

Summary
United Nations Forum on Forests Multi-Stakeholder Consultation 2
25 May 2003
International Labor Organization (ILO) Headquarters - Geneva, Switzerland

Participants

Business and Industry

International Council of Forestry and Paper Associations (ICFPA), Mr. Marvin Brown

Scientific and Technological Community

International Union of Forest and Research Organizations (IUFRO), Mr. Alexander Buck

Trade Unions

International Federation of Building and Wood Workers (IFBWW), Mr. William Street

Private Forest Landowners

Confederation of European Private Forest Landowners (CEPF), Ms. Natalie Hufnagl

CEPF, Mr. Joseph Barton

Women

Greener Earth Organization, Ms. Sandra Kesse

UNFF Secretariat

Mr. Pekka Patosaari

Mr. Kari Kangas

Ms. Barbara Tavora

Ms. Gill Shepherd

Ms. Emilie Maubert

Ms. Abigail Sarmac

1. Introduction

Mr. Pekka Patosaari, coordinator and head of the UNFF Secretariat opened the second major group Consultation meeting, welcoming the major group representatives to Geneva and emphasized the UNFF Secretariat's dedication to facilitating the effective participation of civil society in UNFF. He looked forward to the upcoming Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (MSD) to take place Tuesday 27 May 2003.

The UNFF3 Bureau representatives from Iran, Argentina, Portugal, assured major group of their anticipation of the input the civil society will bring to the table at UNFF3 and their commitment to the construction of a meaningful dialogue in the coming weeks.

The group nominated Mr. William Street from IFBWW as the Chairman of the day's meeting. The Chair suggested going through the provisional agenda compiled by the UNFF Secretariat on the following issues:

The day thus was aimed at 1) discussing participation issues to lobby during UNFF3 and 2) logistic matters in preparation for the substantive MSD discussion to take place Tuesday.

2. Results/Decisions of the Consultation

Participation Issues to Lobby

Accreditation was raised as an issue to continue to monitor. It was highlighted that the UNFF Secretariat has circulated a list of forest related NGOs that have been active in the IPF/IFF/UNFF sessions and that will be formally communicated to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) NGO Unit. Further suggestions of other NGOs to be included in this list were solicited and should be sent to the UNFF Secretariat.

The development of **UNFF Session documentation** such as the Secretariat General's Reports and other relevant information for UNFF sessions was mentioned as an important area to begin exploring the possibilities of major group participation. Major groups have much experience to bear in the topics of UNFF and the documentation used by UNFF participants would be another key way of highlighting major group contribution to implementation of IPF/IFF proposals for action and the UNFF Plan of Action.

Opportunities for participation in **inter-sessional work** were also highlighted, specifically, the UNFF *ad hoc expert groups*, if established. It was pointed out that heavy lobbying of key governments should be a priority for major groups at UNFF3 in order to ensure civil society is not forgotten in the ad hoc expert group decision. Major groups along with the UNFF Secretariat should also systematically explore the possibilities of effectively including major groups in the various *country and organization led initiatives* (CLI) between UNFF sessions. Direct contact with the organizers of these CLI was encouraged.

Funds to support representatives to UNFF meetings were highlighted as an important topic to lobby during UNFF3. The UNFF Secretariat provided text on similar funds that have been set up to support civil society participation within the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). Several participants were supportive of the idea and suggested those major groups most affected, i.e. indigenous peoples, NGOs, women and youth should lobby governments. Trade unions offered to work as facilitator with these groups and sympathetic governments.

Given the topics of UNFF4, such as Traditional Forest Related Knowledge and Social and Cultural Aspects of Forests are quite relevant to major groups, a possible **major group organization led** initiative was briefly discussed. Next steps include definition of possible themes of an initiative and identification of potential donors for lobby throughout UNFF3.

The value added and possible linkages with the **Collaborative Partnership on Forest (CPF) Network** was also introduced. This topic was left pending until major group focal points can gather further information on the CPF Network and explore possible linkages between the two groups. A consultant with the UNFF Secretariat has also been charged with this task and results of her study will be circulated as soon as available.

Logistics of MSD at UNFF3

Much discussion at the Consultation centered on logistical matters in order to best coordinate the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue formal sessions to take place Tuesday 27 May 2003.

The ***Orchestration of MSD at UNFF3*** was discussed and clarified. It was decided that the morning would be chaired by the Chairman of the UNFF Bureau and would be facilitated by Natalie Hufnagl, representative of the small forest landowners major group. This first morning session would consist of presentations on the synthesis papers of the major groups involved in the development of those viewpoints common to all major groups. The afternoon would be chaired by a member of the UNFF3 Bureau and would be facilitated by Ms. Linda Mossop, representative of South Africa. The afternoon session would be scripted around 8 key questions that were decided during the meeting. The questions addressed the following topics:

- how governments are concretely involving major groups such as indigenous peoples in their national forest programs
- sustainable livelihoods
- how states are dealing with governance issues
- successful examples of compensation to landowners for natural resource and environmental services
- how governments use criteria and indicators in forest policy planning
- positive examples of cross-sectoral policy development
- land tenure
- non- timber values of forests
- successful government models integrating social standards into NFPs

. Finally, three successful case studies would be presented, if time permits.

A mechanism for commenting on the ***MSD summary*** was established. Participants volunteered to be part of an informal drafting committee. The Chairman of the MSD will be the official drafter of the Summary of course and he will approve all text, however, it was made clear that ample opportunity for civil society comment on the text would be ensured.

A ***MSD Caucus*** will take place Monday afternoon 1 – 3 pm. The goals of the Caucus are to communicate the results of the Consultation, as well as to reach out to other major group representatives that have not been active participants so far. It was decided that IUFRO would chair the MSD caucus.