

UN Forum on Forests: Recent developments in the international forest policy process

**African-Nordic Collaboration on
Sustainable Forest Management Seminar
21 May, 2007 - Stockholm**

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International Dialogue on Forests



- Intergovernmental forest policy process
- United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)
- Outcomes of the Seventh session of UNFF (April 2007)
- Looking ahead



United Nations Forum on Forests



- A unique UN body, formed in 2000
- Universal membership
- To promote SFM and strengthen political commitment
- To advance international policy dialogue and cooperation



Global Objectives on Forests



- Reverse the loss of forest cover...and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation
- Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, ... improve the livelihoods of forest-dependent people
- Increase significantly the area of protected and other sustainably managed forests, and increase the proportion of forest products derived from sustainably managed forests; and
- Reverse the decline in official development assistance for SFM and mobilize significantly increased new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of SFM



UNFF 7



- 16-27 April 2007, New York
- New multi-year programme of work (2007-2015)
- Non-legally binding instrument
- International Year of Forests 2011



Looking ahead



- UNFF8 in 2009
- UNFF9 in 2011
 - International Year of Forests
 - High-level Ministerial Segment'
 - **Community Based Forest Management** (including, Urban and rural forests)
- UNFF10 (2013)
 - **Forest Products and Services** (including nature-based tourism)
 - **Benefits of forests and trees to urban communities** (including water management, upstream-downstream impacts)
- UNFF11 (2015)
 - Review
 - High-level Ministerial Segment



Looking ahead



- New funding mechanism expected
- Renewed political commitment at national, regional and international levels
- Greater participation of stakeholders



Links with SFM in Africa Project - achievements



- Successful collaboration with the SFM in Africa Project
- Increased participation of African delegates at UNFF
- Facilitation of the preparatory meeting for UNFF-7 (historic coordination between the Anglophone and Francophone Africa)
- Project proposals
- Founding member of AFF



UNFF Role in forestry developments in Africa and on African-Nordic Collaboration



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- Monitor progress towards achievement of Global Objectives on Forests
- Facilitate implementation of NLBI
- Facilitate greater participation of African forestry stakeholders in UNFF sessions
- Facilitate greater cooperation & collaboration towards SFM
- African regional inputs to UNFF
- A forum for dialogue on regional perspectives



Thank You



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[www/un.org/esa/forests/](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/)