

United Nations  
Forum on Forests



# Happy Holidays 2004

## PEKKA'S CORNER

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

At the fourth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF 4), member States agreed on a process for the review of the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF). Member States, CPF members and other relevant organizations and processes were invited to submit responses to a questionnaire prepared during UNFF 4. Based on these responses, member States will assess the International Arrangement on Forests against a set of criteria that were decided upon shortly after the establishment of the UNFF in 2000. This will provide member States a reflection of how the Arrangement's constituencies see its effectiveness, and hopefully indicate a way forward. To do this, The UNFF Secretariat needs a high and representative response. I, therefore urge all representatives of member States, CPF members and other relevant organizations if you haven't already done so, to respond to the questionnaire. To view the questionnaire, please go to: <http://www.un.org/esa/forests/documents-unff.html>

As we come to the end of 2004, I would also like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and prosperous 2005.

Pekka Patosaari,  
Director,  
UNFF Secretariat

## COUNTRY-LED INITIATIVE IN SUPPORT OF UNFF ON THE FUTURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENT ON FORESTS MEXICO 25-28 JANUARY 2005

A meeting, to discuss the future of the international arrangement on forests (IAF), will be held from 25 to 28 January 2005, in Guadalajara, Mexico. The meeting will further elaborate the critical elements desired by countries in order to increase the effectiveness of the IAF. Participants will focus on the options for institutional modalities and financial mechanisms of an enhanced IAF as an agent for promoting significant improvement in the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests to achieve sustainable forest management. Outcomes of the meeting will serve as an informal contribution to UNFF 5. The country-led initiative is hosted by Mexico.

For more information on the initiative go to: <http://www.un.org/esa/forests/gov-cli-mexico05.html>.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Please visit our website for all forest related events:  
<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/2005.html>.

## UNFF BUREAU HOLDS THIRD MEETING 11 NOVEMBER 2004

The UNFF 5 Bureau met in UN Headquarters in New York on Friday 11 November 2004. Bureau members considered among other things, preparations for the fifth session of UNFF and follow-up to the meeting of the ad hoc expert group on consideration with a view to recommending the parameters of a mandate for developing a legal framework on all types of forests which was held in September 2004. The UNFF Secretariat briefed the bureau on the status of preparations for the fifth session; the High-level Ministerial Segment (HLS); and the country-led initiative in support of UNFF on the future of the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF). The high-level segment at UNFF5 will be held on 25-26 May 2005. The next Bureau meeting will be held in Mid-January.

For more information on the UNFF 5 Bureau go to: <http://www.un.org/esa/forests/bureau.html>.

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