



United Nations  
Forum on Forests



## Are you ready for UNFF 3?



**Message from  
Pekka Patosaari,  
Coordinator and Head**

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The third session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF 3) is fast approaching. As my first UNFF Session as Coordinator and Head of the UNFF Secretariat, I am especially looking forward to working with you all towards this next session's positive outcomes. Thus, I begin this issue with information that I hope will facilitate the planning of your participation in the session is scheduled for 26 May to 6 June 2003 in Geneva, Switzerland. UNFF 3 will focus on the following elements:

- economic aspects of forests;
- forest health and productivity;
- maintaining forest cover to meet present and future needs

UNFF 3 will also address enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination, as well as the outstanding issue of ad hoc expert groups.

The session will include a one-day multi-stakeholder dialogue, in which major groups are encouraged to share their views, experiences and lessons learned regarding the UNFF 3 elements.

Advance un-edited documents for

UNFF 3 will be ready and posted on the UNFF website by end of March 2003. For further information about registration and accreditation please visit the UNFF web site.

In conjunction with the session governments, international organizations and major groups are encouraged to organize side events, which relate to the main elements of the session. Side events are scheduled in UN meeting rooms outside the regular meeting times (normally between 1:15-2:45 pm and 6:15-7.30 pm). For side events guidelines, please visit the following web site: [http://www.un.org/esa/forests/docs/new\\_side\\_event\\_app.doc](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/docs/new_side_event_app.doc)

May and June are busy months in Geneva. Many other UN and non-UN meetings will take place at the same time. Therefore, it is recommended that you make your hotel reservation early.

For further information on the session please contact Ms. Luz Aragon, at [aragonm@un.org](mailto:aragonm@un.org)

Again, I look forward to working with you all in these months leading to UNFF. With your participation, I am sure we can make UNFF a success.

## Jag Maini receives an Brazilian award

Jag Maini, the former Coordinator and Head of UNFF Secretariat, was given the honorary award "*Ordem Nacional do Cruzeiro do Sul*" (National Order of the Southern Cross) by the President of Brazil, in recognition of Mr Maini's outstanding work on promoting sustainable forest management world-wide.

The award ceremony was held on 24 January 2003, in New York, at the residence of H.E. Mr. Gelson Fonseca Jr, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations. In his speech, Mr. Maini thanked the president and the Brazilian people for honouring him with this award.

## UNFF Secretariat on a Retreat

The UNFF Secretariat headed into the forests on a two-day retreat on 29-30 January 2003, to discuss and develop a strategy and work program for the next few years. The retreat was held at Black Rock Forest, a 3,785 Acre natural area in the Hudson Valley of New York State.

The Black Rock Forest was originally established as a facility for forest management research in 1928 by Harvard University. However, today, Black Rock Forest Consortium, comprised of private and public educational and research institutions, manage the forests for scientific research and educational purposes.

During the retreat, the UNFF Secretariat was given a tour of the Black Rock Forest by Dr. William Schuster, Director of the Black Rock Forest Consortium.

In addition to a variety of team building exercises, the UNFF Secretariat held discussions on results-based management and the development of a strategic process using the Balance Scorecard method.



*Part of the UNFF Secretariat outside the field station in the Black Rock Forests.. From left: Mahendra Joshi, Kyaw Kyaw Shane, Jorge Illueca, Susan Fora, Abby Sar-mac, Mia Soderlund, Pekka Patosaari, Luz Aragon, Catalina Santamaria, Emilie Maubert*

## Managua Workshop

A Workshop on Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies for Mangrove Forests (TESTS) will be held on 3-5 March 2003 in Managua, Nicaragua.

The Workshop is being organized by the government of Nicaragua as a country-led initiative in support of the UNFF. The Workshop will focus on:

- review the status of mangrove forests in the Americas;
- assess the state of scientific knowledge and technological development for sustainable management of mangroves;

- examine opportunities, as well as obstacles, for facilitating the transfer of environmentally sound technologies for the sustainable management of mangrove;
- identify elements for regional strategies for the sustainable development of mangrove forests.

For further information on the Workshop please contact Mr. Jorge Illueca, UNFF Secretariat at [illueca@un.org](mailto:illueca@un.org)

### UNFF Session

UNFF 3rd Session in Geneva, Switzerland. 26 May-6 June, 2003.

### CPF Meeting

CPF 8th Meeting in Rome, Italy. 9 March 2003.

### Other Meetings

Country-led Initiative on Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies for Mangrove Forests. Managua, Nicaragua on 3-5 March, 2003.

UNFF MSD Consultation Meeting of UNFF Major Group Focal Points. Rome, Italy on 8-9 March 2003. Contact your respective focal point for further information-[http://www.un.org/esa/forests/contacts-major\\_groups.html](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/contacts-major_groups.html)

Country-led Initiative on Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting on Lessons Learned in the Assessment of the IPF/IFF Proposals for Action. Viterbo, Italy on 17-20 March, 2003.

Country-led Initiative Expert Meeting on the Role of Planted Forests in SFM. Wellington, New Zealand on 24-28 March 2003.

### Informal Newsletter Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests

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*The UNFF newsletter aims to provide updated information on matters related to the international arrangement on forests.*

*This informal newsletter is produced and distributed electronically by the UNFF Secretariat. If you wish to subscribe to this free newsletter contact the Secretariat at [unff@un.org](mailto:unff@un.org).*