report of the Secretary-General on Forests and Economic Development (E/CN.18/2013/4) and the Report of the Secretary-General on Conclusions and Recommendations for Addressing Key Challenges of Forests and Economic Development (E/CN.18/2013/5), outlining issues relating to the cash and non-cash contributions of forests to economic development, and the

relationship between forests and other sectors. She highlighted challenges, such as lack of sufficient data and the need to identify which categories are priority areas, and called for greater South-South information exchange.

**EMERGING ISSUES:** In the afternoon, UNFF Director McAlpine introduced the Report of the Secretary-General on Emerging Issues (E/CN.18/2013/6), noting that three emerging issues had been identified: the MDGs and the post-2015 development agenda; the outcomes of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD or Rio+20); and the future of the IAF. She said that the review of the IAF, scheduled for 2015, will, *inter alia*, assess the UNFF and its functions, as well as the ongoing role of the CPF. She stated that the report urged UNFF10 to discuss preparations for the review, including a possible roadmap, intersessional work and financial implications. McAlpine further noted the UNFF should discuss different possibilities for the future IAF, including a legally-binding agreement, a framework agreement or continuation of the Forest Instrument.

**MoI:** In the afternoon, UNFF Director McAlpine introduced the Report of the Secretary-General on MoI for SFM (E/CN.18/2013/11 and E/CN.18/2013/12), noting that MoI include forest financing and technology exchange. She outlined the different positions regarding forest financing, including the proposal for a global forest fund and efforts to ensure more efficient use of currently available funding. She said the report recognizes that establishing a fund will require longer-term efforts to consider modalities, but immediate decisions should be made to ensure monetary support for those countries that urgently need it. Outlining the outcomes of the AHEG, she noted the identification of other sources of forest financing, including at the national and regional levels, and through other fora such as the climate and biodiversity processes.

Naoko Ishii, CEO and Chair, Global Environment Facility (GEF), announced that the GEF Incentive Mechanism for Forests extended its work through 2010-2014 and will provide up to US\$ 1 billion for implementation of SFM and reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries plus the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (REDD+) programmes during that period.

**MINISTERIAL SEGMENT:** In the morning, UNFF10 Chair and UNFF10 Ministerial Segment Co-Chair Carranza opened the Ministerial Segment, thanking the Government of Turkey for hosting the meeting. He underscored that although the social, cultural and environmental functions of forests are globally recognized, the economic contribution of forests to local, national and global economies is far less acknowledged. He highlighted intersessional work undertaken by the AHEG on forest financing, saying that UNFF10 presents an opportunity to take concrete action in this area.



UNFF10 Ministerial Segment Co-Chair Eroğlu stressed the need to alleviate global poverty and underlined the role of forests in achieving this goal. He urged participants to focus on the relationship between forests and economic development, not just within the framework of the environment but also for sustainable development.

Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Prime Minister, Turkey, underlined the role of forests in preventing erosion, protecting potable water, preserving ecosystems and alleviating poverty, and urged that SFM be included in the post-2015 development agenda. He emphasized the role of the UNFF in moving the world to a new understanding of the steps necessary to protect forests.

President of the UN Economic and Social Council, Néstor Osorio, Permanent Representative to the UN, Colombia, highlighted the UNFF's role in integrating the three pillars of sustainable development and lauded it for ensuring that forests remain prominent within the global development agenda.

Under-Secretary-General Wu stated that SFM must have robust institutional and policy frameworks, including adequate and sustainable financing, for it to be successful. He hoped that UNFF10 will make an important contribution towards ensuring this.

UNFF Director Jan McAlpine, introduced the UNFF10 programme of work designed to support consideration of priority issues, such as the connection of forests to social, economic and environmental issues, and the convergence of UNFF10 outcomes with the post-2015 development agenda and Rio+20 outcomes. She said that UNFF10 is poised to produce decisions on the connection between forests and economic development and the need for forest financing to accomplish the objectives of the Forest Principles and the Forest Instrument.

Eduardo Rojas-Briales, Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, and Chair, CPF, underscored the opportune timing to relate UNFF10 to the outcomes of Rio+20, the post-2015 development agenda, and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process. He said the landscape approach of the CPF sets a mechanism for a cross-sectoral review and builds awareness of the socioeconomic contributions of forests to human development.

During ministerial statements in the afternoon, Inia Batikoto Seruiratu, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forests and Provincial Development, Fiji, for the G-77/CHINA, with Henri Djombo, Minister of Economy, Forestry and Sustainable Development, the Republic of the Congo, for the AFRICAN GROUP, and Gabriel Tchango, Minister of Water and Forests, Gabon, Jean Claude Nduwayo, Minister of Water, Environment, Land and Urban Planning, Burundi, Mathieu Babaud Darret, Minister of Water and Forests, Côte d'Ivoire, and Luis Alberto Figueiredo Machado, Under-Secretary-General for Environment, Energy, Science and Technology, Brazil, supported the establishment of a global forest fund focusing on developing countries. The AFRICAN GROUP, with Nduwayo and Darret, also called for establishing an African forest fund. Darret emphasized the financial barriers faced by African countries, calling for a sustainable forest finance mechanism.

Ginma do Kromosoeto, Minister of Spatial Planning, Land and Forest Management, Suriname, called for adequate financial resources to support developing countries in achieving the goals of the Forest Instrument. Blaise Ahanhanzo-Glèlè, Minister of Environment, Housing and Urban Development, speaking on behalf of Benin, highlighted the need to assess the performance of current forest financing programmes in order to inform the future management of such programmes.

Bautista Rojas Gómez, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Dominican Republic, and Christine Sagno, National Director of Water and Forests, Guinea, said there is a need to increase support for capacity building. Ephraim Kamuntu, Minister of Water and Environment, Uganda, called for international support for management of forest estates and plantations as well as facilitating access to forest funds by

removing stringent conditions and procedures, while Waleed Assaf, Minister of Agriculture, Palestine, urged increased funding for afforestation projects.

The G-77/CHINA and Tchango supported the Rio+20 outcome document, "The World We Want," and participation of the UNFF in the post-2015 development agenda. Zulkifli Hassan, Minister of Forestry, Indonesia, stressed the crucial timing of UNFF10 in ensuring synergies between the UNFF and the post-2015 development agenda.

Blaise Ahanhanzo-Glèlè, Minister of Environment, Housing and Urban Development, Benin, for LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (LDCs), highlighted recommendations in UNEP's Green Economy Report to realize the contribution of forests to a green economy, and emphasized that addressing desertification and drought is a prerequisite to SFM. Jari Koskinen, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland, called for working towards a green bio-based economy, with forests at its heart, and urged investment in forests.

Bela Szombati, Minister Counsellor, Deputy Head of EU Delegation to Turkey, underlined that forests contribute to economic development through their cash value, and called for a clear roadmap so that the UNFF can make a decision on its mandate at the next session.

Jean Omer Beriziky, Prime Minister and Minister of Environment and Forests, Madagascar, emphasized the importance of engaging all stakeholders in forest protection efforts, including communities, governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Sagno called for increasing regional dialogue on forests.

Chadi Mohanna, Ministry of Agriculture, Lebanon, Mduduzi Duncan Dlamini, Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Swaziland, Satya Veyash Faugoo, Minister of Agro Industry and Food Security, Mauritius, Fatmir Mediu, Minister of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration, Albania, Abdeladim Lhafi, High Commissioner for Water, Forests and Combating Desertification, Morocco, and Alireza Orangi, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Iran, highlighted various national forest initiatives, including efforts to implement SFM.

Susil Premajayanth, Minister of Environment and Renewable Energy, Sri Lanka, stressed that forest protection efforts should balance the interests of maintaining harmony between man and nature, and the environment and development. Mikhail Amelyanovich, Minister of Forests, Belarus, underscored the importance of the UNFF's efforts to ensure quality of life and wellbeing for populations reliant on forests. Lhafi called for a coherent policy with a legal framework to incorporate all sectors, including evaluation policies and mobilization of funding.

### **IN THE CORRIDORS**

Delegates braved a wet morning for the opening session of UNFF10, hearing speeches from dignitaries on the important issues to be tackled, such as sustainable forest financing and the role of forests in the post-2015 development agenda. It became clear very early on that delegates were trying to decide whether a global forest fund would be feasible or if financing should be addressed through other means. A couple of developing country delegates were heard lamenting conditionalities attached to those "other means." Others opined that alternatives such as improving the ability to access funds could be considered as an interim solution.

Delegates were also heard discussing the 2015 review of the IAF. Recalling the Secretary-General's Report on Emerging Issues, many delegates said that it was imperative for UNFF10 to organize and plan for the 2015 review to ensure that forests remain prominent on the development agenda as opposed to debating what should happen post-2015. Some parties, however, cautioned that a decision on the 2015 review and on financing could be seen as being contingent on each other, especially in light of their organization within the same Working Group.





## UNFF10 HIGHLIGHTS TUESDAY, 9 APRIL 2013

UNFF10 continued on Tuesday, 9 April. In the morning, participants convened in two roundtables on forests and economic development, and on the Rio+20 outcomes, the post-2015 development agenda and the IAF. Delegates then convened in plenary for a high-level interactive dialogue with the heads of the member organizations of the CPF, followed by the continuation of the Ministerial Segment, throughout the afternoon.

### ROUNDTABLES

**FORESTS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** This roundtable was co-chaired by Alhaji Inusah Fuseini, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Ghana, and Arvids Ozols, Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Latvia.

Uma Lele, former World Bank Senior Advisor, reported that some middle-income countries have recovered forest cover through use of national funds and initiatives including payment for ecosystem services (PES). She emphasized the role of good governance.

ARGENTINA and INDIA said the lack of appreciation of the non-cash value of forests undermines the recognition of their contribution to natural capital. FINLAND noted that the contribution of the forest sector to Finland's economy is the highest in the UN Economic Commission for Europe region. CANADA described national forest policies developed to maximize the value of forest resources by, *inter alia*, broadening the basket of end-products. MALAYSIA, ISRAEL and LESOTHO reported on national tree planting campaigns.

IRAN called for bridging financing gaps through dedicated resources, with particular attention to LDCs. GRENADA explained that, although they are committed to forest initiatives, as a SIDS, they face increased challenges due to climate change.

SUDAN said they are reviewing policies to increase the coverage of forest reserves and called for international and regional cooperation. BELARUS urged cooperation in developing non-binding means to ensure SFM. ISRAEL proposed a Mediterranean cross-regional cooperation programme and volunteered to provide initial funding.

Ireland, for the EU, called for clear policy guidance, increased investment from the private sector, integrating forests into urban planning, good governance and cross-sectoral cooperation.

In the afternoon report back to plenary, Co-Chair Fuesini noted the need to manage data on cash and non-cash benefits to better facilitate cross-sectoral cooperation.

**RIO+20 OUTCOME, POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA AND IAF:** This roundtable was co-chaired by Jean-Pierre Thébault, Ambassador for the Environment, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France, and Luis Alberto Figueiredo Machado, Under-Secretary-General for Environment, Science and Technology, Ministry of External Relations, Brazil. Wu Hongbo, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs,

urged policymakers to provide guidance on integrating SFM into broader socioeconomic policies and the post-2015 development agenda discussions.

TURKEY, ARGENTINA and GABON underlined the need to ensure that forests are adequately addressed in the post-2015 development agenda, with TURKEY also calling for setting priority forest actions in the framework of a green economy. BOLIVIA reminded that green economy is a tool for achieving sustainable development.

THAILAND called for valuing forests and ecosystems and considering their benefits, and suggested using this as a basis for PES. REPUBLIC OF CONGO and TOGO underlined that international discussions on forests must consider crosscutting issues and the socioeconomic benefits of forests.

INDONESIA proposed creating an "umbrella" goal on natural resources. The EU noted that Rio+20 reaffirmed all of the Rio principles. GERMANY called for improved international cooperation and standards setting for SFM, including through a global legally binding instrument.

INDIA argued against creating a legally binding agreement as an outcome of the 2015 review. MALAYSIA said current structures and processes should be reviewed with a greater focus on crosscutting issues.

In the afternoon report back to plenary, Co-Chairs Machado and Thébault outlined key suggestions to support forest contributions to sustainable development, highlighting a range of options, *inter alia*, developing an SDG on forests.

### PLENARY

**HIGH-LEVEL INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE HEADS OF THE MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS OF THE CPF:** UNFF Director Jan McAlpine facilitated the high-level panel. Tony Simons, Director-General, World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), reported on the ICRAF/FAO publication "Advancing Agroforestry on the Policy Agenda" aimed at guiding optimization of agroforestry's contribution to national development.

Naoko Ishii, CEO and Chair, GEF, noted that the central role of forests in sustainable development presents an opportunity for increased forest financing, and underscored that GEF-6 aims, *inter alia*, to address the drivers of deforestation.

Niels Elers Koch, President, International Union of Forest Research Organizations, and CPF Vice-Chair, noted the organization's work to bring together natural and social sciences to provide policy-relevant information.

Stewart Maginnis, IUCN, encouraged cross-sectoral cooperation to demonstrate forests' capacity to contribute to challenges such as climate change, food security and local economic growth.

Emmanuel Ze Meka, Executive Director, International Tropical Timber Organization, suggested efforts to increase tropical forests' contribution to sustainable development, including through valuation of ecosystem services and scaling up of successful implementation.



Tim Christophersen, United Nations Environment Programme, supported the comments by Uganda in Roundtable 1, on developing a strong business case on the value of forests to encourage investment by other sectors, and called for a platform for sharing best practices.

Peter Dewees, World Bank, called for mobilizing investment across sectors, highlighting that private investment in forests is currently about nine times the amount of public sector funding. Mohamadou-Mansour N'Diaye, UNCCD, outlined the goals to prevent land degradation and restore degraded land, underlining the importance of involving community-based organizations.

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, Executive Secretary, CBD, underscored the importance of an integrated approach to development, urging the integration of ecosystem and forest considerations with other sectoral considerations to help deliver on goals related to water, health and energy.

Peter Holmgren, Deputy-General, Centre for International Forestry Research, noted that “landscape days” rather than “forest days” can break down institutional silos to address challenges multi-sectorally. Eduardo Rojas-Briales, Assistant Director-General for Forestry, FAO, highlighted that SDGs provide an opportunity for addressing all pillars of sustainable development but cautioned against insufficient focus on forests.

**MINISTERIAL SEGMENT:** Shortly before lunch and throughout the afternoon, ministers and heads of delegation presented statements. Fouad Mohadji, Vice-President, Comoros, and Moshe Kamhi, Consul General in Istanbul, Israel, highlighted the importance of cooperation. Yaroslav Makarchuk, First Deputy Head, State Forest Resources Agency, Ukraine, highlighted Ukraine’s awareness building through a World Forest Day annual campaign “Future Forest in Your Hands.”

Farid Ahmed Mogawar, Minister of Agriculture, Yemen, called for stakeholders to work together to address forest challenges and the needs of those that rely on forests for their livelihoods in an integrated manner. Diego Pacheco Balanza, Bolivia, called for a holistic and integrated view of forests across different levels, and greater involvement of community-based organizations and indigenous peoples.

Henri Djombo, Minister of Sustainable Development, Forests Economy and Environment, Republic of Congo, Kevin Smyth, Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine, Ireland, and Don Koo Lee, former Minister of Forest Service, Republic of Korea, noted synergies between the UNFCCC, CBD and UNCCD, and called for increased cooperation between the UNFF and these conventions. Gianpaolo Scarante, Ambassador to Turkey, Italy, reiterated that REDD+ under the UNFCCC is an important means of enhancing SFM.

Rolf Manser, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland, called for a credible review process that recognizes the responsibility of the UNFF to coordinate forest matters within the UN. Russell Phillips, Minister Counselor of Agriculture, Australia, noted national capacity building initiatives to reduce forest degradation and increase participation in REDD+.

Alhaji Inusah Fuesini, Minister of Land and Natural Resources, Ghana, called for enhanced partnerships, intersessional work and an evaluation framework for the Forest Instrument. Daniel André, Director of Water and Forest, Senegal, called for discussions to establish a legally-binding forest agreement.

Fabiana Loguzzo, Director of Environmental Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Culture, Argentina, called for political momentum to boost implementation, and enhance cooperation and capacity building, particularly for developing countries. Gerhard Mannsberger, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Austria, called for a decision setting out a roadmap for the period up to 2015 to make clear decisions on the future of the UNFF and all types of forests.

Domingos Nazaré da Cruz Veloso, National Director of Forests, Ministry of Agriculture, Angola, Mohammad Hamad, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Marine Resources, Libya, Joseph Iita, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry, Namibia, Jenipher Chilunga, Minister, Environment and Climate Change Management, Malawi, Ernesto

Adobo Jr., Under-Secretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Philippines, Oyun Sanjaasuren, Minister, Environment and Green Development, Mongolia, Tufuga Gafua Faitua, Associate Minister, Ministry of Natural Resources, Samoa, Keiji Fukuda, Consul General in Istanbul, Japan, Wijarn Simachaya, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand, Angelo Sartori, National Forest Corporation, Chile, Masran Salleh, Deputy Director-General, Forest Department, Malaysia, V. Rajagopalan, Ministry of Environment and Forests, India, Noval Mohammed Sepin, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Algeria, and Edward Kamara, Forest Development Authority, Liberia, discussed, *inter alia*, national initiatives to: implement SFM policies; increase forest cover; promote community forest management; and adapt to climate change.

On SFM, Tom Rosser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Natural Resources, Canada, Matthias Schwoerer, Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection, Germany, Tajul Islam, Minister of Liberation War Affairs, Bangladesh, and Javier Díaz-Carmona, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Costa Rica, for the COALITION FOR RAINFOREST NATIONS (CfRN), outlined elements for implementing SFM, including: integrated approaches; community involvement; good governance; and increased funding for climate change mitigation.

Gelu Puiu, Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Romania, urged managing forests to meet the needs of present and future generations. Astride Nazaire, Minister Counselor, Permanent Mission to the UN, Haiti, expressed hope that ecological vulnerabilities can be transformed into a “sustainable renaissance.”

Anders Lönnblad, Deputy Director-General, Ministry for Rural Affairs, Sweden, called for the integration of the forest community and cross-sectoral coordination. Alexander Panfilov, Deputy Head, Federal Forestry Agency, Russian Federation, noted shared responsibility for forest management by public and private sectors.

Nguyen Ba Ngai, Deputy Director-General, Directorate of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Viet Nam, called on timber-consuming countries to develop appropriate trade policies to minimize negative impacts on forest-dependent communities in timber-producing countries.

On finance, Jorge Abarca del Carpio, Ambassador to Turkey, Peru, Nthabiseng Motete, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, South Africa, and the CfRN, supported establishing a global forest fund.

In closing, Under-Secretary-General Wu lauded the rigorous debate on critical issues noting that they provided guidance on: forest conservation; addressing obstacles; and taking advantage of the opportunities presented by SFM.

Néstor Osorio, President of ECOSOC, lauded the high level of commitment, noting that the outcomes augur well for the future of forests. Veysel Eroğlu, Ministerial Segment Co-Chair and Minister of Forestry and Water Affairs, Turkey, urged increased cooperation and continued knowledge sharing to aid in combating forest degradation.

### IN THE CORRIDORS

Participants at UNFF10 had an early start to the day, taking part in two roundtables on the main themes of the meeting. Rushing back to plenary to participate in the interactive dialogue with the heads of CPF member organizations, several were heard commenting that they were happy to have a break in the litany of ministerial statements.

However, despite this “taste” of substantive issues, as one delegate put it, most were in a “holding pattern” itching to get the political statements out of the way and move on to the working group discussions. The holding pattern was evident by the fact that some regional coordination meetings were only starting to get underway, while others were yet to meet. However, by the Ministerial Segment’s close, delegates could be heard expressing their satisfaction with the meeting organization, with one delegate saying that they could now spend the rest of the meeting discussing substantive issues “without interruption.”





## UNFF10 HIGHLIGHTS WEDNESDAY, 10 APRIL 2013

UNFF10 continued on Wednesday, 10 April, in plenary. In the morning delegates addressed agenda items on: regional and subregional inputs; enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination, including the provision of further guidance to the CPF; and forests and economic development. In the afternoon a Multi-stakeholder Dialogue was convened. In the evening delegates attended the UN Forests for People Awards.

### PLENARY

#### REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL INPUTS: UNFF

Director Jan McAlpine presented the Report of the Secretary-General on Regional and Subregional Inputs (E/CN.18/2013/3), underscoring that this provides valuable feedback. With regard to the theme of UNFF10, she called attention to the work of capturing data on forests and urged effectively contributing this data to national accounting. She highlighted actions, *inter alia*: influencing political commitments; strengthening and harmonizing governance; and sharing best practices.

**ENHANCED COOPERATION:** UNFF Director McAlpine presented the Report of the Secretary-General on Enhanced Cooperation and Policy and Programme Coordination, Including the Provision of Further Guidance to the CPF (E/CN.18/2013/8), outlining UNFF cooperation with, *inter alia*: the CPF in follow-up to Rio+20; indigenous peoples and forests in the post-2015 development agenda; and other MEAs and UN organizations, including on capacity building for the implementation of the Forest Instrument.

UNFF Director McAlpine presented the Note by the Secretariat on the International Year of Forests, 2011 Activities (E/CN.18/2013/9), noting that the theme “Forests for People” underscored the cross-sectoral linkages of forests.

Eduardo Rojas-Briales, FAO, and CPF Chair, presented the information note titled CPF Framework 2011 and 2012 (E/CN.18/2013/10), outlining CPF achievements, including a single coordinated input on forests to Rio+20. He highlighted an updated study on forest financing, the establishment of the Wangari Maathai Award, hosting of Forest Days Five and Six, and publication of SFM factsheets.

#### FORESTS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Representatives from Japan, Germany, the Netherlands and Ukraine presented on country-led initiatives (CLIs) reported to the UNFF Secretariat in letters (E/CN.18/2013/14, 15, 16 and 17).

Gen Totani, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan, reported on the “International Seminar on Challenges of SFM,” co-hosted with Indonesia in Tokyo, Japan, in 2011, sharing recommendations to, *inter alia*: streamline reporting; facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogues; and mainstream forests in the sustainable development agenda.

Matthias Schwoerer, Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture and Consumer Protection, Germany, discussed the conference on “Contributions of Forests to a Green Economy,” held in Bonn, Germany, in October 2011, which addressed how the forest sector could improve resource use efficiency.

Rob Busink, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation, the Netherlands, reported on the meeting, “A Pathway to a Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development,” which took place in Hanoi, Viet Nam, in January 2012. He highlighted the: role of the private sector in driving green growth; linkages between forestry, agriculture and food security; and need to mainstream SFM.

Lyubov Polyakova, State Forest Resource Agency, Ukraine, reported on discussion from the “Forests in a Green Economy for Countries in Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia: Lviv Forum,” held in Lviv, Ukraine, in September 2012, including on: green economy; understanding key forest trends; and income generation from forest-based activities.

**COUNTRY STATEMENTS:** On enhancing cooperation and coordination, BOLIVIA lamented that the UNFF is not playing its role of forest policy coordination in the international sphere. The US urged the UNFF to maintain a facilitative role within the CPF, rather than assume the function of system-wide coordination within the UN.

BRAZIL highlighted the UNFF Major Groups Initiative meeting held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 18-22 March 2013, which acknowledged the importance of the participation of civil society in the UNFF. ETHIOPIA reported the activities of the International Network for Bamboo and Rattan, and its request to join the CPF.

New Zealand, for the MONTREAL PROCESS, discussed its increased collaboration with ITTO, FOREST EUROPE and FAO, and efforts to develop a forest indicators partnership. Ireland, for the EU and CROATIA, reported on EU cooperation through Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade to exclude illegal timber from the EU market.

MALAYSIA cautioned against fragmentation and dilution of resources and capacity within the CPF. Outlining the Tehran Process, IRAN noted that the process provides a framework to facilitate the support of the CPF for low forest cover countries.

INDIA urged for greater cooperation at regional, subregional and national levels to facilitate, *inter alia*, technology transfer and capacity building. The DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO outlined national activities undertaken in partnership with donors to support SFM implementation.

On forests and economic development, CHINA proposed that the CPF: formulate an implementation plan to support the UNFF’s work and strengthen collaboration; organize evaluations and review collaborative efforts; and support the relevant consultations and post-2015 decision-making. ARGENTINA called for more information on the role of forests in the green economy, in the context of SFM.



Rojas-Briales, responding to interventions, noted that CPF priorities are determined and mandated by the UNFF and Member States, cautioning that a balance of CPF activities needs to be achieved in order to adequately address all three pillars of sustainable development.

**MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE:** UNFF Director Jan McAlpine introduced the Note by the Secretariat on Multi-stakeholder Dialogue (E/CN.18/2013/7), thanking the Major Groups for submitting the Forests and Economic Development Discussion Paper (E/CN.18/2013/7/Add.1) that delivers conclusions and recommendations for discussion at UNFF10.

Moderator Shashi Kant, University of Toronto, Canada, framed the Multi-stakeholder Dialogue, encouraging members to “fall in love with sustainability.”

Peter deMarsh, Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners, for FARMERS AND SMALL FOREST LANDOWNERS, noted that to ensure livelihoods, increase forest cover and protect forests, a set of conditions should be in place, including: indigenous peoples’ and local communities’ rights; scientific and traditional knowledge, education and capacity building; and access and benefit sharing.

Hubertus Samangun, Regional Coordinator for the International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests, for INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, called for simplified access to available funds, such as through the GEF Small Grants Programme. Paul Opanga, Building and Wood Workers’ International, for FOREST WORKERS AND TRADE UNIONS, urged Member States to ensure living wages for workers, rather than “poverty wages,” pointing out that a “forest that pays is a forest that stays” and that a forest job must be both green and decent.

Sim Heok-Choh, Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions, for SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES, urged strengthening forestry research, education and training, and enabling environments for private sector investment in science and technology.

Lambert Okrah, Major Groups Partnership on Forests, for NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs), noted that discussions among participants at Major Groups-led initiatives that took place in early 2013 included debate on governance systems and community-based enterprises. Ghanshyam Pandey, Chair, Federation of Community Forests Users, Nepal, and Global Alliance of Community Forestry, for FARMERS AND SMALL FOREST LANDOWNERS, urged ensuring secure land tenure rights for indigenous peoples, farmers and small forest landowners.

Jukka Halonen, Finnish Forests Industries Federation, for INDUSTRY, urged the full participation of all major groups in international fora. Cécile Ndjebet, African Women’s Network for Community Management of Forests, for WOMEN, called for: including women in forest-based economic development; reforming land tenure systems to ensure women’s land rights; funding women-based forest enterprises; and capacity building to ensure adequate representation of women in decision-making instruments.

Tolulope Daramola, International Forestry Students’ Association (IFSA), for CHILDREN AND YOUTH, outlined recommendations of the May 2012 IFSA Conference on “forests in a green economy: contribution and the youth position,” including creating a youth programme, employing a youth officer in the UNFF Secretariat and organizing annual national, regional and international youth forest activities.

Andrei Laletin, Friends of the Siberian Forests, for NGOs, remarking on the growing trend of mono-species large-scale plantation afforestation programmes, emphasized that these forests cannot provide ecosystem services lost by destruction of natural forests, and underlined the need to promote benefit sharing from genetic resources with forest people.

During statements from the floor, TURKEY highlighted the importance of empowering local and indigenous peoples to improve livelihoods. NEPAL shared experiences of a multi-stakeholder process that proved effective in improving

governance. UGANDA acknowledged the balance provided by Major Groups that “act from their hearts” and their key role in mobilizing programmes. GUINEA shared success in entrusting the development of community groups to women. LIBERIA underlined the need to build stakeholders’ capacity in decision-making to avoid having others speak for them.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA emphasized that SFM cannot be achieved without strong, continued and improved stakeholder dialogue, citing the involvement of key stakeholders in forestry decision-making in Papua New Guinea. SENEGAL noted that policies that do not take account of the beneficiaries’ concerns will not succeed, and underlined the need to consider specificities of groups, particularly women, youth and indigenous peoples.

MEXICO underscored the importance of civil society in implementing SFM. INDONESIA shared national mechanisms for multi-stakeholder involvement in SFM including a council to facilitate consultations between government, business and local communities. NIGERIA remarked on an initiative to engage women in SFM practices through training and sustainable livelihood components.

LESOTHO outlined national efforts to engage stakeholders that have led to an increase in forest cover and reduction of illegal logging. TOGO described national conditions and outlined efforts to integrate awareness of forest values and disaster risk reduction into curricula.

SWEDEN highlighted that the forestry industry and small forest owners play a crucial role in job and income creation, calling for long-term investments in forestry education and research. GERMANY said the Multi-stakeholder Dialogue has raised the profile of Major Groups in cross-sectoral approaches to SFM.

FINLAND called for secure land and tenure rights to ensure SFM. ARGENTINA highlighted promoting the fair trade of, and adding value to, non-wood products from indigenous and local communities in order to ensure benefits to them.

FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL said SFM can be achieved through, among others, sustainable consumption and production patterns, efficient use and reuse, and sustainable procurement, and urged the UNFF to challenge Member States to integrate the forest agenda into their sustainable development policies.

GHANA noted that recommendations from the Multi-stakeholder Dialogue would be used to improve existing national consultation platforms. MALAYSIA cautioned against generalizing and simplifying recommendations from the Multi-stakeholder Dialogue, as they may be difficult to apply in a national context. The US said the paper by Major Groups would enrich discussion on a variety of topics to be considered under the forests and economic development agenda item in Working Group 1.

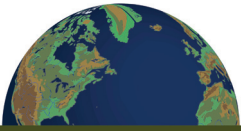
In closing, Moderator Kant stressed that the UNFF process cannot be dynamic and vibrant without the involvement of Major Groups, and further asserted that there is no reason for any country to disagree with anything said by the Major Groups.

### IN THE CORRIDORS

The third day of UNFF10 imbued delegates with a sense of cooperation, mutual aid and teamwork as they heard UNFF reports on enhanced cooperation and participated in the Multi-stakeholder Dialogue. Delegates seemed satisfied with the discussion with Major Groups, especially with the inclusion of industry. Heard in the hallways were comments by participants who were pleased that Major Groups focal points had brought forward substantive issues. This was even with some calling on donors to “make good on their commitments,” a statement that according to some could be potentially echoed by developing countries in the upcoming working groups.

The UN Forests for People Awards took place at the end of the day, and presented a great opportunity to recognize the efforts of people from around the world whose hard work to protect forests has not gone unnoticed.





## UNFF10 HIGHLIGHTS THURSDAY, 11 APRIL 2013

UNFF10 continued on Thursday, 11 April. Plenary convened throughout the day to discuss agenda items on emerging issues and MoI for SFM. Side events took place on a variety of issues during the lunch period, including on: private sector and forest funding; implementing the Forest Instrument; and means of implementing forest conservation. In the evening, side events took place on: new tools for the Bonn Challenge; outcomes of the UNFF Major Groups Global Workshop; and outcomes of the Lviv Forum.

### PLENARY

**EMERGING ISSUES:** UNFF10 Chair Mario Ruales Carranza opened this agenda item, which was discussed during the morning and afternoon. On the **post-2015 development agenda**, many countries supported ensuring that it addresses the issues of forests and SFM. Ireland, for the EU, said the UNFF should encourage Member States to include the sustainable management of natural resources, including forests, as an important principle under the post-2015 development agenda. INDONESIA proposed having a cross-cutting SDG that includes poverty eradication, sustainable growth and equity, and forests.

GHANA, highlighting cross-sectoral linkages, supported the inclusion of safeguarding ecosystems in the SDGs. CHINA noted that there is an onus on forests to assume a poverty alleviation role in the post-2015 development agenda.

The US, with BRAZIL, urged providing a strong rationale for including forests in the post-2015 development agenda, with the US and COLOMBIA cautioning against specific recommendations at this point. Noting calls for including forests in the post-2015 development agenda and having an SDG on forests or natural resources, NEW ZEALAND and ARGENTINA warned against prejudging the outcomes of the post-2015 development agenda process.

CHINA called for strengthening the global dialogue on forests. MEXICO, with COLOMBIA, identified the need to ensure broad participation in discussions on forests in the post-2015 development agenda. GUATEMALA proposed linking the UNFF's discussion on forests in the context of the post-2015 development agenda with discussions in other processes such as the UNFCCC and UN Convention to Combat Desertification.

On an **AHEG for the future IAF**, Fiji, for the G-77/CHINA, with BOLIVIA, TURKEY, SWITZERLAND, IRAN, CAMEROON, SWAZILAND, INDIA, the EU, BRAZIL and CUBA, supported the establishment of an AHEG to review various aspects, components and options for the future IAF, as recommended in the Report of the Secretary-General on

Emerging Issues (E/CN.18/2013/6). With regard to a roadmap for the 2015 review, the G-77/CHINA called for the immediate formation of the AHEG.

CUBA said the AHEG should be open-ended, and with SENEGAL suggested that it meet twice during the intersessional period. CHINA supported convening an AHEG to meet once before UNFF11, and lamented the weakening of the consideration of forests as an independent issue and the fragmentation of the forest community. Highlighting financial constraints, TURKEY suggested limiting the number of AHEG meetings.

The US, with BRAZIL, the EU, NEW ZEALAND, MOROCCO and KENYA, underscored the need for a clear, concise and simple mandate for work carried out intersessionally by the AHEG. CAMEROON said the AHEG should consider progress made by the Central African Forests Commission.

The G-77/CHINA noted that although stakeholders should be invited to provide input, the decision-making should only be by Member States. BRAZIL, with ARGENTINA, stressed that this process must be led by Member States. BRAZIL further noted that the CPF's role is to support Member States. SWITZERLAND urged that the review be an independent process with a clearly defined methodology.

CUBA supported the establishment of a global forest fund, highlighting that this is closely linked to the review of the IAF. The EU suggested that the two-year review process include an analysis of the IAF facilitated by the CPF members, another analysis of the IAF by countries and Major Groups, and preparation of background papers with contributions from CLIs, region-led initiatives and organization-led initiatives.

On a **legally-binding agreement on forests**, the PHILIPPINES and TURKEY called for establishing a legally-binding instrument on forests that encompasses all pillars of sustainable development, with TURKEY saying it would be the best option for achieving the goals of SFM.

MALAYSIA expressed concern about the proliferation of multilateral environmental agreements, and said that although open to the development of a legally-binding agreement on forests post-2015, there is a need to evaluate the impact of such an agreement on countries. BRAZIL called for a specific body or locus to deal with forests, underlining that this issue is different from the issue of having a legally-binding instrument.

On **natural capital accounting**, the EU requested the UNFF Secretariat to provide further information on natural capital accounting initiatives by the World Bank and by the UN Statistical Commission on "beyond GDP."

BOLIVIA rejected the concept of natural capital accounting based on decisions from Rio+20, adding that the anthropocentric view does not represent the indigenous peoples' concept of nature as an entity with rights, rather than as a resource to



exploit. BURUNDI and SWITZERLAND supported natural capital accounting, with SWITZERLAND describing its role in defining the value of forests in national accounting and attracting interest from beyond the forest sector. ARGENTINA observed that since it is a relatively new concept, additional analysis should be undertaken before applying it to SFM.

The REPUBLIC OF CONGO urged strengthening regional and subregional cooperation to conserve the Congo Basin rainforest. He further underscored that “forests can pay for themselves” calling for support for fair trade of local and national forest products. PAPUA NEW GUINEA called for continued and improved stakeholder collaboration, underscoring the importance of the timber industry taking ownership of initiatives.

GABON called for institutional measures to share efforts and resources to help meet commitments made at the Rio Earth Summit and Rio+20, especially for developing countries.

The G-77/CHINA called for UNFF11 to be organized and hosted at a UN facility. SUDAN, supported by GHANA, NIGER, GABON, KENYA, MOROCCO, SENEGAL, SOUTH AFRICA, NAMIBIA, SWAZILAND, TURKEY, UGANDA and NAMIBIA, proposed holding UNFF11 in Africa, specifically at UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. ANGOLA supported holding a UNFF11 preparatory meeting in Nairobi.

In closing, UNFF Director McAlpine explained that the components of the roadmap or work programme for the intersessional period up to UNFF11, for the Rio+20 follow-up and for the post-2015 development agenda need to be clearly defined by Member States in a decision. She said the Secretariat, ECOSOC and other UN departments require a clear mandate regarding what is expected from them in terms of supporting the UNFF on these matters. She highlighted funding issues that will affect the ability to convene an AHEG, explaining that holding an AHEG meeting costs US\$270,000, but that there is only US\$90,000 left in the budget for 2013 and US\$180,000 for the entire biennium. McAlpine said the Secretariat will continue to provide funding information to Member States to assist their discussions on the work programme and the proposal to hold UNFF11 in Nairobi.

The Secretariat clarified that if the agreed intersessional work is not a “one off,” a programme budget will have to be drafted and approved by the General Assembly. Director McAlpine underlined that UNFF10 needs to make a decision on the roadmap to inform the intersessional work of the UNFF so that a decision can be taken at UNFF11 on whether a legally-binding agreement should be negotiated. Chair Carranza said Member States should set priorities in order to allocate resources realistically, rather than making all decisions “subject to the availability of funds.”

**MOI:** Discussions on this agenda item took place during the morning. On **creating a new global forest fund or using existing mechanisms**, the G-77/CHINA, BRAZIL, CHINA, NIGER, CUBA, the REPUBLIC OF CONGO, ARGENTINA, PALESTINE, BOLIVIA and SOUTH AFRICA supported establishing a global forest fund. TURKEY highlighted the need for both a global funding mechanism and *ad hoc* funding instruments, as well as for just and equitable access to such funds. ARGENTINA, CHINA, SOUTH AFRICA and KENYA supported establishing a standalone window for forest financing at the GEF that is easily accessible by Member States, especially for developing countries.

The EU said the Report of the Secretary-General on MoI for SFM (E/CN.18/2013/11) does not provide adequate explanation of how such a fund would overcome barriers to SFM. Noting that the role of ODA is to catalyze other sources of finance, the US opposed the establishment of a new global forest fund and called instead for increasing the effectiveness of existing funds and mechanisms. He also opposed requesting the GEF to create a

new standalone focal area on forests, suggesting instead sending a “strong message” to the GEF that SFM should be a key part of its work.

SWITZERLAND called for flexibility in forest financing, highlighting that such financing should come from all sources. With the US, she emphasized that enabling conditions, such as a functioning forest governance sector, are essential for generating additional forest financing and investment.

SWITZERLAND added that the UNFF, given its policy mandate and structure, can only play a limited role in forest financing as it does not have the mandate to establish new financing structures or mechanisms. She said that CPF member organizations should focus on providing the UNFF with information on financing, for example by updating the CPF Sourcebook on Funding for SFM.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA called for improved stakeholder collaboration on MoI and carrying forward lessons from the current Multi-Year Programme of Work.

On **funding for SFM**, the EU noted a significant gap between public funding and private investment for SFM, identifying the need for streamlining international forest financing mechanisms to ensure access.

The G-77/CHINA, INDONESIA, MALAYSIA and IRAN called for providing additional funding to developing countries to achieve the four GOFs, removing stringent conditions for accessing these funds and increasing technology transfer for SFM. CUBA, lamenting the cost of implementing SFM, noted that the goals of donors and recipient countries are not always aligned.

LESOTHO outlined national experiences in implementing the Forest Instrument, pointing out current financing challenges and calling for an integrated plan of action to facilitate the provision of technical support and finance to developing countries.

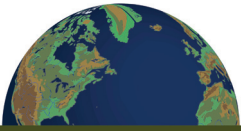
CHINA supported synergies between funding mechanisms to identify thematic and geographical gaps for prioritized funding. TOGO proposed establishing a programme to support low forest cover countries (LFCCs) in assessing the contribution of forests and trees outside forests to their economies and called for increasing funding for SIDS and LFCCs in order to reverse the on-going decline in forest cover.

### IN THE CORRIDORS

On Thursday morning, as the rain threatened to return, the mood at UNFF10 was noticeably more serious and intense as participants began discussing MoI and Emerging Issues. These discussions were limited to Member States, a fact that displeased many Major Groups. Member States could also be heard questioning whether the Multi-stakeholder Dialogue is sufficient for Major Groups to participate in decision making, with one suggesting that the UNFF invite the Major Groups to participate throughout the negotiations. Several Major Group representatives could be heard discussing this suggestion, but with varying degrees of support. Some agreed that they are being sidelined in discussions, while others expressed satisfaction with Wednesday’s Dialogue, noting it had generated greater interest and discussion from Member States.

As the day progressed, there was an increasing sense of encouragement expressed by some after developing countries called for defining a roadmap for the 2015 review. Some put this down to the intersessional work accomplished at the forest financing AHEG held in January 2013. Others, however, expressed frustration with certain countries that were seemingly standing alone in their statements, which could potentially slow progress. As the sun set on the day, a clear and refreshed feeling washed through the Forum with many representatives expressing positivity that UNFF10 would deliver meaningful decisions.





## UNFF10 HIGHLIGHTS FRIDAY, 12 APRIL 2013

UNFF10 continued on Friday, 12 April. Working Group I (WG I) met throughout the day, discussing forests and economic development in the morning, and assessment of progress made on the implementation of the Forest Instrument and towards the achievement of the four GOFs, regional and subregional inputs, and enhanced cooperation on policy and programme coordination, including the provision of further guidance to the CPF, in the afternoon. Working Group II (WG II) discussed MoI on SFM in the morning, and emerging issues in the afternoon. A stocktaking plenary took place in the evening to review progress.

### WORKING GROUPS

**WG I: Forests and Economic Development:** On Friday morning, UNFF10 Vice-Chair and WG I Co-Chair Shulamit Davidovich (Israel) presented the agenda based on the Report of the Secretary-General on Forests and Economic Development and Conclusions and Recommendations for Addressing Key Challenges of Forests and Economic Development (E/CN.18/2013/4 and E/CN.18/2013/5). Participants discussed issues including: forest products and services; national forest programmes and other sectoral policies; reduction of the risks and impacts of disasters; and the benefits of forests and trees to urban communities.

SWITZERLAND, with the PHILIPPINES, called for a legally-binding instrument for forests. BRAZIL proposed deleting references to “natural resource accounting,” saying it requires further clarification.

The EU called for better reflecting forests’ value in national accounting and recognizing forests’ role in climate change resilience and mitigation. SWITZERLAND highlighted that PES is not a “one size fits all” solution.

DOMINICA noted challenges in engaging companies in PES without increasing consumer costs. COLOMBIA discussed implementing green accounting through the World Bank’s five-year global partnership on Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services.

The US called for emphasizing landscape approaches to SFM, including land use and tenure issues. GRENADA called for increased funding and capacity building for landscape approaches. BRAZIL, MALAYSIA, INDONESIA and ARGENTINA stressed that the term “landscape approach” is not agreed language and should be replaced with “different approaches available.”

CHINA, TUNISIA, SENEGAL, MALAYSIA, MAURITIUS, BURKINA FASO, the DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, GHANA, KENYA, LESOTHO and UGANDA called for building capacity

for assessing forests’ multiple benefits. INDONESIA called for strengthening language on technology transfer and information sharing.

BRAZIL suggested replacing “as a means of instituting effective land-use systems” with “to advance the implementation of SFM.” PALESTINE urged considering differences in countries and forest attributes when promoting SFM.

BRAZIL noted the need to have a progress report from AHEG2 to better inform the decision on the facilitative process. BOLIVIA urged that the Rio+20 outcomes be integrated into the draft decision.

MALAYSIA called for partnerships with economic organizations to enhance funding for forest programmes, and with LESOTHO, requested support for data collection and analysis especially for developing countries.

**Assessment of Progress Made, Regional and Subregional Cooperation, and Enhanced Cooperation:** In the afternoon UNFF10 Vice-Chair and WG I Co-Chair Anna Masinja (Zambia), invited delegates to discuss the agenda items on: assessment of progress made; regional and subregional cooperation; and enhanced cooperation.

On **assessment of progress made**, the EU, reporting on negotiations for a legally-binding agreement on forests in Europe, called for strengthening LFCCs’ and SIDS’ capacity to implement the Forest Instrument. Indonesia, for the G-77/CHINA, underscored that inadequate funds hinder reporting. JAPAN highlighted support from their government to build capacity for the implementation.

MEXICO called for continued technical support and harmonization of the country reporting methodology. SWITZERLAND opposed convening a technical expert group to address reporting methodology, and with the US and NEW ZEALAND, questioned the use of the term “facilitative process” for the IAF review. BRAZIL urged early completion of the reporting methodology and COLOMBIA proposed a deadline of December 2013 to complete the methodology.

BOLIVIA called for creating a “unique reporting instrument for UN conventions” that is aligned to the Forest Instrument. The US, with NEW ZEALAND, supported streamlining and integrating Forest Instrument reporting with other reporting processes. ARGENTINA noted that despite submitting a report, none of the measures they used were reflected in the assessment.

MALAYSIA noted that the adoption of the Forest Instrument has reinforced national efforts in SFM and proposed that membership of the expert group should include all Member States and that the group be provided with a clear mandate and source of funding.

On **regional and subregional cooperation**, The REPUBLIC OF CONGO urged that the Central African Forests Commission initiatives be cited as successful examples of regional



cooperation. TURKEY shared success in strengthening regional and subregional cooperation, stating that reporting remains a challenge.

On **enhanced cooperation**, the G-77/CHINA said South-South cooperation is not an alternative to North-South cooperation and called for a global forest fund to tap existing, new and additional funding. CHINA, noting the dependence of local communities in developing countries on forest resources, called for increased ODA. SOUTH AFRICA called on the UNFF to work with regional and subregional groups such as the Southern African Development Community to promote implementation of the Forest Instrument.

**WG II: MoI:** On Friday morning, UNFF10 Vice-Chair and WG II Co-Chair Srećko Juričić (Croatia), opened the discussion on MoI. Jan Heino (Finland), AHEG2 Co-Chair, highlighted the main issues emerging from the intersectoral meetings: fostering cross-sectoral collaboration; increasing private sector involvement; and ensuring continued national efforts in forest financing.

Paulino Franco de Carvalho Neto (Brazil), AHEG2 Co-Chair, outlined recommendations, including: encouraging private sector investment; strengthening national data collection on forest financing; and recognizing opportunities for mobilizing new sources of forest finance.

Ghana, for the AFRICAN GROUP, CUBA, TURKEY, BOLIVIA, CHINA and SAUDI ARABIA, supported establishing a global forest fund. CANADA, NEW ZEALAND and the US opposed. The AFRICAN GROUP further urged creating regional funds, such as an African forest fund, with simplified access modalities.

SWITZERLAND expressed willingness to consider a global forest fund, but only within the framework of a legally-binding instrument containing commitments. The EU noted a lack of evidence of the need for a global forest fund.

CUBA highlighted that current financial mechanisms still present difficulties in accessing finance. JAPAN said a new fund will require administrative and operational costs, citing alternatives such as improving access to existing financial mechanisms. TURKEY highlighted that consolidating all financing sources can increase efficiency.

SAUDI ARABIA urged that the fund be based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. BOLIVIA called for an integrated approach to forests across all relevant UN processes, including climate change and biodiversity.

Ghana, for the G-77/CHINA, with the US and INDONESIA, indicated that technology transfer and capacity building should be discussed, as these are also encompassed in MoI. The EU recommended that the UNFF Secretariat initiate discussions with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development to strengthen forestry data.

CHINA, with the AFRICAN GROUP, suggested using a combination of mechanisms including a dedicated GEF focal area for SFM. The EU highlighted the importance of a wide variety of funding sources, including market-based approaches, effective use of trade and investment opportunities, and domestic financing. SENEGAL called for strengthening data collection mechanisms.

SWITZERLAND underlined the role of regional forestry organizations in forest financing, saying these organizations should work with the UNFF to address funding gaps. MOROCCO noted the need for a package of funding mechanisms, including through South-South, regional and inter-regional collaboration.

IRAN called for appropriate funding mechanisms for LFCCs. The EU noted that funding for this can be obtained through earmarked funding for drylands. TURKEY highlighted the role of carbon markets in providing financial opportunities for SFM.

**EMERGING ISSUES:** UNFF10 Vice-Chair and Working Group II Co-Chair Saiful Azam Martinus Abdulla (Malaysia), opened the afternoon session on emerging issues. The Secretariat

provided an overview of the relevant issues, reminding delegates of the theme for UNFF11 “Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward for the international arrangement on forests,” and highlighted some of the issues to be considered at UNFF11, including the review of the effectiveness of the IAF.

The G-77/CHINA, called for a specific SDG on forests. Noting that it is too early to discuss the specificities of the goal, he said it should be based on the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and Agenda 21. He opposed including natural capital accounting and supported establishing an AHEG, which should meet twice before UNFF11. The EU noted that the concept of natural capital accounting is reflected in the Rio+20 outcome document, although not explicitly.

The US and JAPAN supported establishing an AHEG, with the US calling for holding two AHEG meetings, subject to availability of resources. Regarding the scope of the IAF review, the US suggested reviewing four elements: legal matters such as the Forest Instrument, options for a legally-binding instrument and UNFF resolutions; organizational matters such as the UNFF and its meetings; the UNFF Secretariat, the CPF, and their operation; and the facilitative process.

CUBA noted that the designs of the outcome should, *inter alia*, address financing for SFM, particularly for developing countries. ARGENTINA called for the AHEG to meet at a UN center so that developing countries can have ensured support.

JAPAN and the EU cautioned against prejudging the outcome of the post-2015 development agenda process. The EU highlighted the need to send a clear message on the importance of forests for sustainable development and poverty eradication for inclusion in the development agenda outcome.

The EU supported holding one AHEG meeting, and noting that other preparatory processes, such as CLIs and RLIs, must also receive appropriate consideration. BRAZIL supported holding UNFF11, as well as two AHEG meetings, in New York. BOLIVIA said the agenda and scope of the AHEG should include a call for views and submissions from Member States to be compiled by the Secretariat.

MALAYSIA urged CPF members to participate in the AHEG. Co-Chair Abdulla informed delegates that the zero draft will be tabled at the next session, convening on Monday, 15 April.

## PLENARY

In the afternoon, delegates convened in a short stocktaking plenary, where UNFF10 Chair Carranza provided an overview of the week’s work. He noted that the Ministers and other high-level participants had provided guidance during the Ministerial Segment on the issues to be addressed. He observed that lively discussion in plenary and Working Groups has informed the content of the initial draft decisions, which will be distributed prior to the Working Groups reconvening on Monday.

## IN THE CORRIDORS

As the first half of UNFF10 drew to a close, there were conflicting views concerning the progress of the week. Some participants noted that although UNFF10 got off to a slow start, it seemed most parties had come ready with constructive input to inform the discussions and reach a timely compromise on the key issues of MoI for SFM and forests for economic development. According to one delegate, this spirit was evident in some donor countries’ positions indicated by their willingness to address a possible global forest fund as a long-term goal, or as a component of a legally-binding forest agreement.

Others, however, expressed concern that this does not apply to all delegations. One participant could be heard commenting that some parties had arrived at UNFF10 with their positions so entrenched that the negotiations could end up being stalled. Some even went as far as to say that views within regional coordination meetings were so disparate that little progress could be made on substantive issues. But only time will tell.





## UNFF10 HIGHLIGHTS MONDAY, 15 APRIL 2013

UNFF10 continued on Monday, 15 April. Working Group I (WGI) met throughout the day to discuss the zero draft of the decision text on: forests and economic development; assessment of progress made on the implementation of the Forest Instrument towards the achievement of the four GOFs; regional and subregional inputs; and enhanced cooperation on policy and programme coordination, including the provision of further guidance to the CPF. Working Group II (WGII) discussed the zero draft of the decision text on emerging issues and MoI on SFM.

### WORKING GROUPS

**WGI:** On Monday morning, UNFF10 Vice-Chair and WGI Co-Chair Anna Masinja introduced the zero draft of the decision on forests and economic development.

During general comments, Indonesia, for the G-77/CHINA, said the private sector's role should be complementary, rather than a substitute for governments' obligation to implement SFM. She called for addressing the existing funding gap, particularly for implementation of the Forest Instrument.

Ireland, for the EU, said the text must be cognizant of items being addressed by WGII. BOLIVIA lamented the "one-size-fits-all" model of commodification, and stressed SFM cannot ignore the role of governments, or of collective action by indigenous peoples and local communities.

The US called for stronger language on individual landscape approaches, urban forests and the contribution of forests, including linkages with other sectors and to sustainable development. The DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO called for coordinating SFM reporting mechanisms and stressed enhanced donor cooperation to avoid duplication of project funding.

ARGENTINA questioned the scope and use of the term "national accounting systems" in reference to valuation of the social and economic benefits of forests.

TURKEY urged emphasizing monitoring and evaluation of SFM initiatives and including stronger language linking SFM and land-use management. BRAZIL called for increasing focus on financing, capacity building and technology transfer for implementation of the Forest Instrument. LESOTHO underscored enhanced cooperation in short- and long-term training programmes for forestry, land management, water harvesting and information management.

During the first reading of the operational paragraphs (OP) in the afternoon, on improving data collection and reporting (OP1a), the US proposed language on valuing the contribution of forests to other sectors. ARGENTINA said the broad language

on valuation increases subjectivity. BOLIVIA stressed that valuation includes, *inter alia*, the contribution to food and water, and accounts for different approaches and tools, in accordance with national legislation. The EU suggested recognizing the cash and non-cash contributions of forests. Kenya, for the G-77/CHINA, requested reverting to the original text pending further consultations.

On integrating SFM in national development strategies (OP1b), the EU proposed deleting utilizing the Forest Instrument to identify collaborative and integrated approaches to land management. The US introduced text (OP1b *bis*) on supporting economic development strategies that, *inter alia*, avoid forest degradation.

On creating, strengthening and implementing strategies for SFM (OP1c), the G-77/CHINA, suggested adding "holistic, balanced, comprehensive and coherent policies."

The US suggested (OP1c *alt*) elaborating the landscape approach as an integrated approach for SFM.

The EU preferred, and SWITZERLAND supported (OP1c *bis*), "recognizing the role that forest ecosystems play in economic development."

On strengthening enabling environments to attract private sector investment (OP1d), the G-77/CHINA suggested enhancing the role and participation of indigenous peoples and local communities.

On legal frameworks contributing to economic development (OP1e), the G-77/CHINA proposed establishing and strengthening frameworks and governance. The EU called for (OP1e *bis*) promoting gender equality.

On investments (OP1f), the EU called for promoting public and private investment, in particular for small holders and (OP1f *bis*) integrating urban forests into urban planning.

On integrating strategies (OP1g), the G-77/CHINA included comprehensive, balanced and coherent policies. SWITZERLAND suggested financial mechanisms to reduce the risks and impacts of natural disasters and climatic events.

The EU suggested moving preambular paragraphs (PP) to the operational text, on *inter alia*: progress in implementing the Forest Instrument; collaborative activities with the CPF; and the benefits of forests to sustainable development.

On the positive contribution of forests to economic growth (PP7), the EU, US, G-77/CHINA and TURKEY provided additions to the contributions of forests to economic growth.

On the benefits of forests, trees outside forests and SFM (PP8), the EU called for reference to "multiple benefits" and the G-77/CHINA urged including cultural benefits.

**WGII: Emerging Issues:** On Monday morning, UNFF10 Vice-Chair and WGII Co-Chair Saiful Azam Martinus Abdullah introduced the zero draft.



Ghana, for the G-77/CHINA, with the EU, US, JAPAN, BRAZIL, SWITZERLAND, CUBA, NEW ZEALAND, GUINEA, INDONESIA and CHINA, urged clarifying the mandate of the AHEG. BRAZIL, with CUBA and GUINEA, supported holding two meetings. SWITZERLAND noted that clearly defining the scope of the review process will enable the AHEG to make informed decisions.

The G-77/CHINA, opposed by the EU, US, JAPAN, CANADA and NEW ZEALAND, proposed establishing a global forest fund and a GEF focal area on forests. TURKEY supported establishing a global forest fund. The US, supported by JAPAN, called instead for stronger language on the GEF's focus on forests. Senegal, for the AFRICAN GROUP, supported establishing regional forest funds.

The EU, US and NEW ZEALAND highlighted strengthening language on domestic and private financing, and on forest governance and enabling environments. BRAZIL, SOUTH AFRICA and others said the UNFF, as an international forum, should focus on government responsibility.

The G-77/CHINA noted lack of reference to the common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR) principle, highlighting that support should flow from "North to South." The EU called for a balanced reflection of all the Rio Principles.

CAMEROON, with the US, urged supporting regional forestry groups or commissions. JAMAICA stressed special consideration of SIDS in SFM financing and supported holding UNFF11 in New York. The AFRICAN GROUP called for stronger language on supporting LFCCs, and, with NEW ZEALAND, on local, national and regional actions. NGOs, for the MAJOR GROUPS, called on Member States to adopt a clear roadmap to a financial mechanism for implementing SFM.

During the first reading of the text on emerging issues (EI), the G-77/CHINA requested a footnote clarifying the themes and subthemes of UNFF11, and for elaborating text on the interconnections of the post-2015 development agenda, Rio+20 follow-up and UNFF11 themes.

On the role of forests in achieving sustainable development (EI OP1), the US proposed text ensuring that UNFF10 conveys to ongoing processes that "failures to better conserve and sustainably manage forests may put at risk the achievement of other internationally agreed development goals." The EU urged emphasizing the role of SFM in achieving MDGs.

NEW ZEALAND provided additional text requesting the UNFF Secretariat to promote messages on the importance of forests in the achievement of internationally agreed development goals in the post-2015 development agenda and discussions on the Rio+20 outcomes.

On establishing an open-ended intergovernmental AHEG (EI OP3), the G-77/CHINA proposed an alternate paragraph to clarify the mandate of the AHEG. The EU cautioned against establishing an AHEG that is both open-ended and intergovernmental, as the mandate of the AHEG will determine its form.

Cautioning that the concepts relating to the 2015 review process and the post-2015 development agenda are being mixed up, Switzerland proposed a new paragraph elucidating the 2015 review process (EI OP4).

On the frequency of AHEG meetings (EI OP5), the US, with JAPAN, favored text calling for the AHEG to meet "at least once," citing possible budgetary constraints.

On submission of views on options for the future IAF (EI OP6), the G-77/CHINA suggested the Secretariat prepare a full evaluation of the current IAF, including the gaps, and the EU proposed specifying requesting views on the IAF's effectiveness and efficiency.

On providing support to the Forum Trust Fund (EI OP9), JAPAN suggested noting that support is voluntary and the US proposed replacing "ensure the full participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition" to "support the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition." The EU proposed prioritizing LDCs, and requesting the Secretariat to prioritize the coverage of economy class tickets, daily subsistence allowance and terminal expenses, and report on this at UNFF11. The G-77/CHINA preferred retaining the original text.

**MoI:** On approaches to forest financing (MoI OP2), the G-77/CHINA proposed reference to the CBDR principle, the US preferred language from the Rio+20 outcome document, and the EU proposed text clarifying that financing for SFM should continue to come from a range of complementary sources.

On actions to be taken by Member States and other relevant stakeholders, delegates discussed forest financing paragraphs (MoI OP3), including on creating enabling conditions, devoting adequate resources to address gaps and strengthening cooperation. The G-77/CHINA asked for clarity on actors providing adequate resources. The EU requested insertion of "efficient use of forest financing."

On national actions to be undertaken (MoI OP4), the US, with the EU, called for stronger language on involving stakeholders in including forests into national plans and policies. The G-77/CHINA suggested text allowing action to be taken in accordance with national circumstances and capacities. SWITZERLAND, supported by the US, proposed alternate paragraphs calling on Member States to provide data for financing and developing national strategies for SFM.

On regional actions (MoI OP5), SWITZERLAND and the G-77/CHINA proposed text expanding on the nature, approach and purpose of support for regional and subregional organizations.

On actions at the international level, (MoI OP6-OP9), the US suggested clarifying that financial mechanisms should improve access to funds "in line with their mandates," and JAPAN and the US proposed deleting the text inviting the GEF to establish a new focal area on forests. JAPAN called for clarity on the budgetary implications of donors providing resources to the facilitative process.

### **IN THE CORRIDORS**

Following a break over the weekend, during which delegates had a chance to enjoy activities such as the Bosphorus Cruise organized by the Turkish Government, Working Groups reconvened to tackle a first reading of the draft decisions. Having had a weekend within which to coordinate their positions, negotiations were off to a good start as many delegations underscored a general convergence on the broader issues. However, as they started to delve deeper into the text, it became clear that many issues remain fractious.

While delegates worked to try to complete the first readings, several interventions led to including text such as "in accordance with national priorities" to take into account regional and national differences. Often, this was accompanied by a number of breaks for urgent consultations to try and resolve differing opinions. What remains to be seen is if this tactic will be enough to ensure an efficient, timely conclusion to UNFF10. As one delegate could be heard saying, "in order for there to be consensus, delegates will have to start establishing what their priorities are."





## UNFF10 HIGHLIGHTS: TUESDAY, 16 APRIL 2013

UNFF10 continued on Tuesday, 16 April. In the morning, plenary addressed the Forum Trust Fund and heard a briefing on budgetary and legal matters. In the morning and afternoon, the Working Groups continued their readings of the zero drafts of their decision text. WGI completed its first reading of text on: assessment of progress made on the implementation of the Forest Instrument and towards the achievement of the four GOFs; regional and subregional inputs; forests and economic development; and enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination. WGII completed the first reading of text on emerging issues and MoI. Under WGII, informal consultations on issues relating to the AHEG and global forest fund, continued into the evening.

### PLENARY

**FORUM TRUST FUND:** UNFF10 Chair Mario Ruales Carranza introduced this agenda item. UNFF Director Jan McAlpine presented an overview of the Note by the Secretariat on the UN Trust Funds to Support the UNFF (E/CN.18/2013/13). She listed the voluntary contributions received from Member States to the Trust Fund in the biennium 2011-2012, outlining how the funds were spent. UNFF Director McAlpine described the Secretariat's staffing situation as "precarious" due to budget shortfalls and called for enhanced contributions from Member States.

Ivan Koulov, DESA, outlined, *inter alia*, the costs of holding meetings in New York, Nairobi and Vienna, including UN staff travel, conference services and supporting the attendance of developing country experts. He concluded that meeting costs will likely be US\$100,000 cheaper in New York than in Vienna, and US\$150,000 cheaper than Nairobi.

Stadler Trengove, UN Office of Legal Affairs, explained the meaning of an open-ended AHEG, saying membership would be open to all States and Major Groups. He noted that it is up to the UNFF to decide on the AHEG's modalities and mandates. Regarding options for independent expert reviews of UN entities, he presented possible options, including: the Joint Independent Unit; the Board of Auditors; and the Independent Audit Advisory Committee.

In the subsequent discussions, delegates commented on issues, including: the cost of meeting in New York versus Nairobi; the Programme Budget Implication (PBI) of tasks expected to be assigned to the Secretariat in UNFF10 resolutions; the need to formally reflect funds spent by countries on CLIs; the need to indicate clear priorities for the Secretariat's work over the next biennium; the meaning

of "intergovernmental" in the context of an AHEG; the legal implications of commissioning an independent review of the IAF; and the call for additional contributions to the Trust Fund, and the need to balance available financial resources with expectations of work.

Responding to comments, Koulov explained that the extra cost of conference services, including translation for meetings held outside of New York, exceeded savings from the lower flight costs and daily subsistence allowance for Nairobi. He clarified that PBIs are not presented to Subsidiary Bodies.

Trengove explained the significance of "intergovernmental" indicating that Major Groups are welcome, but cannot vote or challenge rulings.

### WORKING GROUP I

On mobilizing resources for forests and economic development (OP2), Indonesia, for the G-77/CHINA, proposed adding text (OP2 *bis-ter*) on strengthening collaboration, cooperation, and regional and subregional processes. Ireland, for the EU, and SWITZERLAND raised concern with the balance between national and donor community funding sources, and proposed (OP2 *quart*) highlighting forests in a green economy.

On enhancing cooperation (OP3), the G-77/CHINA added "North-South" and "triangular cooperation," and several delegates proposed expanding database and knowledge networks.

On the CPF assisting countries in assessing non-market values of forest products and services (OP4), the EU provided alternative text on measuring the economic value of non-wood services (OP4 alt). SWITZERLAND underscored assistance for gathering robust data and sharing lessons. The G-77/CHINA suggested additional text on developing non-market based approaches.

On CPF member assistance in harmonizing ongoing initiatives on forest valuation (OP5), the EU and the US noted valuation is not sufficiently developed to allow harmonization.

On collaboration with the CPF on criteria and indicators for SFM and ways of addressing information and data gaps (OP6a), the EU said such collaboration should include other UN bodies. The G-77/CHINA provided additional text to this effect (OP6a *bis*).

On building partnerships with financial institutions (OP6b), the EU, with SWITZERLAND, said the scope of the mandate was too large for the UNFF Secretariat.

On implementing and reporting on the Forest Instrument and achieving the four GOFs (OP7), the EU suggested acknowledging progress. The G-77/CHINA called for supporting capacity building, technology transfer and financial resources to enhance efforts.



On reporting to UNFF11 (OP8), SWITZERLAND called for clearly contextualizing the IAF review process. On donor support for implementation and reporting efforts (OP9), the EU and SWITZERLAND remarked on ongoing discussions on MoI in WGII.

On opportunities for the UNFF Secretariat to incorporate the Forest Instrument in the work programmes of the CPF organizations (OP10d), SWITZERLAND, supported by the EU and the US, called for deleting the text, reserving this responsibility for Member States or the CPF.

On encouraging inputs to the UNFF from organizations, processes and Major Groups (OP11), the EU suggested deleting the request for donor countries and CPF organizations to support these efforts.

On inviting CPF collaboration in streamlining reporting (OP12a), the EU supported broadening the scope to promote consistency. The G-77/CHINA bracketed the paragraph pending informal consultations.

On strengthening the UNFF Secretariat's effectiveness to engage Major Groups (OP13a), the G-77/CHINA suggested reference to relevant stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and local communities.

SWITZERLAND suggested that the CPF, rather than the UNFF Secretariat, be charged with fostering synergies among forest-related activities and programmes to promote SFM (OP13b).

On developing communication tools on the contribution of forests' importance to urban communities (OP13c), the EU suggested that the UNFF Secretariat collaborate with the CPF and FAO, with the US saying this is a task for Member States.

On promoting inclusion of forests in the post-2015 development agenda (OP13d), the EU suggested waiting for the outcome of the discussion on emerging issues in WGII.

On encouraging and organizing the International Day of Forests (OP14), the G-77/CHINA suggested noting the contribution of forests to protecting the integrity of Mother Earth. The EU proposed (OP14 alt) noting UN General Assembly resolution A/RES/67/200 and thereby removing the need to define the UNFF Secretariat's role in facilitating the celebration (OP15).

WGI Co-Chair Masinja closed the first reading of the zero draft, reiterating that all proposals on text must be sent to the Secretariat by 7pm on Tuesday. She said the second reading of the draft resolution would commence on Wednesday morning.

## WORKING GROUP II

**MoI:** On actions at all levels (MoI OP3), the US and the EU suggested strengthening transfer of ESTs "on mutually agreed terms and conditions" and the EU proposed inviting Member States and stakeholders to use market-based approaches to develop and promote production and consumption of forest products from sustainably-managed forests, harvested according to domestic legislation, as a way to mobilize additional resources and increase tax revenues for governments.

SWITZERLAND, with the US, cautioned against deleting text on data collection (MoI OP4d alt), saying that if Member States ask for more financial and other assistance, there should be sufficient data to establish baselines on forest resources. The EU proposed including text on harnessing the potential of the private sector to finance SFM (MoI OP4f).

On text inviting the GEF to consider establishing a new focal area on forests in GEF-6 (MoI OP7), SWITZERLAND, supported by the EU and the US, urged retaining the notion of "inviting the GEF to consider." Ghana, for the G-77/CHINA,

favoured "calling upon the GEF to establish a dedicated new focal area for SFM." SWITZERLAND, opposed by SAUDI ARABIA, underlined that establishing such a window should only take place once a legally-binding instrument has been established.

On financing for SFM, the EU proposed (MoI OP10 *bis-quat*) encouraging: the FAO to further develop its work; the private sector to consider improving information on the scale of private investments; and the UNFF Secretariat to improve data sources on public financing. The G-77/CHINA proposed (MoI OP11 alt) calling on developed countries and conventions to increase their contributions to SFM.

The G-77/CHINA, with CUBA, SOUTH AFRICA, CAMEROON, SAUDI ARABIA, GABON, CHINA, GUATEMALA, TURKEY and ECUADOR, favored language calling on UNFF10 to establish a global forest fund (MoI OP12). The EU, the US, SWITZERLAND, JAPAN, CANADA, NEW ZEALAND and NORWAY urged retaining original language calling for consideration of establishing a voluntary global forest fund. NEW ZEALAND cautioned that the discussions so far have not demonstrated the need for a global forest fund.

**EMERGING ISSUES:** SWITZERLAND requested an additional preambular paragraph (EI PP0) recalling the ECOSOC decision in which the UNFF decided that the IAF's effectiveness will be reviewed in 2015. On emphasizing the interconnections of the post-2015 development agenda, Rio+20 follow-up and UNFF11 themes (EI PP4), the EU called for coordinating with the discussions of similar paragraphs under WGI. He proposed (EI PP4 *bis-ter*) recognizing the need for broader measures of progress to complement Gross Domestic Product in order to better inform policy decisions, and noting that MDG indicator 7-1 (the proportion of land area covered by forests) has continued to evolve negatively at the global level. MOROCCO suggested noting the work on forest financing undertaken by the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing.

The Co-Chairs proposed, and delegates agreed, to undertake informal consultations, co-facilitated by South Africa and New Zealand, on the paragraphs relating to the AHEG (EI OP3-8 and MoI OP12). The informal consultations started immediately and delegates will commence the second reading of the draft resolution on Wednesday morning.

## IN THE CORRIDORS

As the seventh day of UNFF10 convened, the first readings of the draft decisions continued. Many delegates expressed exasperation at the long and tedious nature of the coordination meetings and informal consultations taking place, which were seen to be hampering progress. Rifts within negotiating blocs and regional groups were exposed as countries that normally saw eye-to-eye began to take opposing positions. Even though concessions were made to reflect ideologies in the negotiating text, there was still disparity on some substantial issues. The spirit of mutual support seemed to evolve towards breaking out into smaller factions on specific issues, rather than remaining in existing negotiating blocs.

WGII on MoI tried to resolve these rifts by establishing an informal consultation group to address issues on the global forest fund and the process for undertaking the 2015 review of the IAF. However, some delegates felt that capacity building and support for technology transfer were still being undermined. One frustrated delegate could be heard saying "if education is expensive, then let's try ignorance instead."



## UNFF10 HIGHLIGHTS WEDNESDAY, 17 APRIL 2013

UNFF10 continued on Wednesday, 17 April. In the morning, WGI convened for the second reading of the revised draft text. It then adjourned for further consultations by negotiating blocs and resumed during lunch. Under WGII, early morning informal consultations convened on the AHEG. The WG met for an update on these informal consultations, which continued thereafter.

In the afternoon, WGI continued the second reading of the revised draft text, while negotiating blocs continued simultaneous informal consultations. WGII commenced the second reading of the revised draft text, while a drafting group addressed the issue of the 2015 review of the IAF. Negotiations in both WGs continued late into the evening.

### WORKING GROUP I

In the morning, WGI Co-Chair Anna Masinja introduced revised draft text. Delegates commenced the second reading of the operational paragraphs. Throughout the day, WGI agreed *ad referendum* on articles including: UNFF9 Ministerial Declaration on the launch of the International Year of Forests (PP2); UNGA resolution A/RES/61/193 (PP3); MYPOW and the overall themes of UNFF10 (PP6); benefits of forests, trees outside forests and SFM (PP8); and actions to address causes of deforestation and degradation (OP1b *bis*).

Ireland, for the EU, called for including green economy (OP1a), and suggested, with the US, deleting a preambular paragraph on the same topic.

The EU introduced alternate language on the contributions of forest goods and services to national economies, and the social, cultural and environmental impacts on rural and urban communities (OP1a *alt*).

On the EU's additional text on promoting economic opportunities through gender equality as a strategy for strengthening governance and institutional frameworks (OP1e *bis*), Kenya, for the G-77/CHINA, called for, *inter alia*, review of forest-related legislation.

On mobilizing resources for forests and economic development (OP2 *bis*), the G-77/CHINA welcomed the efforts of regional and subregional processes, and invited the UNFF Secretariat to cooperate to host regional workshops on forest-related issues (OP2 *ter*).

WGI Co-Chair Shulamit Davidovich reconvened WGI during the lunch period for the second reading of the preambular paragraphs. On recalling forest principles (PP1), Indonesia,

for the G-77/CHINA, called for including the Rio Principles, specifically CBDR, and SWITZERLAND, with the EU and the US, opposed singling out principles. WGI agreed to use "NLBI" in place of "Forest Instrument" throughout the text.

Delegates debated the best placement to acknowledge progress made on implementation of the NLBI (PP4). The US preferred the original text contained in the zero draft, the EU proposed moving the text to the operational paragraphs, and the G-77/CHINA requested amendments from the first reading to note the challenges in making progress.

Delegates agreed to revisit text on including forests in the post-2015 development agenda (PP9), once discussions are finalized by WGII. The G-77/CHINA questioned the rationale of the EU's text on the challenge of urbanization (PP9 *bis*). The EU and the US underscored its relevance, agreeing to reformulate the text.

On developing communication tools on the contribution of forests to urban communities (OP13), the G-77/CHINA suggested, and the EU opposed, deleting reference to human wellbeing and urban communities. SWITZERLAND proposed, and delegates agreed, to reference "rural and urban communities."

The G-77/CHINA supported the EU's proposal to note the UNGA resolution A/RES/67/200 regarding the celebration of International Forest Day (OP14 *alt*), and with the EU, opposed by the US, deleting the role of the UNFF Secretariat in facilitating International Forest Day celebrations (OP15).

On enhanced cooperation (OP11), the US supported the EU proposal to delete specific reference to donor countries and the CPF organizations. The G-77/CHINA proposed a preamble to encourage sharing experiences, lessons learned and best practices regarding SFM.

On inviting CPF collaboration in streamlining reporting (OP12a), delegates debated concerns raised by NEW ZEALAND to avoid excluding processes and organizations such as the Montreal Process and ITTO.

On strengthening the UNFF Secretariat's effectiveness to engage Major Groups (OP13a), delegates agreed to delete specific reference to business and industry. The G-77/CHINA called for specifying indigenous and local communities.

On continuing to foster synergies within CPF organizations (OP13b), the G-77/CHINA, the EU and TURKEY supported SWITZERLAND's proposal to join text with other activities of the CPF (OP12).



WGI agreed to delete improving systematic collection, analysis and reporting of information (OP1a). On strengthening enabling environments (OP1d), the US noted that reference to stakeholders would be more appropriate elsewhere.

SWITZERLAND supported the development of gender equality strategies proposed by the EU (OP1e *bis*). On developing incentives for investing in SFM (OP1f), the US and the EU said the focus should remain on community forests and small holders.

On strategies by Member States to reduce the risk and impacts of natural disasters and extreme climatic events (OP1g), the G77/CHINA underscored, opposed by the EU, technical and financial cooperation mechanisms. Co-Chair Masinja called for resolution of language by representatives of these groups.

On mobilizing resources for forests and economic development (OP2), the EU proposed, and delegates accepted, liaising with WGII for guidance on finance discussions.

## WORKING GROUP II

WG2 reconvened on Wednesday morning to hear an update from the informal group established to address paragraphs on the AHEG (OP3-8). Alan Reid (New Zealand), co-facilitator of the informal group, noted that text was drafted to reflect, *inter alia*, a proposal to establish an open-ended intergovernmental AHEG and an independent review of the IAF. He noted key issues to be addressed included reviewing: the past performance of the UNFF and its support structures, including CLIs; the NLBI and options for the future IAF; the NLBI in relation to other forest-related conventions; the UNFF Secretariat and its functions; activities of the CPF in addition to the individual activities of its members; MoI and the facilitative process; and the UNFF's relation to the UN.

Reid requested additional time for the informal group to continue its work. WGII Co-Chair Saiful Azam Martinus Abdullah adjourned the meeting until the afternoon when the second reading of the revised draft text commenced.

In the afternoon, WG II Co-Chair Srećko Juričić moderated the session. Co-facilitator Reid stated that the informal group had formulated text on the AHEG, the independent review and the submission from countries and other stakeholders. He said the group is continuing its work on the details of the independent review and financing and funding.

The WG commenced the second reading of the revised draft text, starting from the operational paragraphs. The WG agreed *ad referendum* to the paragraph stressing the importance to food security, water, biodiversity, climate change, poverty alleviation and energy, of achieving the four GOFs and SFM (OP1 *bis*).

The WG agreed *ad referendum* to request the UNFF Secretariat and invite CPF members, to promote the message of forests' importance in implementing the Rio+20 outcomes and post-2015 development agenda (OP1 *ter*).

On encouraging Member States to integrate SFM into their discussions of the Rio+20 outcomes and the post-2015 development agenda (OP2), the US proposed alternate language (OP2 alt). The WG agreed *ad referendum* to encourage Member States to fully integrate forests into the discussions on the Rio+20 outcomes and the post-2015 development agenda.

On acknowledging the inputs provided through the intersessional work undertaken by various bodies (OP10), the G-77/CHINA proposed deleting the reference to the "green economy" in CLIs' work on "the role of forests in a green economy." MOROCCO, supported by the G-77/CHINA and JAPAN, proposed referring to "related CLIs" and including the reference in the list of intersessional work.

In the evening, reporting back to WGII on the informal group, co-facilitator Reid noted the group had formulated text for a coherent flow of work for the review process. He highlighted that the text is considered aspirational, stressing that the review must remain independent and that funding constraints still exist.

The US, JAPAN and SWITZERLAND supported the EU proposal (OP10 *bis*), which notes a significant increase in ODA for SFM. The G-77/CHINA opposed, saying the increase is due to an increase in climate finance. The EU, supported by the US, proposed compromise text welcoming progress towards achieving the GOF on increasing resource mobilization.

The G-77/CHINA called for deleting text recognizing the evolution of forest financing (OP10 *ter*), noting he would accept the paragraph if the text was linked to establishing a global forest fund. The EU said that, given the G-77/CHINA's proposal, the compromise text had been rejected and thus the language in OP10 *bis* must revert to the original proposal.

On addressing gaps in forest financing and increasing financing for the implementation of the Forest Instrument (OP12b), JAPAN proposed, and WGII agreed, to replace "Forest Instrument" with "NLBI." The G-77/CHINA proposed, and WGII agreed *ad referendum*, to invite Member States and others to "provide enhanced resources to address" the gaps and to "increase financing for the implementation of the NLBI."

## INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS

**AHEG:** In the informal group, co-facilitated by Reid and Elise Haber (South Africa), delegates discussed text on emerging issues, in order to find a compromise on the IAF review process and a potential AHEG.

During the discussions, delegates highlighted including clearly-defined paragraphs on the IAF review process and the AHEG process. They emphasized that the text contained in the resolution will mandate the review and the AHEG, and provide a "skeleton" of the roadmap, noting that further detail and general timelines will be contained in an annex to the resolution.

Delegates cautioned against influencing the post-2015 development agenda process and referencing the number of AHEG meetings, before an agreement on this has been reached. They urged consideration of the methodology of the review process, and called for clear differentiation between the CPF and CPF member organizations within the "skeleton" and the annex.

## IN THE CORRIDORS

Many delegations had an early start to the eighth day of UNFF10. Coordination meetings and informal groups were tasked with finding consensus before the WGs resumed their second reading of the revised draft resolutions. To some, it seemed that the pace of the working groups had taken on the characteristics of the local Istanbul tram, with many stops along the way for delegates to "get off and consult."

Nevertheless, delegations persevered to reach the final stop, although it seemed they were losing passengers along the way. Overall, delegates seemed relatively satisfied that some progress had been made, as both WGs saw paragraphs being agreed *ad referendum*. Others felt, however, that on a number of issues, progress was rolling back. One delegate pointed out that many of the agreed paragraphs were "the low hanging fruits," noting that agreement on the contentious issues had been deferred.





## UNFF10 HIGHLIGHTS THURSDAY, 18 APRIL 2013

UNFF10 continued on Thursday, 18 April. In the morning, following informal group consultations, delegates in WGI continued the second reading of the revised draft text. Delegates in WGII reconvened in informal groups throughout the morning, addressing the AHEG process and MoI for SFM.

In the afternoon, WGI reconvened for the third reading of the revised draft text. WGII met briefly for an update from the informal groups, followed by a resumption of discussions in the informal groups. In the evening, a brief stocktaking plenary convened to assess progress of the WGs. The work of both WGs continued late into the night.

### WORKING GROUP I

WGI reconvened on Thursday morning to consider the outcomes from the informal group consultations. Throughout the day, WGI agreed *ad referendum* on paragraphs, *inter alia*: recognizing challenges to SFM (PP9 *bis*); welcoming efforts by regional and subregional processes to provide input to the Forum (OP Pre2 *bis*); continuing and strengthening activities of Major Groups and recognizing the importance of indigenous peoples and local communities (OP13a); enhancing the role of forests and SFM in sustainable development (OP2 *quart*); and integrating SFM in national development strategies (OP1b).

Christoph Dürr (Switzerland), facilitator of the informal group, presented proposed text drafted by the informal group on: forests' inclusion in post-2015 development agenda and policies and strategies to reduce the risk and impacts of natural disasters and extreme climate conditions (PP9 *bis*); regional and subregional inputs (OP2 *ter bis*); CPF member assistance in harmonizing ongoing initiatives on forest valuation (OP5); and the UNFF Secretariat's effectiveness in engaging Major Groups (OP13a).

Kenya, for the G-77/CHINA, emphasized that some of the concessions had been made by individual countries and that the G-77/CHINA required additional time for further consideration of new text and suggested amendments.

Upon resumption, the G-77/CHINA reported back and proposed amendments on policies to reduce the risk and impacts of natural disasters and the adverse effects of climate change (OP1g).

The US, supported by the EU, proposed to "invite" rather than "call on" the Secretariat to collaborate on issues related to SFM (OP2 *ter bis*). The G-77/CHINA requested time to consult.

The G-77/CHINA objected to merging text inviting CPF member organizations to assist countries in valuation of non-market forest products and services (OP4, 4 alt 1 and 4 *bis*), cautioning that the merged text undermines the prior emphasis on non-market values. They preferred maintaining reference to forest "products and services" rather than "goods and services" to enhance ongoing initiatives to recognize and account for the range of forest values (OP5). Delegates agreed to delete all alternate texts for this item (OP5 alt 1 and alt 2).

WGII reconvened in the afternoon. WGII Co-Chair Shulamit Davidovich introduced language that was agreed upon in WGII (WGII OP1 *ter* and OP2) on the post-2015 development agenda, for integration into the pending WGI text.

The G-77/CHINA accepted replacing the preambular paragraph (PP9) regarding reference to the UN development agenda beyond 2015. The US, supported by the EU, NEW ZEALAND, MEXICO and TURKEY, proposed inserting this text in the section on enhanced cooperation (OP13d). The EU further proposed that the WGII language (WGII OP2) on the UN development agenda beyond 2015 accounting for the role of forests be moved to the WGI section on forests and economic development. NEW ZEALAND emphasized the agreement on accepting the text from WGII without amendments, and suggested sending the G-77/CHINA's proposal urging UN support for Member States in intergovernmental processes to WGII. The text remained bracketed.

On contributions of forests to national and local economies (OP1a alt), Indonesia, for the G-77/CHINA, called for, and SWITZERLAND opposed, considering both market and non-market values. The G-77/CHINA retained reference to "products" not "goods." Delegates agreed to delete alternate text on establishing data collection, analysis and reporting non-market approaches (OP1a alt 2), and debated including market-based approaches (OP1a alt 2 *bis*). Co-Chair Davidovich requested this paragraph be discussed by the informal group.

On creating, strengthening and implementing policies and strategies to promote SFM (OP1c), the G-77/CHINA and SWITZERLAND, opposed by the EU, suggested deleting reference to "landscape." The item was deferred to the informal



group. Text on promoting SFM and the role of forests in economic development (OP1c alt and 1c bis) were also deferred to the informal group.

On enabling environments for investments in SFM (OP1d), delegates agreed to: replace “environments” with “conditions”; and delete “sustainable” when referring to private sector investments. The G-77/CHINA, opposed by the EU, called for deleting “bio-based products” when referencing opportunities for employment. Co-Chair Davidovich deferred the matter to the informal group.

On establishing and strengthening legal frameworks to realize forests’ potential (OP1e), the EU proposed, and the G-77/CHINA objected to, deleting reference to “indigenous peoples and local communities,” preferring reference to “indigenous and local communities” instead. The item was deferred to the informal group.

The G-77/CHINA suggested deleting additional text promoting economic opportunities and gender equality strategies, saying it is included in a preambular paragraph (PP7). The EU and the US stressed that it required emphasis and should be in an operative paragraph, but conceded to its placement under legal frameworks for forests’ potential (OP1e). SWITZERLAND proposed adding “with a view of promoting international trade in forest products.” The issue was deferred to the informal group.

Delegates agreed to text on promoting public and private investments, including through developing positive incentives (OP1f), deliberating on: recognizing forests’ contribution to sustainable development and poverty eradication; and balancing emphasis on locally-managed forests.

## WORKING GROUP II

During the afternoon, WGII Co-Chair Srećko Juričić moderated the session. AHEG informal group co-facilitator Alan Reid updated the WG on the progress of the informal group on the AHEG, reporting that the group had completed its work and produced text that could form part of the final resolution. MoI informal group facilitator Charles Barber (US), reporting on progress of the informal group, stated that the group has produced clean text on some of the contentious issues, but requires more time on some outstanding issues, such as the paragraphs relating to the GEF.

Co-Chair Juričić adjourned the meeting to allow the MoI informal group to continue its consultations.

## PLENARY

UNFF10 Chair Mario Ruales Carranza opened the meeting, inviting the Co-Chairs of the Working Groups to provide updates on the progress of work in their groups. WGI Co-Chair Davidovich reported that WGI has agreed *ad referendum* on eight paragraphs and is close to agreement on other paragraphs, with the intention of concluding tonight.

WGII Co-Chair Juričić reported that the informal group on the review of the IAF concluded its work, and that the informal group on MoI made progress on many pending issues, and intends to continue its work after the plenary. He requested permission for WGII to continue its work until 12:00am.

UNFF10 Chair Carranza adjourned the plenary, urging all delegates to redouble their efforts to reach consensus on the draft resolutions.

## INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS

**MOI:** In the informal group, delegates discussed text on MoI, including actions at the national (OP13) and international level (OP21). On national actions, delegates considered text on promoting the development of market- and non-market-based approaches for SFM. On international actions, they considered the role of the GEF in providing SFM financing, as well as the creation of a global forest fund.

There was broad agreement on increasing the GEF’s role in SFM financing, with many delegates advocating for the GEF to establish a new focal area for forests and increase the allocation of funds for SFM in future replenishments. Some delegates noted that as the GEF is not a financial mechanism of the UNFF, the Forum should not “call upon” the GEF to undertake tasks.

On establishing a global forest fund, delegates recognized that their current positions are at opposite spectrums, with some delegations for and others against its establishment. Some preferred calling for establishing a fund immediately, with the modalities to be finalized at a later date, while others urged waiting for the results of the 2015 review of the IAF before considering establishing such a fund. The informal group agreed to refer this issue back to the Co-Chairs.

## IN THE CORRIDORS

Thursday morning negotiations greeted tired delegates like a much-needed Turkish coffee, a strong and small serving of negotiations, yet a bit heavy with the sediment of unresolved issues. The WGs met intermittently throughout the day to receive updates from the informal groups, following which delegates were dismissed to continue work on sweetening the bitterness of unresolved text.

Although there was a long list of issues that remained contentious, such as the creation of a global forest fund, one of the issues that delegates could be heard discussing was an over-reliance on old text and decisions. They noted that this, along with calls for more reports and studies, does not bode well for increased action, and thus accountability and governance, within the UNFF and its Member States. Some crestfallen delegates commented that this practice is becoming ever more pervasive.

Other delegates were heard emphasizing the importance of the 2015 review of the IAF as it will be the only means of knowing “what is working, what is faulty, and if a legally-binding instrument can assist in unlocking bottlenecks.” One delegate bemoaned that, should the roadmap for the review be badly planned, combined with a lack of action and accountability, the IAF could be left in a precarious position.

**ENB SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:** The *Earth Negotiations Bulletin* summary and analysis of UNFF10 will be available on Monday, 22 April 2013 online at: <http://www.iisd.ca/forestry/unff/unff10/>





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## SUMMARY OF THE TENTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS FORUM ON FORESTS: 8-19 APRIL 2013

The tenth session of the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF10) was held from 8-19 April 2013, in Istanbul, Turkey, focusing on the theme “Forests and Economic Development.” Nearly 1300 participants took part in UNFF10, which addressed a range of issues including: forests and economic development; means of implementation (MoI) for sustainable forest management (SFM); and emerging issues, including the outcomes of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD or Rio+20), the post-2015 development agenda and the future of the international arrangement on forests (IAF).

Delegates, including Ministers and Heads of Delegation, took part in a Ministerial Segment from 8-9 April. The Ministerial Segment included a high-level opening session, featuring Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, statements by Ministers and Heads of Delegation, roundtables on forests and economic development, and on Rio+20 outcomes, the post-2015 development agenda and the future of the IAF, and a high-level interactive dialogue with the heads of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) member organizations.

A Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue took place on 10 April, providing an opportunity for member states to receive input from representatives from the Major Groups, including: Women; Farmers and Small Forest Landowners; Forest Workers and Trade Unions; Scientific and Technological Communities; Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs); Children and Youth; Indigenous Peoples; and Industry. On 11 April, the remaining agenda items were opened in plenary.

Work on the UNFF10 outcome took place under two Working Groups (WGs), which convened from 12-19 April. Working Group I (WGI) addressed agenda items on: the assessment of progress made in the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests (NLBI or forest instrument), and towards the achievement of the four Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs); regional and subregional inputs; forests and economic development; and enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination, including the provision of further guidance to the CPF. Working Group II (WGII) addressed the agenda items on MoI for SFM, emerging issues and the Forum Trust Fund.

On Friday, 19 April, contact groups under both WGs met throughout the day to address outstanding issues, including how to reference MoI in the WGI draft resolution and whether to reference the “UN development agenda beyond 2015” or “post-2015 development agenda” in the WGII draft resolution. Following a meeting between delegates and the UNFF

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Bureau that was convened to help resolve these issues, plenary reconvened early on Saturday morning to hear reports on the WGs' outcomes. The "Resolution on Agenda Items 3, 4, 5 and 8" and the "Resolution on Emerging Issues, MoI and the Forum Trust Fund" were adopted by acclamation on Saturday, 20 April. Delegates welcomed the adoption, after many years of deliberation, of a substantive outcome on MoI and a clear roadmap outlining steps towards a review of the IAF.

### A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE UNFF

The UNFF was established in 2000, following a five-year period of forest policy dialogue within the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF). In October 2000, the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), in resolution E/2000/35, established the UNFF as a subsidiary body, with the main objective of promoting the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

The UNFF's principal functions are to: facilitate implementation of forest-related agreements and foster a common understanding on sustainable forest management (SFM); provide for continued policy development and dialogue among governments, international organizations and Major Groups, as well as to address forest issues and emerging areas of concern in a holistic, comprehensive and integrated manner; enhance cooperation, and policy and programme coordination on forest-related issues; foster international cooperation and monitor, assess and report on progress; and strengthen political commitment to the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

The IPF/IFF processes produced more than 270 proposals for action towards SFM, which formed the basis for the UNFF Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW), for 2000-2005, and Plan of Action to implement the proposals for action. Country- and Organization-Led Initiatives have also contributed to the UNFF's work.

**ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION:** The UNFF organizational session took place from 12-16 February 2001, at UN Headquarters in New York. Delegates agreed that the UNFF Secretariat would be located in New York, and made progress towards the establishment of the CPF, a partnership of 14 major forest-related international organizations, institutions and convention secretariats.

**UNFF1:** The first session of UNFF took place from 11-23 June 2001 in New York. Delegates discussed and adopted decisions on the UNFF MYPOW, a Plan of Action for the implementation of the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action, and UNFF's work with the CPF. Delegates also recommended establishing three *ad hoc* expert groups (AHEGs) to provide technical advice to UNFF on: approaches and mechanisms for monitoring, assessment and reporting (MAR); finance and transfer of environmentally sound technologies (ESTs); and parameters of a mandate for developing a legal framework on all types of forests.

**UNFF2:** The second session of UNFF took place from 4-15 March 2002 in New York. Delegates adopted a Ministerial Declaration and Message to the World Summit on Sustainable Development and decisions on: combating deforestation and forest degradation; forest conservation and protection of

unique types of forests and fragile ecosystems; rehabilitation and conservation strategies for low forest cover countries; the promotion of natural and planted forests; specific criteria for the review of the effectiveness of the IAF; and proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for 2002-2005.

**UNFF3:** UNFF3 met in Geneva, Switzerland, from 26 May - 6 June 2003, and adopted six resolutions on: enhanced cooperation, and policy and programme coordination; forest health and productivity; economic aspects of forests; maintaining forest cover to meet present and future needs; the UNFF Trust Fund; and strengthening the Secretariat. Terms of reference were adopted for the voluntary reporting format and three *ad hoc* expert groups were established to consider: MAR; finance and transfer of ESTs; and parameters of a mandate for developing a legal framework on all types of forests.

**UNFF4:** UNFF4 convened in Geneva from 3-14 May 2004 and adopted five resolutions on: forest-related scientific knowledge; social and cultural aspects of forests; MAR and criteria and indicators; review of the effectiveness of the IAF; and finance and transfer of ESTs. UNFF4 attempted, without success, to reach agreement on resolutions on forest-related traditional knowledge, enhanced cooperation, and policy and programme coordination.

**UNFF5:** UNFF5 took place from 16-27 May 2005, in New York. Participants were unable to reach agreement on strengthening the IAF and did not produce a Ministerial statement or a negotiated outcome. They did agree, *ad referendum*, to four global goals on: significantly increasing the area of protected forests and sustainably managed forests worldwide; reversing the decline in official development assistance (ODA) for SFM; reversing the loss of forest cover; and enhancing forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits. They also agreed in principle to negotiate, at some future date, the terms of reference for a voluntary code or international understanding on forests, as well as MoI.

**UNFF6:** UNFF6 took place from 13-24 February 2006 in New York. Delegates generated a negotiating text containing new language on the function of the IAF, a commitment to convene UNFF biennially after 2007, and a request that UNFF7 adopt a non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests (NLBI or forest instrument). UNFF6 also set four Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs) for the IAF to: reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through SFM, including through protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation; enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, and the contribution of forests to the achievement of internationally agreed development goals; increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests; and reverse the decline in ODA for SFM, and mobilize significantly increased new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of SFM.

**UNFF7:** UNFF7 was held from 16-27 April 2007 in New York. After two weeks of negotiations, culminating in an all-night session, delegates adopted the forest instrument and a MYPOW for the period 2007-2015. Delegates also participated in two Multi-Stakeholder Dialogues, a panel discussion with member organizations of the CPF, and the launch of preparations for the International Year of Forests 2011. Delegates agreed that



a “voluntary global financial mechanism/portfolio approach/forest financing framework for all types of forests” would be developed and considered, with a view to its adoption at UNFF8.

**UNFF8:** UNFF8 was held from 20 April - 1 May 2009 in New York. Delegates discussed: forests in a changing environment, including forests and climate change, reversing the loss of forest cover and degradation, and forests and biodiversity conservation; and MoI for SFM. After an all-night session on the last night, delegates adopted a resolution on forests in a changing environment, enhanced cooperation and cross-sectoral policy and programme coordination, and regional and subregional inputs. Delegates did not agree on a decision on financing for SFM, and decided to forward bracketed negotiating text to the Forum’s next session.

**SPECIAL SESSION OF UNFF9:** The special session of UNFF9 was held on 30 October 2009 in New York. The Forum decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental AHEG to formulate proposals on strategies to mobilize resources to support the implementation of SFM, the achievement of the four GOFs and the implementation of the forest instrument. The Forum also established a Facilitative Process to, *inter alia*: assist developing countries to mobilize, through helping them to identify obstacles and opportunities for accessing required financing.

**UNFF9:** UNFF9 took place from 24 January - 4 February 2011 in New York and launched the International Year of Forests 2011. The Forum adopted by acclamation a resolution on forests for people, livelihoods and poverty eradication, which addressed *inter alia*: procedures for assessment of progress; increased regional and subregional cooperation; enhanced cooperation, including with Major Groups; and MoI for SFM, particularly the AHEG process.

## UNFF10 REPORT

Wu Hongbo, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, opened UNFF10 on Monday, 8 April, and highlighted UNFF’s contribution to ensuring robust institutional and policy frameworks for SFM. Delegates adopted the agenda (E/CN.18/2013/1/Rev.1) and recalled Bureau members elected at the first session of UNFF10: Srećko Juričić (Croatia); Mario Ruales Carranza (Ecuador); Shuli Davidovich (Israel); Saiful Azam Martinus Abdullah (Malaysia); and Anna Masinja (Zambia). They elected, by acclamation, Carranza as UNFF10 Chair and Co-Chair of the Ministerial Segment and Abdullah as Rapporteur, and accepted the nomination of Veysel Eroğlu, Minister of Forestry and Water Affairs, Turkey, as Co-Chair of the Ministerial Segment. Delegates agreed that Davidovich and Masinja would co-chair WGI and Juričić and Abdullah would co-chair WGII.

### MINISTERIAL SEGMENT

On Monday, 8 April, UNFF10 Chair and UNFF10 Ministerial Segment Co-Chair Carranza opened the Ministerial Segment, thanking the Government of Turkey for hosting UNFF10. He underscored that the economic contribution of forests to local, national and global economies are underappreciated. He highlighted the intersessional work undertaken by the *Ad Hoc*

Expert Group (AHEG) on forest financing, saying that UNFF10 presents an opportunity to make concrete progress in this area.

UNFF10 Ministerial Segment Co-Chair Eroğlu stressed the need to alleviate global poverty and underlined the role of forests in achieving this goal. He urged participants to focus on the relationship between forests and economic development, not just within the framework of the environment, but also in sustainable development.

Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Prime Minister, Turkey, underlined the role of forests in preventing erosion, protecting potable water, preserving ecosystems and alleviating poverty, and urged that SFM be included in the post-2015 development agenda.

President of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), Néstor Osorio, Permanent Representative of Colombia to the UN, highlighted the UNFF’s role in integrating the three pillars of sustainable development and lauded it for ensuring that forests remain prominent within the global development agenda.

UN Under-Secretary-General Wu stated that SFM must have robust institutional and policy frameworks, including adequate and sustainable financing, for it to be successful. He opined that UNFF10 would make an important contribution towards ensuring this.

UNFF Director Jan McAlpine discussed how UNFF10 would be organized, aimed at supporting consideration of priority issues such as the connection of forests to social, economic and environmental issues, and the convergence of UNFF10 outcomes with the post-2015 development agenda and Rio+20 outcomes. She said that UNFF10 is poised to produce decisions on the connection between forests and economic development and on the need for forest financing to accomplish the objectives of the Forest Principles and the forest instrument.

Eduardo Rojas-Briales, FAO, underscored the opportune timing of UNFF10 to relate to the outcomes of Rio+20, the post-2015 development agenda, and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process. He said the landscape approach of the CPF sets a mechanism for a cross-sectoral review and builds awareness of the socio-economic contributions of forests to human development.

The Ministerial Segment continued through 9 April, including roundtables on Forests and Economic Development, and the Rio+20 Outcome, Post-2015 Development Agenda and IAF, as well as a High-Level Interactive Dialogue with the Heads of the Member Organizations of the CPF. A summary of Ministerial and Head of Delegation statements is available online at: <http://www.iisd.ca/vol13/enb13178e.html> and <http://www.iisd.ca/vol13/enb13179e.html>

### FORESTS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**ROUNDTABLE:** On Tuesday, 9 April, this roundtable took place, co-chaired by Alhaji Inusah Fuseini, Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Ghana, and Arvids Ozols, Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Latvia. It included a presentation by Uma Lele, former World Bank Senior Advisor, addressing means to regain forest cover.

During discussions, delegates addressed issues including: the under-recognition of forests’ contribution to natural capital due to the lack of appreciation of the non-cash value of forests;

national forest policies and statistics; national tree planting campaigns; means of cooperation to achieve SFM; and private sector investment.

A summary of the discussion is available online at: <http://www.iisd.ca/vol13/enb13179e.html>

**RIO+20 OUTCOME, POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA AND IAF:** On Tuesday, 9 April, this roundtable was held, co-chaired by Jean-Pierre Thébault, Ambassador for the Environment, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France, and Luiz Alberto Figueiredo Machado, Under-Secretary-General for Environment, Science and Technology, Ministry of External Relations, Brazil. It included a presentation by Under-Secretary-General Wu, urging policymakers to provide guidance on integrating SFM into broader socio-economic policies and the post-2015 development agenda discussions.

During discussions, delegates addressed, *inter alia*: forests in the post-2015 development agenda; forests in a green economy; payment for ecosystem services (PES); a sustainable development goal (SDG) on forests or natural resources; and a global legally binding instrument on forests.

A summary of the discussion is available online at: <http://www.iisd.ca/vol13/enb13179e.html>

**HIGH-LEVEL INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE HEADS OF THE MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS OF THE CPF:** On Tuesday, 9 April, UNFF Director McAlpine facilitated the high-level panel. Discussions during the panel addressed: the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)/FAO publication “Advancing Agroforestry on the Policy Agenda”; the aim of the sixth replenishment cycle of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to address the drivers of deforestation; work by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations to bring together natural and social sciences; cross-sectoral cooperation to demonstrate forests’ capacity to contribute to challenges such as climate change; business cases on the value of forests to encourage investment by other sectors; mobilization of investment across sectors; integration of ecosystem and forest considerations with other sectoral considerations; and the use of the concept of “landscape days” rather than “forest days” to break down institutional silos.

A summary of the discussion is available online at: <http://www.iisd.ca/vol13/enb13179e.html>

### **MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE**

On Wednesday, 10 April, UNFF Director McAlpine convened the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue, introducing the “Note by the Secretariat on Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue” (E/CN.18/2013/7) and thanking the Major Groups for the “Forests and Economic Development Discussion Paper” (E/CN.18/2013/7/Add.1), which delivers conclusions and recommendations for discussion at UNFF10.

Peter deMarsh, Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners, for Farmers and Small Forest Landowners, drew the connection between ensuring livelihoods, increasing forest cover and protecting forests to respecting: the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities; scientific and traditional knowledge, education and capacity building; and access and benefit-sharing.

Hubertus Samangun, Regional Coordinator for the International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests, for Indigenous Peoples, called for simplifying

access to available funds, such as through the GEF Small Grants Programme. Paul Opanga, Building and Wood Workers’ International, for Forest Workers and Trade Unions, urged member states to ensure living wages for workers, pointing out that “forests that pay are forests that stay,” and urged that forest jobs be both green and decent.

Sim Heok-Choh, Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions, for Scientific and Technological Communities, advocated strengthening forestry research, education and training, and enabling environments for private sector investment in science and technology.

Lambert Okrah, Major Groups Partnership on Forests, for NGOs, noted that discussions among participants at a Major Groups-led initiative in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in early 2013 included debate on governance systems and community-based enterprises.

Ghanshyam Pandey, Chair, Federation of Community Forests Users, Nepal, and Global Alliance of Community Forestry, for Farmers and Small Forest Landowners, called for secure land tenure rights for indigenous peoples, farmers and small forest landowners.

Jukka Halonen, Finnish Forests Industries Federation, for Industry, urged the full participation of all Major Groups in international fora. Cécile Ndjebet, African Women’s Network for Community Management of Forests, for Women, called for: including women in forest-based economic development; reforming land tenure systems to ensure women’s land rights; funding women-based forest enterprises; and capacity building to ensure adequate representation of women in decision-making instruments.

Tolulope Daramola, International Forestry Students’ Association (IFSA), for Children and Youth, outlined recommendations of the May 2012 IFSA Conference on “Forests in a green economy: contribution and the youth position,” including employing a youth officer in the UNFF Secretariat.

Andrei Laletin, Friends of the Siberian Forests, for NGOs, remarking on the growing trend of mono-species large-scale plantation afforestation programmes, emphasized that these forests cannot provide ecosystem services lost by destruction of natural forests, and underlined the need for benefit-sharing from genetic resources with forest people.

During discussions, delegates debated, *inter alia*: the importance of empowering stakeholders; national experiences involving stakeholders in forest management; capacity building for stakeholders; the role of civil society in implementing SFM; and job creation in the forest sector.

A summary of the discussion is available online at: <http://www.iisd.ca/vol13/enb13180e.html>

**COUNTRY STATEMENTS:** On Wednesday, 10 April, country statements were heard in plenary. On enhancing cooperation and coordination, Bolivia lamented that the UNFF is not playing a large role in forest policy coordination in the international sphere. The US urged “the UNFF to maintain a facilitative role within the CPF,” rather than assume the function of system-wide coordination within the UN.

Brazil highlighted the UNFF Major Groups Initiative meeting held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 18-22 March 2013, which acknowledged the importance of the participation of civil society



in the UNFF. Ethiopia reported the activities of the International Network for Bamboo and Rattan, and the Network's request to join the CPF.

New Zealand, for the Montreal Process, discussed its increased collaboration with the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), FOREST EUROPE and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), as well as efforts to develop a forest indicators partnership. Ireland, for the European Union (EU) and Croatia, reported on cooperation through the EU's Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Action Plan to exclude illegal timber from the EU market.

Malaysia cautioned against fragmentation and dilution of resources and capacity within the CPF. Outlining the Tehran Process, Iran noted that the process provides a framework to facilitate the support of the CPF for low forest cover countries (LFCCs).

India urged greater cooperation at regional, subregional and national levels to facilitate, *inter alia*, technology transfer and capacity building. The Democratic Republic of the Congo outlined national activities undertaken in partnership with donors to support SFM implementation.

On forests and economic development, China proposed that the CPF: formulate an implementation plan to support the UNFF's work and strengthen collaboration; organize evaluations and review collaborative efforts; and support the relevant consultations and post-2015 decision-making. Argentina called for more information on the role of forests in the green economy, in the context of SFM.

Eduardo Rojas-Briales, FAO, and CPF Chair, responding to interventions, noted that CPF priorities are determined and mandated by the UNFF and its member states, cautioning that a balance needs to be achieved regarding CPF activities in order to adequately address all three pillars of sustainable development.

#### **ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS MADE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOREST INSTRUMENT AND TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE FOUR GOFs**

On Monday, 8 April, UNFF Director Jan McAlpine summarized the "Report of the Secretary-General on Assessment of Progress Made on the Implementation of the NLBI and Towards Achievement of the Four GOFs" (E/CN.18/2013/2). She noted that the forest instrument's provisions are being increasingly incorporated into national policies and programmes, and highlighted a growing recognition of the socio-economic benefits of forests and evidence of the contribution of SFM to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

On Friday, 12 April, this issue was introduced in WGI by Co-Chair Masinja. During general statements, the EU, reporting on negotiations for a legally binding agreement on forests in Europe, called for strengthening LFCCs' and small island developing states' (SIDS) capacity to implement the forest instrument. Malaysia noted that the adoption of the forest instrument has reinforced national efforts in SFM.

Delegates debated on whether to include in the forthcoming draft text, *inter alia*: the need for strengthening capacity of LFCCs in implementing the forest instrument; donor support for implementation and progress reporting; and the Rio Principles, particularly common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR).

On reporting on progress, Indonesia, for the Group of 77 and China (G-77/China), underscored that inadequate funds hinder reporting and Mexico called for continued technical support and harmonization of country reporting methodologies. Switzerland opposed convening a technical expert group to address reporting methodology. Brazil called for early completion of the reporting methodology, with Colombia proposing a deadline of December 2013. The US, with New Zealand, supported streamlining and integrating forest instrument reporting with other reporting processes.

On Tuesday, 16 April, during the first reading of the text, the EU suggested acknowledging progress made on implementing and reporting on the forest instrument and achieving the four GOFs. The G-77/China called for capacity building, technology transfer and financial resources to enhance reporting on implementation of the forest instrument.

On donor support for implementation and reporting efforts, the EU and Switzerland remarked on ongoing discussions on MoI for SFM in WGII. Switzerland, supported by the EU and the US, called for deleting the text on opportunities for the UNFF Secretariat to incorporate the forest instrument in the work programmes of the CPF organizations.

During the second reading of the draft resolution on Wednesday, 17 April, the G-77/China called for including the Rio Principles, specifically CBDR, in preambular text recalling the Forest Principles. Switzerland, with the EU and the US, opposed singling out principles, and WGI agreed to use "non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests" in place of the "forest instrument" throughout the text.

Delegates debated the best placement of text to acknowledge progress made on implementing the NLBI, with the EU proposing to move the text to an operational paragraph. The US preferred the original text contained in the zero draft, and the G-77/China requested amendments emphasizing challenges in making progress.

**Final Outcome:** On early Saturday morning, 20 April, delegates adopted the "Resolution on Agenda Items 3, 4, 5 and 8" (summarized beginning on page 9), including a section on the assessment of progress made on the implementation of the NLBI and in achieving the four GOFs. The resolution includes language on, *inter alia*: including success stories in member states' reporting to UNFF11; strengthening collaboration by CPF member organizations and member states on NLBI implementation pilot projects; and streamlining guidelines and formats for national reporting to UNFF11.

#### **REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL INPUTS**

On Wednesday, 10 April, UNFF Director McAlpine presented the "Report of the Secretary-General on Regional and Subregional Inputs" (E/CN.18/2013/3), calling for attention to the work of capturing data on forests, and effectively contributing this data to national accounting.

WGI Co-Chair Masinja opened the discussion on regional and subregional inputs in WGI on Friday, 12 April. Delegates agreed on the need to capture data on forests and welcomed efforts by regional and subregional processes to provide input to the Forum. They also deliberated on the associated roles and responsibilities of the UNFF Secretariat, member states and CPF member organizations, and how to enhance regional cooperation.

On the role of the Forum Secretariat, delegates discussed the need for the UNFF to collaborate with UN conventions. While Indonesia, for the G-77/China, spoke in favor of such collaboration, New Zealand, Switzerland, the EU and Japan said this was a task for member states. The EU and Switzerland opposed including in the draft text other activities, such as hosting regional workshops and building partnerships with financial institutions, explaining this scope of work would be too broad for the UNFF Secretariat.

The G-77/China proposed that the Secretariat and CPF member organizations support member states in developing non-market-based approaches and respect the rights of Mother Earth, while the EU focused on the contribution of SFM criteria and indicators and ways to address information and data gaps. The EU proposed encouraging CPF member organizations to assist countries in valuing forest goods and services, including non-wood forest products (NWFPs), in order to support further harmonization.

A contact group met on Thursday, 18 April, to address language that hindered progress in whether member states should be “urged,” “invited,” or “encouraged” to enhance cooperation.

Based on the observation by the EU that collaboration with UN bodies and CPF member organizations on addressing information and data gaps was being addressed by WGII, the Co-Chairs agreed to coordinate with WGII and use text agreed by WGII on this issue.

**Final Outcome:** On Saturday, 20 April, in plenary, delegates adopted the “Resolution on Agenda Items 3, 4, 5 and 8” (summarized beginning on page 9), including a section on regional and subregional inputs. The resolution calls for, among others, strengthening collaboration on SFM and enhancing the role of forests and SFM in sustainable development.

### **FORESTS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

On Monday, 8 April, UNFF Director McAlpine presented the “Report of the Secretary-General on Forests and Economic Development” (E/CN.18/2013/4) and the “Report of the Secretary-General on Conclusions and Recommendations for Addressing Key Challenges of Forests and Economic Development” (E/CN.18/2013/5), outlining issues relating to the cash and non-cash contributions of forests to economic development, and the relationship between forests and other sectors.

On Wednesday, 10 April, representatives from Japan, Germany, the Netherlands and Ukraine presented country-led initiatives (CLIs) that were reported to the UNFF Secretariat (E/CN.18/2013/14, 15, 16 and 17), highlighting international and regional meetings held in 2011 and 2012.

On Friday, 12 April, WGI Co-Chair Davidovich opened WGI discussions on this item. Delegates discussed: forest products and services; national forest programmes and other sectoral policies; reduction of the risks and impacts of disasters; and the benefits of forests and trees to urban communities.

On Monday, 15 April, WGI Co-Chair Masinja introduced a draft resolution on forests and economic development. On improving data collection and reporting, Bolivia stressed that valuation of forest benefits includes contributions to food and water and involves different approaches and tools, in accordance

with national legislation. The EU suggested recognizing the cash and non-cash contributions of forests.

The G-77/China suggested enhancing the role and participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in strengthening enabling environments to attract private sector investment. The EU called for promoting public and private investment, in particular for smallholders, and for integrating urban forests into urban planning. Switzerland suggested financial mechanisms to reduce the risks and impacts of natural disasters and climate change.

WGI incorporated the EU proposal, supported by Switzerland, to highlight gender equality in promoting economic opportunities and strengthening governance and institutional frameworks. Kenya, for the G-77/China, called for, *inter alia*, reviewing forest-related legislation. On strategies by member states to reduce the risk and impacts of natural disasters and extreme climatic events, the G-77/China, opposed by the EU, underscored technical and financial cooperation mechanisms. Delegates agreed to liaise with WGII on language regarding mobilizing and implementing resources for forests and economic development.

A contact group also addressed several contentious issues including: inclusion of market and non-market values in contributions of forests to national and local economies; use of forest “products” versus “goods” in evaluation approaches; use of the landscape approach to SFM; promotion of economic opportunities and gender equality and the referencing of “indigenous peoples and local communities” versus “indigenous and local communities” in text on establishing and strengthening legal frameworks to realize forests’ potential.

Co-Chair Masinja presented suggested preambular text taken from the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which set forth principles including on CBDR (principle 7). The US and Japan noted that this language was agreed in a different context, and would require further consideration. This issue and other outstanding issues including the resolution of text referencing MoI and SFM emerging issues under WGII, were later resolved during a Bureau meeting, which reconciled the texts of the two WGs.

**Final Outcomes:** Early on Saturday, 20 April, delegates adopted the “Resolution on Agenda Items 3, 4, 5 and 8” (summarized beginning on page 9), including a section on forests and economic development. The resolution addresses, *inter alia*: the contributions of forests to national and local economies and sustainable development; valuation of forest values; SFM in national development strategies; means of addressing deforestation and forest degradation; the role of forest ecosystem services in economic development; stakeholder participation; public and private investment in SFM; legal governance and institutional frameworks; and urban forests and trees.

### **EMERGING ISSUES**

On Monday, 8 April, UNFF Director McAlpine introduced the “Report of the Secretary-General on the IAF, the post-2015 United Nations Development Agenda and the outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference: interconnections and implications” (E/CN.18/2013/6), noting three emerging issues: the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the post-2015 development agenda; the outcomes of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD or Rio+20); and the future of the IAF.



She said the review of the IAF, scheduled for 2015, will, *inter alia*, assess the UNFF and its functions, as well as the ongoing role of the CPF. She stated that the report urged UNFF10 to discuss preparations for the review, including a possible roadmap, intersessional work and financial implications. McAlpine further noted the UNFF should discuss different possibilities for the future IAF, including a legally binding agreement, a framework agreement or continuation of the forest instrument.

On Thursday, 11 April, UNFF10 Chair Carranza opened this agenda item in plenary. Many countries supported ensuring that the post-2015 development agenda addresses forests and SFM. The EU said the UNFF should encourage member states to include the sustainable management of natural resources, including forests, as an important principle under the post-2015 development agenda. Indonesia proposed having a cross-cutting SDG that includes poverty eradication, sustainable growth and equity, and forests.

Most countries supported the establishment of an AHEG to review various aspects, components and options for the future IAF, as recommended in the Report of the Secretary-General on Emerging Issues. Fiji, for the G-77/China, noted that although stakeholders should be invited to provide input, decision-making should only be done by member states. Brazil further noted that the CPF's role is to support member states. Switzerland urged that the review be an independent process with a clearly defined methodology.

The Philippines and Turkey supported establishing a legally binding instrument on forests that encompasses all pillars of sustainable development.

On natural capital accounting, the EU requested the UNFF Secretariat to provide further information on natural capital accounting initiatives by the World Bank and the UN Statistical Commission. Burundi and Switzerland supported natural capital accounting, while Bolivia rejected it based on decisions from Rio+20.

The G-77/China called for UNFF11 to be organized and hosted at a UN facility. Sudan, supported by Ghana, Niger, Turkey and others, proposed holding UNFF11 in Africa, specifically at UN Environment Programme (UNEP) Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya.

In closing, UNFF Director McAlpine highlighted funding issues that could affect the ability to convene an AHEG. The Secretariat clarified that if the agreed intersessional work is not a "one off," a programme budget will have to be drafted and approved by the General Assembly (UNGA).

Delegates took up this issue in discussions under WGII. Informal consultations were held on arrangements for the 2015 review of the IAF, co-facilitated by Alan Reid (New Zealand) and Elise Haber (South Africa).

The Co-Chairs introduced the zero draft of the text on all WGII issues on Monday, 15 April, followed by several iterations of the text.

Regarding the Rio+20 outcome and post-2015 development agenda, the G-77/China called for a specific SDG on forests that should be based on the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) and Agenda 21. He opposed including the concept of

natural capital accounting. The EU noted that this concept is reflected in the Rio+20 outcome document, although not explicitly.

Japan and the EU cautioned against prejudging the outcome of the post-2015 development agenda process. The EU and New Zealand supported sending a message on the importance of forests for sustainable development in the post-2015 development agenda.

On the role of forests in achieving sustainable development, the US proposed text ensuring that UNFF10 conveys to ongoing processes that "failures to better conserve and sustainably manage forests may put at risk the achievement of other internationally agreed development goals."

The EU proposed text recognizing the need for broader measures of progress to complement gross domestic product in order to better inform policy decisions and noting that MDG indicator 7-1 (the proportion of land area covered by forests) has continued to evolve negatively at the global level. Morocco suggested noting the work on forest financing undertaken by the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing.

On the review of the effectiveness of the IAF, most delegates supported establishing an AHEG, with some, such as the EU, proposing one AHEG meeting before UNFF11 and others, such as the G-77/China, favoring two meetings. Brazil and Jamaica supported holding UNFF11, as well as two AHEG meetings, in New York.

Regarding the scope of the IAF review, the US suggested reviewing four elements: legal matters such as the forest instrument, options for a legally binding instrument and UNFF resolutions; organizational matters such as the UNFF and its meetings; the UNFF Secretariat, the CPF and their operation; and the Facilitative Process.

Cuba noted that the outcome should, *inter alia*, address financing for SFM, particularly for developing countries. Bolivia said the agenda and scope of the AHEG should include a call for views and submissions from member states. Malaysia said CPF members should participate in the AHEG.

The G-77/China, opposed by the EU, supported making the AHEG open-ended and intergovernmental, with the EU noting that the mandate of the AHEG will determine its form.

On the submission of views on options for the future IAF, the G-77/China suggested that the Secretariat prepare a full evaluation of the current IAF, including the gaps, and the EU proposed requesting views on the IAF's effectiveness and efficiency.

During informal discussions, on the form of the text on the IAF review and AHEG process, delegates highlighted that the resolution should include in the main body, clearly-defined paragraphs on the IAF review process and the AHEG process mandating the review and the AHEG, and an annex containing further detail and general timelines.

**Final Outcome:** Early Saturday morning, 20 April, in plenary, delegates adopted the "Resolution on Emerging Issues, MoI and the Forum Trust Fund" (summarized beginning on page 12), including a section on emerging issues, deciding that the effectiveness of the IAF will be reviewed in 2015, and

establishing an open-ended intergovernmental AHEG to review the IAF's performance and effectiveness. The resolution includes an annex containing the components and activities of the review.

#### **ENHANCED COOPERATION AND POLICY AND PROGRAMME COORDINATION, INCLUDING THE PROVISION OF FURTHER GUIDANCE TO THE CPF**

On Wednesday, 10 April, UNFF Director McAlpine presented the "Report of the Secretary-General on Enhanced Cooperation and Policy and Programme Coordination" (E/CN.18/2013/8), outlining UNFF cooperation with, *inter alia*: the CPF in follow-up to Rio+20; and indigenous peoples and forests in the post-2015 development agenda. She also presented the "Note by the Secretariat on the International Year of Forests, 2011 Activities: Trends and Lessons Learned" (E/CN.18/2013/9), highlighting that the theme "Forests for People" underscores the cross-sectoral linkages of forests. Rojas-Briales presented the "Report by the Secretariat on the CPF Framework 2011 and 2012" (E/CN.18/2013/10), outlining CPF achievements, including a single coordinated input on forests to Rio+20.

On Friday, 12 April, WGI began consideration of enhanced cooperation, with clear messages emerging on acknowledging the dependence of local communities in developing countries on forest resources and recognizing the benefits of forests to sustainable development.

On Monday, 15 April, they began consideration of the zero draft of the text. Delegates agreed to include the proposal by Indonesia, for the G-77/China, encouraging sharing experiences, lessons learned and best practices regarding SFM. They also agreed to recognize: the challenges to SFM posed by urbanization; and the role of SFM in enhancing resilience to disaster risk and impacts of climate change.

There were areas in the WGI draft that required coordination with WGII, such as on promoting the inclusion of the role of forests in the UN development agenda. Other areas of contention included designating responsibility among donor countries, CPF organizations and the UNFF Secretariat. Delegates supported Switzerland's proposal to invite the CPF, rather than the UNFF Secretariat as originally drafted, to foster synergy among the forest-related activities and programmes of its member organizations, including on the multiple social, economic, environmental and cultural benefits and value of forests. They also agreed to invite the CPF member organizations, rather than member states, to streamline reporting. Delegates also discussed the merits of establishing a network for sharing knowledge, as proposed by the G-77/China, but did not agree on terms.

Delegates debated whether to support the proposal by the US to call on member states to develop communication tools on forests' importance to urban communities, agreeing to text requesting the UNFF Secretariat to do so in collaboration with CPF member organizations, to carry out this task.

WGI debated whether to call specifically on developed countries, as proposed by the G-77/China, in text on organizing and facilitating the International Day of Forests. They agreed to leave this to all member states, as proposed by the US. The EU proposed noting UNGA Resolution 67/200, thereby eliminating the need to define the UNFF Secretariat's role in facilitating the celebration.

**Final Outcomes:** Early on Saturday, 20 April, in plenary, delegates adopted the "Resolution on Agenda Items 3, 4, 5 and 8" (summarized beginning on page 9), including a section on enhanced cooperation. The resolution calls for increasing information sharing, streamlining reporting guidelines, fostering synergies among CPF member organizations' forest-related activities and engaging all Major Groups. The resolution also calls on member states to, *inter alia*, facilitate and organize activities to celebrate the International Day of Forests on 21 March or at the time most appropriate to each member state.

#### **MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT**

On Monday, 8 April, UNFF Director McAlpine introduced the "Report of the Secretary-General on MoI for SFM" and the "Report of the Second Meeting of Open-Ended Intergovernmental AHEG" (E/CN.18/2013/11 and 12), noting that MoI include forest financing and technology exchange. In the presentation to plenary, McAlpine said the report recognizes that establishing a fund will require longer-term efforts to consider modalities, but immediate decisions should ensure monetary support for those countries that urgently need it.

Over the course of the two weeks, delegates debated the issues of establishing a global forest fund and a stand-alone window for forest financing at the GEF. Other topics addressed included promoting private sector investment, strengthening the transfer of environmentally sound technologies (ESTs), creating enabling conditions for investments and ensuring efficient use of financing for SFM.

On Friday, 12 April, WGII Co-Chair Juričić opened the discussion on MoI. Co-Chairs of the second meeting of the AHEG on forest financing, Jan Heino (Finland) and Paulino Franco de Carvalho Neto (Brazil), highlighted the main issues emerging from the intersessional meetings and outlined recommendations, including: the importance of fostering cross-sectoral collaboration; ensuring continued national efforts in forest financing; encouraging private sector investment; and strengthening national data collection on forest financing.

On financing for SFM, Cuba highlighted that current financial mechanisms present difficulties regarding accessing finance. Morocco noted the need for a package of funding mechanisms, including through South-South, regional and inter-regional collaboration. Switzerland underlined the role of regional forestry organizations in forest financing, saying these organizations should work with the UNFF to address funding gaps. Turkey highlighted the role of carbon markets in providing financial opportunities for SFM. The EU, supported by the US, Japan and Switzerland, proposed text noting a significant increase in official development assistance (ODA) for SFM. Ghana, for the G-77/China, objected, saying the increase is due to an increase in climate finance.

On approaches to forest financing, the G-77/China proposed referencing the CBDR principle. The EU proposed including text on harnessing the potential of the private sector to finance SFM and highlighted the importance of a wide variety of funding sources, including market-based approaches, effective use of trade and investment opportunities, and domestic financing.



On technology transfer, capacity building and strengthening data, Switzerland, with the US, called on member states to provide data on financing and developing national strategies for SFM. Senegal called for strengthening data collection mechanisms. The EU recommended that the UNFF Secretariat initiate discussions with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development on this. On the transfer of ESTs, the US and the EU called for language on strengthening the transfer of ESTs “on mutually agreed terms and conditions.”

On establishing a global forest fund, Ghana, for the African Group, the G-77/China, Bolivia, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Gabon, Guatemala, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Turkey supported establishing such a fund. Canada, the EU, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and the US opposed this. The African Group further called for regional funds, such as an African forest fund, with simplified access modalities.

Switzerland expressed a willingness to consider a global forest fund, but only within the framework of a legally binding instrument containing commitments. The EU, with New Zealand, noted that discussions thus far have not supported the need for a global forest fund. Japan said a new fund would entail administrative and operational costs, citing alternatives such as improving access to existing financial mechanisms.

During informal consultations, delegates recognized that their current positions were at opposite extremes, with some delegations for and others against establishing a global forest fund. Some suggested establishing a fund immediately, with the modalities to be finalized at a later date, while others favored waiting for the results of the 2015 review of the IAF before considering its establishment. The informal group agreed to refer this issue back to the Co-Chairs.

The Co-Chairs proposed compromise text on considering a voluntary global forest fund as part of the 2015 review of the IAF, as a way to enhance financing for SFM. Cuba urged that the modalities for such a fund be considered by the AHEG. Following protracted discussion, participants agreed on compromise text to consider, as an integral element of the 2015 review of the IAF, a full range of financing options and strategies, including establishing a voluntary global forest fund.

On establishing a stand-alone window at the GEF for forest financing, China, with the African Group, suggested using a combination of mechanisms, including a dedicated GEF focal area for SFM. The G-77/China favored “calling upon the GEF to establish a dedicated new focal area for SFM” in its sixth replenishment cycle. Switzerland, opposed by Saudi Arabia, underlined that establishing such a window should only take place once a legally binding instrument has been established.

In the informal discussions, there was broad agreement on increasing the GEF’s role in SFM financing, with many delegates advocating that the GEF establish a new focal area for forests and increase the allocation of funds for SFM in future replenishments. Some delegates noted that as the GEF is not a financial mechanism of the UNFF, the Forum should not “call upon” the GEF to undertake tasks. Delegates agreed on text that invites the GEF to consider ways to strengthen support for SFM.

**Final Outcome:** On early Saturday, 20 April, in plenary, delegates adopted the Resolution on Emerging Issues, MoI and the Forum Trust Fund (summarized on page 12), including

a section on MoI. The resolution addresses, *inter alia*: the evolution of forest financing architecture; actions to be taken by member states and at the national, regional and international levels; resources available in the existing GEF-5 SFM/REDD+ (reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, plus the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks) Incentive Mechanism; data collection on forest financial flows and private sector investment flows for SFM; and consideration of the establishment of a voluntary global forest fund as part of the full range of financing options and strategies to be considered in the overall IAF review.

#### FORUM TRUST FUND

On Tuesday, 16 April, UNFF10 Chair Carranza introduced this agenda item. UNFF Director McAlpine presented an overview of the “Note by the Secretariat on the UN Trust Funds to Support the UNFF” (E/CN.18/2013/13). She listed the voluntary contributions received from member states to the Trust Fund in the biennium 2011-2012, outlining how the funds were spent. UNFF Director McAlpine described the Secretariat’s staffing situation as “precarious” due to budget shortfalls and called for enhanced contributions from member states.

Ivan Koulov, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), outlined, *inter alia*, the costs of holding meetings in New York, Nairobi and Vienna, including UN staff travel, conference services and supporting the attendance of developing country experts. He concluded that meeting costs will likely be US\$100,000 cheaper in New York than in Vienna and US\$150,000 cheaper than in Nairobi.

Stadler Trengove, UN Office of Legal Affairs, explained the concept of an open-ended AHEG, saying membership would be open to all states and Major Groups. He also noted that it is up to the UNFF to decide on the AHEG’s modalities and mandates. Regarding options for independent expert reviews of UN entities, he presented possible options, including: the Joint Inspection Unit; the Board of Auditors; and the Independent Audit Advisory Committee.

In the subsequent discussions, delegates commented on issues, including: the cost of meeting in New York versus Nairobi; the need to formally reflect funds spent by countries on CLIs; the need to indicate clear priorities for the Secretariat’s work over the next biennium; the meaning of “intergovernmental” in the context of an AHEG; the legal implications of commissioning an independent review of the IAF; and the call for additional contributions to the Trust Fund, and the need to balance available financial resources with expectations of work.

**Final Outcomes:** On early Saturday, 20 April, in plenary, delegates adopted the Resolution on Emerging Issues, MoI and the Forum Trust Fund (summarized on page 12), including a section on the Forum Trust Fund. The resolution calls upon donors, in a position to do so, to contribute to the Fund in order to support participation of developing countries in the AHEG and enable the UNFF Secretariat to carry out its intersessional mandate.

**RESOLUTION ON ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS MADE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NLBI AND TOWARDS ACHIEVEMENT OF THE FOUR GOFS, REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL INPUTS, FORESTS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND ENHANCED COOPERATION**

On Monday morning, 15 April, in WGI, delegates were presented the zero draft of the “Draft Resolution by the Vice-Chairs of WGI on Agenda Items 3, 4, 5 and 8.” In-depth debate undertaken by WGI during the first week on specific topics later included in the draft resolution is summarized above by agenda item. The zero draft was prepared on the basis of interventions made by delegates during these debates during the first week of UNFF10. On Monday and Tuesday, WGI proposed amendments to the zero draft during the first reading of the text. The second reading of the revised draft text took place on Wednesday and Thursday, and the third reading commenced on Thursday.

Outstanding issues were referred to a contact group, which considered unresolved text on Thursday and Friday. WGI reconvened briefly at 6:00 pm on Friday to report on agreed text from the contact group and then adjourned pending agreed text from WGII on MoI and emerging issues, and continued informal discussions on unresolved issues. Late on Friday evening, a Bureau meeting was convened to resolve differences in the text between WGI and WGII, in particular to remove references to MoI in the operational section of the WGI text and ensure consistency in referencing items addressed in the preambular paragraphs of the WGII text.

On the **preambular paragraphs**, discussions focused on: whether to reference CBDR when recalling the Forest Principles; how to address MoI for the implementation of the NLBI, with delegates agreeing to emphasize the need to mobilize enhanced resources from all sources; and how to refer to the post-2015 development agenda, resolved by calling it the “UN development agenda beyond 2015/post-2015 development agenda” throughout the text.

On **forests and economic development**, debate focused on, *inter alia*: how to account for national circumstances (resolved by including “in accordance with national legislation and policies” in several places in the text); whether to refer to market- or non-market-based approaches or both, which parties agreed to do; whether to include language on landscape level approaches, which they did clarifying it applies in countries that recognize them; whether to use the term “forest goods” or “forest products,” which was clarified to “forest goods, products and services”; whether to highlight indigenous peoples as part of relevant stakeholders, which was agreed; and whether to establish and/or strengthen legal frameworks, with agreement to “establish or strengthen.”

On **regional and subregional inputs**, debate centered on, *inter alia*: roles and responsibilities of the Forum Secretariat; accounting for different visions, approaches and models to achieve sustainable development, in particular how to reference the green economy and the rights of nature; and accounting for a wide range of forest values, including natural capital accounting.

On **progress in implementing the NLBI and achieving its GOFS**, discussions addressed streamlining guidelines and formats for voluntary national reporting.

On **enhanced cooperation**, debates focused on, *inter alia*: streamlining and harmonizing guidelines for national forest-related reporting to CPF member organizations, in order to reduce reporting burdens; the role of the Forum Secretariat; and whether to specifically reference indigenous peoples in text on effectively engaging all Major Groups.

On the **International Day of Forests**, delegates addressed whether the UNFF Secretariat was responsible for organizing the Day, and whether to include language acknowledging that some countries have already specified days other than 21 March for forest celebrations.

**Final Outcome:** Early Saturday morning, 20 April, UNFF Vice-Chair and WGI Co-Chair Masinja presented WGI “Draft Resolution on Agenda Items 3, 4, 5, and 8” to plenary. UNFF10 Chair Carranza noted the document had no programme budget implications. The resolution was adopted by acclamation.

The Resolution on Agenda Items 3, 4, 5 and 8 states that UNFF, *inter alia*:

- recalls the Forest Principles, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which set forth principles including principle 7 on CBDR, Chapter 11 of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration and JPOI, the NLBI and the Rio+20 outcome;
- recalls the UNFF9 Ministerial Declaration;
- recalls UNGA Resolution 61/93 proclaiming 2011 as the International Year of Forests and UNGA Resolution 67/200 proclaiming 21 March of each year the International Day of Forests;
- welcomes progress by member states in implementing the NLBI, while emphasizing that gaps remain with respect to MoI for many countries, especially LFCCs, least developed countries, SIDS and African countries;
- welcomes the efforts of the UNFF Secretariat and the collaborative activities of the CPF in support of the Forum and towards implementing the NLBI, as well as inputs and contributions of regional and subregional organizations and processes and Major Groups;
- recalls the MYPOW and the theme of UNFF10, “Forests and Economic Development,” as well as intersessional CLIs, Region-Led Initiatives and Organization-Led Initiatives;
- recognizes the positive contribution of SFM to achieving sustainable development;
- highlights the social, economic and environmental benefits of forests to people;
- emphasizes that forests, trees outside forests and SFM provide direct and indirect social, economic, environmental and cultural benefits at all levels;
- recognizes the importance of strengthening the role of SFM in enhancing resilience to disaster risk and impacts, and to the adverse impacts of climate change, in particular in developing countries, such as SIDS and LFCCs;
- emphasizes the significance of the discussions on the outcome of Rio+20, on the UN development agenda beyond 2015/post-2015 development agenda and on the review of the effectiveness of the IAF; and
- recognizes the challenges posed to sustainable management of forests and trees outside forests by an increasing urban population.



On **forests and economic development**, the UNFF invites member states to, *inter alia*:

- recognize the contributions of forest goods, products and services to national and local economies, as well as the social, cultural and environmental impacts of forests to rural and urban communities, and to integrate such values in national accounting systems;
- improve the collection, analysis, reporting and dissemination of information and data;
- integrate SFM into national development strategies, and utilize the NLBI as a platform to develop and strengthen linkages with other related sectors;
- take action to address the underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation by supporting economic development strategies that avoid forest degradation and loss, and minimize negative impacts on forests;
- create, strengthen and implement holistic, balanced, comprehensive and coherent policies and strategies that focus on enhancing and promoting the environmental, social, cultural and economic aspects of SFM as a cross-sectoral approach at the local, national and subregional levels, and at a landscape level in countries that recognize it;
- recognize the role that forest ecosystem services play in economic development and strengthen enabling environments, in accordance with national priorities and legislation, to attract increased long-term public and private sector investment in SFM;
- enhance the role and full participation of all relevant stakeholders in the forest sector, including indigenous peoples and local communities, on SFM;
- establish and/or strengthen legal frameworks, as well as the governance and institutional frameworks and policies needed to realize the full potential of forests' contributions to economic development;
- review and, as needed, improve forest-related legislation, strengthen forest law enforcement and promote good governance at all levels to, *inter alia*, support SFM and create enabling environments for forest investment;
- promote public and private investments in SFM, according to national legislation;
- recognize the importance of urban forests and trees and the need to integrate them into urban planning; and
- develop integrated, comprehensive, balanced and coherent policies to reduce the risks and impacts of natural disasters, as well as the adverse effects and impacts of climate change, and to promote resilience of forest ecosystems.

On regional and subregional inputs, the UNFF, *inter alia*:

- welcomes efforts by regional and subregional processes to provide inputs to the UNFF and to strengthen collaboration with CPF member organizations to advance SFM;
- requests the UNFF Secretariat and invites other members of the CPF, in conjunction with regional and subregional processes, to continue to collaborate on issues related to SFM, and to promote North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation;
- invites member states, CPF member organizations and other organizations to enhance the role of forests and SFM in sustainable development, taking into account different

- visions, approaches, models and tools to achieve sustainable development, including a green economy, and considering that some countries recognize the rights of nature;
- encourages member states and invites CPF member organizations, the scientific community, civil society organizations and the private sector to enhance cooperation, to scale up national and local research, and develop and consolidate databases and knowledge management networks;
- invites CPF member organizations to assist countries in assessing the non-market value of forest products, goods and services, including NWFPs and to share lessons learned;
- encourages the UNFF Secretariat and CPF member organizations to assist member states, upon request, in the development of holistic and integrated non-market-based approaches to SFM;
- invites CPF member organizations to continue ongoing international initiatives on recognition and valuation of the wide range of forest values; and
- requests the UNFF to collaborate with UN bodies and CPF member organizations, regional and other relevant organizations and processes, including international financial institutions, on ways to address information and data gaps on values and contributions of forest products, goods and services.

On **progress on implementing the NLBI and achieving its GOFs**, the UNFF, *inter alia*:

- encourages member states to highlight success stories and best practices to address all aspects of the four GOFs, in their reporting to UNFF11;
- invites CPF member organizations, in particular the FAO, to strengthen collaboration with member states on pilot projects for implementing the NLBI; and
- requests the UNFF Secretariat to further streamline the guidelines and format for voluntary national reporting to UNFF11.

On **enhanced cooperation**, the UNFF, *inter alia*:

- encourages member states, CPF member organizations, regional and subregional organizations, and relevant stakeholders to share experiences, lessons learned and best practices regarding SFM;
- encourages regional and subregional organizations and processes and Major Groups to continue to provide coordinated inputs to the UNFF;
- invites the CPF to continue and expand efforts to streamline and harmonize guidelines for national forest-related reporting to CPF member organizations, in order to reduce reporting burdens and promote consistency in reporting; and
- requests the UNFF Secretariat to continue to strengthen its activities to effectively engage all Major Groups, noting the importance of forests to indigenous peoples and local communities.

On the **International Day of Forests**, the UNFF, *inter alia*:

- notes with satisfaction the adoption of UNGA Resolution 67/200 concerning the establishment of the International Day of Forests, and invites member states, the UNFF Secretariat, CPF member organizations, regional and subregional organizations, and Major Groups to organize activities to celebrate this day; and

- encourages member states to organize activities each year to celebrate the International Day of Forests on 21 March or at a time most appropriate to each state.

### **RESOLUTION ON EMERGING ISSUES, MOI AND THE FORUM TRUST FUND**

On Monday morning, 15 April, in WGII, delegates were presented the zero draft of the “Co-Chairs Text on Emerging Issues and MoI for SFM.” The zero draft was prepared on the basis of interventions made by delegates during the first week of UNFF10. The debate in WGII during the first week on the individual topics later combined into the draft resolution is summarized above by agenda item.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, delegates undertook the first reading of the zero draft. An informal group was established on Tuesday, 16 April, to address emerging issues, specifically the 2015 review of the IAF. On Wednesday, 17 April, an informal group was established to address MoI. The second reading of the revised draft text commenced on Wednesday afternoon, with work by the informal groups continuing. The emerging issues informal group concluded their work on Thursday, 18 April, and the MoI informal group concluded late Friday, 19 April. A Bureau meeting convened late Friday to resolve the final outstanding issues and reconcile the language in the WGI and WGII texts. The Resolution on Emerging Issues, MoI and the Forum Trust Fund was adopted by the UNFF10 plenary early on Saturday morning, 20 April.

On the **preambular paragraphs**, debate focused, *inter alia*, on whether to reference the principle of CBDR and the importance of aid effectiveness and how to reference the post-2015 development agenda, with delegates agreeing to call it the UN development agenda beyond 2015/post-2015 development agenda throughout the text.

On the **Rio+20 outcome and the UN development agenda beyond 2015/post-2015 development agenda**, delegates debated how to reference these issues with some cautioning against prejudging the outcomes of these processes.

On the **review of the effectiveness of the IAF**, debate in the informal group focused on which elements should be included in the review, such as MoI for the NLBI and the UNFF in the context of a post-2015 UN development framework. Discussions also addressed the possible components of the review, whether to establish an open-ended intergovernmental AHEG on the IAF review, the number of AHEG meetings and its modalities, and how to finance its work.

On the **Forum Trust Fund**, debate revolved around, *inter alia*, whether to reference the UNFF carrying out “intersessional activities within its mandate” or only those “activities requested by UNFF10.” Debate also addressed whether to spell out exactly how money should be spent or to call for it being spent in the “most efficient and cost-effective manner”; the latter was eventually agreed.

On **MoI**, controversial issues included: whether to establish a focal area on forests under the GEF, with delegates agreeing to invite the GEF to consider the options of establishing a new focal area on forests, and continuing and seeking to improve existing forest finance modalities; and whether to establish a global forest

fund, with delegates agreeing, in the context of the IAF review, to consider a full range of financing options and strategies, including the establishment of a voluntary global forest fund.

Other areas of debate included whether to include references to: the green economy in the context of CLIs; the review and improvement of forest-related legislation to create enabling environments for forest investment; enhanced resources to address thematic, geographic and data gaps in forest financing; market- and non-market-based approaches to SFM and “living in harmony with nature”; and private sector finance.

**Final Outcome:** Early on Saturday morning, 20 April, WGII Co-Chair Juričić introduced the “Draft Resolution on Emerging Issues, MoI and the UNFF Trust Fund.” UNFF10 Chair Carranza noted that the resolution had no programme budget implications. The US, as facilitator of the contact group on MoI under WGII, highlighted that a preambular paragraph referencing CBDR was missing from the text, saying agreement on certain paragraphs by the G-77/China had been contingent on that addition. WGII Co-Chair Abdullah noted this change and the resolution was adopted by acclamation, as orally revised.

In the Resolution on Emerging Issues, MoI and UNFF Trust Fund, the UNFF, *inter alia*:

- recalls the ECOSOC Resolution E/2006/49, and its paragraph 32, in which the ECOSOC decided that the effectiveness of the IAF will be reviewed in 2015;
- recalls further the MYPOW, in which UNFF11 is mandated to discuss the overall theme of “Forests: Progress, Challenges and the Way Forward for the International Arrangement” as well as its three themes, and recognizes the need to make necessary preparation to enable an informed decision on the IAF at UNFF11;
- recalls further the provisions of the UNFF9 Special Session Resolution, which mandated UNFF10 to make a decision on financing SFM, as well as the UNFF9 Ministerial Declaration, in which Ministers committed to take a meaningful decision on financing at UNFF10;
- emphasizes the importance of aid effectiveness;
- emphasizes the significance of the discussions on the Rio+20 outcomes, on the UN development agenda beyond 2015/post-2015 development agenda and on the review of the effectiveness of the IAF; and
- stresses that despite concerted efforts, forests continue to be lost and degraded at an alarming rate, threatening the achievement of sustainable development.

On the Rio+20 outcome, and the UN development agenda beyond 2015/post-2015 development agenda, the UNFF, *inter alia*:

- reiterates the vital role and significant contribution of all types of forests and trees outside forests for achieving sustainable development;
- recognizes the importance of achieving the four GOFs, and that failure to better conserve and sustainably manage all types of forests may put the achievement of other internationally agreed development goals at risk;
- requests the UNFF Secretariat and invites CPF member organizations to promote the message of the importance of forests in the implementation of the Rio+20 outcomes and the



UN development agenda beyond 2015/post-2015 development agenda; and

- encourages member states to fully integrate forests into the discussions on the Rio+20 outcomes and the UN development agenda beyond 2015/post-2015 development agenda.

On the **review of the effectiveness of the IAF**, the UNFF decides that this will happen in 2015 and that on this basis a full range of options will be considered, including a legally binding agreement or strengthening or continuing the current arrangement. The text sets out the elements to be included in the review and decides that the review shall have the following components: submissions by countries, the CPF, CPF members and other relevant organizations and stakeholders; an independent assessment of the IAF; and an open-ended intergovernmental AHEG on the IAF review in 2015.

The UNFF further:

- establishes the AHEG to conduct no more than two meetings before UNFF11, which will review the IAF's performance and effectiveness;
- expresses appreciation for contributions towards the work of the UNFF and strongly urges voluntary contributions to support the IAF review process; and
- invites countries, organizations and Major Groups that organize CLIs, region-led initiatives and organization-led initiatives to provide information to the UNFF Secretariat on their contributions.

On the **Forum Trust Fund**, the UNFF calls on donors and other countries in a position to do so to provide financial support to the Forum Trust Fund, in order to support developing countries' participation in the AHEG and to enable the UNFF Secretariat to carry out its intersessional activities within its mandate.

On **MoI**, the UNFF, *inter alia*:

- takes note of the report of the Advisory Group on Finance of the CPF acknowledging significant progress towards achieving the four GOFs, limitations in data collection, and thematic and geographical gaps in respect of financial flows for SFM and the amount of finance distributed;
- recognizes the evolution of forest financing and that a number of new financing instruments and mechanisms have emerged to address thematic elements of SFM; and
- reiterates that there is no single solution to address all forest financing needs and a combination of actions is required at all levels, by all stakeholders and from all sources.

The UNFF also invites member states, the donor community and other relevant stakeholders to:

- review, and as needed, improve forest-related legislation, strengthen forest law enforcement and promote good governance at all levels to support SFM, in order to create an enabling environment for forest investment, combat and eradicate illegal practices, and promote secure land tenure, in accordance with national legislation, policies and priorities;
- provide enhanced resources to address thematic, geographic and data gaps in forest financing, and increase forest financing for the implementation of the NLBI; and
- consider using a variety of approaches, including market-based approaches, to develop and promote production and

consumption of forest products from SFM and strengthen international cooperation.

It invites member states to:

- integrate SFM into national development plans and strategies, sectoral policies, programmes and investments, decision-making processes, taking into account the NLBI;
- incorporate a combination of financing approaches in national forest programmes or their equivalent;
- strengthen efforts to identify the monetary and non-monetary values of forest goods and services, including reflecting values in national budgets and accounts, consistent with national policies, priorities and legislation;
- promote the development of market- and non-market-based approaches to address SFM in a holistic, comprehensive and integrated manner to guide humanity towards living in harmony with nature;
- mobilize financing for forests and trees outside forests from all sources; and
- harness the potential of the private sector to finance SFM.

The UNFF further:

- calls upon relevant regional and subregional organizations, processes and networks to develop or support SFM financing, technology transfer and capacity-building initiatives, and invites donors, multilateral and regional financial institutions and other stakeholders to support these efforts;
- invites countries and relevant CPF member organizations to continue facilitating regional and other processes, especially in LFCCs, SIDS, least developed countries and Africa, in support of the implementation of the NLBI and the overall theme of UNFF11;
- invites international financial institutions with forest financing programmes to further consider ways to simplify and streamline procedures, consistent with their mandates, in order to improve access to, and efficiency in, the use of their funding;
- welcomes the development of the SFM Strategy for GEF-6 and, in that context, invites the GEF to consider ways to strengthen its support for SFM through, *inter alia*, enhancing mobilization of financial resources for the GEF SFM strategy in GEF-6 and subsequent replenishment periods, and considering the options of establishing a new focal area on forests and improving existing forest financing modalities, taking into account the ongoing evaluation of the GEF-5 SFM/REDD+ Incentive Mechanism;
- invites the GEF to improve and simplify access to funding for SFM, continue and strengthen the dissemination of information on SFM financing, and provide information to UNFF sessions on the mobilization of financial resources and funds dedicated to SFM;
- encourages member states to take full advantage of the considerable resources still available in the existing GEF-5 SFM/REDD+ Incentive Mechanism, and for GEF to simplify access within this current cycle;
- invites multilateral financial institutions to give special consideration to developing countries in accessing funds;
- invites donors to continue to provide resources to the Facilitative Process to enable it to carry out all of its functions;

- invites relevant CPF member organizations to consider strengthening their efforts to collect and facilitate access to data on forest financial flows;
- invites relevant CPF member organizations, in cooperation with the private sector, to gather and make available to the UNFF, information about the scale of private sector investment flows for SFM;
- welcomes the work of the FAO on collecting data about national public funding for SFM;
- invites forest-related conventions and mechanisms, as well as the multilateral and regional financial institutions, donors and member states in a position to do so, to increase financing for SFM; and
- decides to consider a full range of financing options and strategies, including the establishment of a voluntary global forest fund, in order to mobilize resources from all sources in support of SFM.

### **CLOSING PLENARY**

Early Saturday morning, 20 April, delegates convened for the closing plenary of UNFF10. Following adoption of the “Resolution on Agenda Items 3, 4, 5 and 8,” and the “Resolution on Emerging Issues, MoI, and the Forum Trust Fund,” the plenary adopted, by acclamation, a decision expressing gratitude to the Government of Turkey for hosting UNFF10. The plenary also adopted, by acclamation, a decision to hold UNFF11 in 2015 and invite ECOSOC to determine the date and venue. Delegates then adopted the provisional agenda of UNFF11 (E/CN.18/2013/L1). UNFF10 Rapporteur Abdullah presented the Report of UNFF10 (E/CN.18/2013/L2), which delegates adopted.

In closing statements, the EU lauded the outcomes of UNFF10, including the resolution on the importance of forests for economic development, and the agreement on MoI for SFM. He urged improving interaction with Major Groups.

Fiji, for the G-77/China, called for integrating the contribution, and importance, of forests for sustainable development into the UN development agenda beyond 2015. The US underscored that the decision on MoI is an integral component of the future IAF.

Mahir Küçük, Deputy Undersecretary of the Ministry of Forest and Water Affairs, Turkey, lauded UNFF10 for highlighting the role of forests in sustainable development and poverty eradication. He noted that the outcomes of the session should have a significant impact in ensuring sustainable forest financing.

UNFF Director McAlpine stressed that the high-level participation at the beginning of UNFF10 underscores the growing importance of forests. She applauded delegates for working to reach an agreement on the roadmap for the 2015 IAF review and MoI for SFM.

UNFF10 Chair Carranza noted that the outcomes of UNFF10 will enhance SFM implementation at all levels. With all of the other delegations, Carranza thanked UNFF Director McAlpine for her leadership at UNFF10, the last session before her retirement.

UNFF10 was gavelled to a close at 2:46 am.

## **UNFF11 REPORT**

Following the closing of UNFF10 on Saturday, 20 April, Chair Carranza opened the eleventh session of the UNFF for the election of officers. Delegates nominated to the UNFF11 Bureau: Macharia Kamau (Kenya) for the African Group; Srećko Juričić (Croatia) for the Eastern European Group; and Heikki Granholm (Finland) for the Western Europe and Others Group. Chair Carranza urged the Asian Group and the Latin American and Caribbean Group to quickly nominate Bureau members. The first meeting of UNFF11 was suspended at 2:51 am.

### **A BRIEF ANALYSIS OF UNFF10**

As delegates and participants arrived in Istanbul, activity in the city’s famous back alleys and courtyards of the old bazaars and spice markets provided an apt preview of negotiations at the tenth session of the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF10). Much like the buyers and sellers in the markets, delegates moved from their starting positions, albeit reluctantly, bargaining towards convergence in an effort to reach a mutually acceptable agreement. And at the end of the day, despite the offers of tea, coffee and interesting vistas, the deal was primarily contingent on money.

UNFF10, convening under the theme “Forests and Economic Development,” came at a crucial point for the international arrangement on forests (IAF). Not only are the ongoing discussions on the post-2015 development agenda motivating the UNFF to advance the prominence of forests on the development agenda, but UNFF10 was also tasked with deciding on the means of implementation (MoI) for sustainable forest management (SFM) and ensuring adequate preparation for the 2015 review of the IAF.

This brief analysis assesses progress made by UNFF10 in achieving these objectives and examines how outcomes on these issues were reached in the context of the broader evolution of the UNFF and its instruments and the impending 2015 benchmark.

### **THE HARD BARGAIN**

Developing countries have repeatedly called for establishing a global forest fund that will provide dedicated funding for SFM, emphasizing that current levels of funding are either insufficient or plagued by cumbersome access procedures. This sentiment was echoed by the 2012 Study on Forest Financing, undertaken by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), which estimated global funding needed for SFM to be between US\$70 and US\$160 billion annually. However, the study also supports the view, repeatedly expressed by donor countries, that no single instrument can effectively address the financing needs of SFM.

With the upcoming 2015 review of the IAF, establishing a global forest fund at UNFF10 was deemed by many to be premature, given that the outcomes of the review process will determine the future of the UNFF. Indeed, some donor countries expressed a willingness to discuss a global forest fund only in the context of negotiating a legally binding agreement on forests, a decision on which will be made following the 2015 review of the IAF. The notion of linking forest financing to the outcome of the 2015 IAF review was echoed by donor countries when developing country delegates proposed establishing a dedicated window on financing for SFM at the sixth, and future,

replenishment cycles of the GEF. The final decision to consider establishing a voluntary global forest fund as an integral part of the overall review of the IAF underscores this.

Long debates over increasing the GEF support for SFM took place over the course of the final week. Some encouraged caution when deciding on language calling for the GEF to strengthen its support for SFM, even while supporting the view that increased SFM financing through the GEF should be considered. They pointed out that given that the GEF is not a financial mechanism of the UNFF and the UNFF therefore cannot direct its activities, such strong language could have the opposite effect, politically, of making the GEF less inclined to consider the request. Others noted that, in fact, not all of the funding currently available for SFM financing under the GEF has been disbursed. This led to a debate over why more financial support for SFM was being called for if currently available funding had not been utilized.

UNFF10 was reminded early on that the discussion on MoI for SFM is not solely about money but also encompasses technology transfer and capacity building. Discussion on these aspects seemed to be lacking, which some lamented, pointing out that increasing countries' capacity to access and use existing finance in an efficient manner would help allay funding concerns. Some seasoned delegates stressed that if current funding is not used efficiently, with planning and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in place, donors would be reluctant to increase funding in the future.

Indeed, many delegates stressed that ensuring good national governance and management of donor funding should be a prerequisite for enhanced funding. Others countered that, given that a relatively small proportion of SFM funding goes to those most in need (low-income countries receive approximately 17% of forestry-related official development assistance, according to the 2012 Study on Forest Financing), a "package deal," comprising capacity building, technology transfer, a global forest fund, and streamlined and simplified access to forest financing, could address these gaps.

### **WAY STATION ALONG THE SILK ROAD**

The UNFF's Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) for 2007-2015 tasks the Forum with reviewing the effectiveness of the IAF, including the UNFF and the CPF, and deciding on its future in 2015. Thus, it was crucial for delegates at UNFF10 to decide on a roadmap so that an informed decision on the future of the IAF can be made at UNFF11 in 2015.

The timing of this review coincides with discussions on the post-2015 development agenda. The roadmap, therefore, needs to ensure that forests remain prominent in the global development agenda. While there is an increasing recognition of forests' importance, there is an obvious need for political leaders to be provided with the business case for forests, as there is already concern among some that forests are slipping off the agenda. As a result, a number of seasoned delegates thought that transformation and reorganization of the UNFF is needed in order for it to continue contributing to forest policy and governance in a meaningful way. A well thought-out review that aids in identifying a future framework that systematically documents the nature and extent of human dependence on forests could address this concern. Two options for consideration under

the review include either establishing a legally binding treaty on forests or ensuring that the UNFF has a coordination role within the IAF, with legally binding agreements at, for instance, the regional level.

These alternatives have been debated for many years now. Although some did raise this issue in discussions, others reminded delegates at UNFF10 not to pre-empt the outcomes of the review process, but instead, to reach agreement on a roadmap for the decision on the future of the IAF.

Leaving Istanbul with a solid roadmap in place provides the foundation for a transparent, credible approach to assessing the current IAF, which, as some delegates pointed out, means the basis for a sound decision at UNFF11. Despite contention on the finer details of the review modalities, parties converged early on the necessity of a solid roadmap in order to ensure the best possible outcomes on the future of forests.

### **A TURKISH TEA FOR THE ROADMAP HOME**

The UNFF, and more generally, the IAF, are sitting at a critical juncture. They are faced with a period of intense scrutiny and uncertain future while the 2015 review of the IAF gets underway. In ensuring an independent, credible review with input from stakeholders through the adoption of a roadmap for the IAF Review, UNFF10 did its best, according to many delegates, to ensure that a sound, well-informed decision on the UNFF's future is made in 2015.

And while UNFF10 deserves the laudatory statements made by delegates on the adoption of a resolution on MoI for SFM—an agreement that has been routinely deferred—the UNFF10 outcomes recognize that at this juncture, establishing a funding mechanism specifically for forests is impractical, given the uncertainty about the outcomes of the IAF review. Although, as delegates noted, the UNFF10 outcomes advance forest finance beyond the *status quo*, UNFF10 leaves major questions on the possibility of a global forest fund intertwined with the future of the IAF and UNFF to be decided at UNFF11.

At the end of two weeks, after wending their way through the crowded market places, making bargains along the way, tired delegates reached the shores of the Bosphorus Strait, ready to board the ship to UNFF11. They hold in their hands a clear map of the complicated road ahead on the way to this destination and an understanding of the harder bargains that must be struck once they arrive.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**International Conference on Forests for Food Security and Nutrition:** The FAO, with the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), ICRAF and Bioversity International, present this conference to increase understanding of the crucial role that forests, trees on farms and agroforestry systems can play in improving the food security and nutrition of rural people, especially in developing countries. The conference will propose ways to integrate this knowledge in policy decisions at the national and international levels. **dates:** 13-15 May 2013 **location:** FAO headquarters, Rome, Italy **contact:** FAO **fax:** +39 0657055514 **email:** forests-foodsecurity@fao.org **www:** <http://www.fao.org/forestry/food-security/en/>



**Global Timber Forum:** The FAO Forestry Department, with the European Timber Trade Federation and The Forest Trust will convene the first Global Timber Forum to provide a platform to share experiences on the changing timber trade conditions from around the world, to initiate collaborative actions for fostering responsible trade in a timely manner. **dates:** 22-23 May 2013 **location:** FAO headquarters, Rome, Italy **contact:** Jukka Tissari **email:** jukka.tissari@fao.org **www:** <http://www.fao.org/forestry/trade/82078/en/>

**INC-Forests 4:** The fourth and final session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe (INC-Forests 4) is slated to complete negotiations for a legally binding agreement on forests. **dates:** 10-14 June 2013 **location:** Warsaw, Poland **contact:** INC-Forests Secretariat **email:** INC-Forests@foresteurope.org **www:** <http://www.forestnegotiations.org>

**Special Session of the UNECE Timber Committee:** The UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Timber Committee, along with the European Forestry Commission (EFC), is convening a special session to consider: the draft Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy; the draft Joint Programme of Work 2014-17 for the Timber Committee and the EFC; the results of the UNECE review and its implications on the work programme of the UNECE-FAO Forestry and Timber Section; and the outcome of the 35th Session of the Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management. **dates:** 17-18 June 2013 **location:** Geneva, Switzerland **contact:** Paola Deda **phone:** +41-22-917 1379 **fax:** +41-22-917 0041 **email:** Paola.deda@unece.org **www:** <http://www.unece.org/forests/extraordinarytc-efcmeeting.html>

**Global Symposium: REDD+ in Green Economy:** Organized jointly by FAO, UNDP and UNEP, the Global Symposium aims to take stock of lessons learned with a view to providing key decision makers with a stronger rationale for linking REDD+ planning and investment with green economy efforts. The symposium will focus on the role of comprehensive land-use planning for capturing environmental, economic and social benefits from REDD+ investments. **dates:** 19-21 June 2013 **location:** Indonesia **contact:** John Prydz **email:** John.Prydz@unep.org **www:** [http://un-redd.org/REDD\\_in\\_Green\\_Economy\\_Global\\_Symposium/tabid/105931/Default.aspx](http://un-redd.org/REDD_in_Green_Economy_Global_Symposium/tabid/105931/Default.aspx)

**Forests Africa: Opportunities for a Green Economy Conference:** UNEP and CIFOR will host this conference aimed at establishing the important role of forest resources for national well-being and economic progress in Sub-Saharan Africa and showcasing related policy solutions. Key forest stakeholders will be invited to share knowledge and experience on how improved policies and fiscal incentives attract increased investment and stimulate green growth, and how landscape-level planning can be improved to achieve win-win scenarios across different land use demands. A TED event will be organized on the second evening to reach out to the global community. **dates:** 17-19 September 2013 **location:** Nairobi, Kenya **contact:** John Prydz **email:** John.Prydz@unep.org **www:** [http://un-redd.org/Opportunities\\_for\\_a\\_GreenEconomy\\_Conference/tabid/106056/Default.aspx](http://un-redd.org/Opportunities_for_a_GreenEconomy_Conference/tabid/106056/Default.aspx)

**ITTC-49:** The 49th Session of the International Tropical Timber Council (ITTC) and the Associated Sessions of the four Committees (Finance and Administration, Economic Information

and Market Intelligence, Forest Industry, and Reforestation and Forest Management) are scheduled to take place in Libreville, Gabon. **dates:** 25-30 November 2013 **location:** Libreville, Gabon **contact:** ITTO Secretariat **phone:** +81-45-223-1110 **fax:** +81-45-223-1111 **email:** itto@itto.or.jp **www:** <http://www.itto.int>

**World Congress on Agroforestry:** Organized under the theme “Trees for Life – Accelerating the Impacts of Agroforestry,” this Congress is intended to raise awareness of, and share knowledge and information on, agroforestry and associated research. The Congress is also intended to increase support for agroforestry on all fronts, including through collaboration with the private sector. It is organized by ICRAF, in collaboration with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the Indian Society of Agroforestry and Global Initiatives. **dates:** 10-14 February 2014 **location:** Delhi, India **contact:** Patrick Schulze **phone:** +65 6411 6610 **email:** patrick.schulze@globalinitiatives.com or info@wca2014.org **www:** <http://www.wca2014.org/index.html>

**UNFF11:** Organized around the overarching theme of “Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward for the international arrangement,” the meeting is expected to address, in particular the outcomes of the review of the IAF. **dates:** 2015 **location:** TBD **contact:** UNFF Secretariat **phone:** +1-212-936-3401 **fax:** +1-917-367-3186 **www:** <http://www.un.org/esa/forests/>

## GLOSSARY

AHEG	<i>Ad Hoc</i> Expert Group
CBDR	Common but differentiated responsibilities
CLIs	Country-led initiatives
CPF	Collaborative Partnership on Forests
ECOSOC	UN Economic and Social Council
ESTs	Environmentally sound technologies
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GOFs	Global Objectives on Forests
IAF	International arrangement on forests
LFCC	Low forest cover countries
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MoI	Means of implementation
MYPOW	Multi-Year Programme of Work
NLBI	Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests (or forest instrument)
NWFPs	Non-wood forest products
ODA	Official development assistance
REDD+	Reduced emissions from avoided deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries, and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries
SDGs	Sustainable development goals
SFM	Sustainable forest management
UNCSD	UN Conference on Sustainable Development (or Rio+20)
UNFF	UN Forum on Forests