

## **Means of implementation for sustainable forest management**

**(Co-Facilitators' negotiating text for informal consultation of 15-16 Sep. 2009)**

*The United Nations Forum on Forests,*

*PP1. Recalling General Assembly resolution 62/98 of 17 December 2007, in which the Assembly adopted the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests (only pending issue for this paragraph at UNFF8 was the reference to the title for the NLBI)*

*PP2. Reaffirming the commitment to the global partnership for development set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"), and the 2005 World Summit Outcome, (pp9 of resolution 60/188 on financing for development),*

*PP3. Reaffirming the commitment of Member States to the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, including that States have, in accordance with the Charter of the UN and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental and development policies and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction and to the common but differentiated responsibilities of countries, as set out in Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, ( pp4 of the NLBI-GA resolution 62/98)*

*PP4. [Agreed]\* Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/40, in which the Council decided to develop and consider, with a view to its adoption at the eighth session of the Forum, a voluntary global financial mechanism/portfolio approach/forest financing framework for all types of forests, aiming at mobilizing significantly increased, new and additional resources from all sources, based on existing and emerging innovative approaches, also taking into account assessments and reviews of current financial mechanisms to support the implementation of sustainable forest management, the achievement of the global objectives on forests and the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests,*

*PP5. [Agreed]\* Stressing that sustainable forest management contributes extensively to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in particular with respect to poverty eradication and environmental sustainability as well as global efforts to fight climate change, combat desertification, and the conservation and sustainable use of the biodiversity, along with numerous other benefits for the betterment of the livelihoods of the people,*

**PP6. [Agreed]\*** *Emphasizing that effective implementation of sustainable forest management is critically dependent upon adequate resources, including financing, capacity development and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies, and recognizing in particular the need to mobilize increased financial resources, including from innovative sources, for developing countries, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition,*

**PP7.** *Recognizing the insufficiency of current financing from all sources for sustainable forest management and the urgent need to mobilize new and additional financial resources from all sources for sustainable forest management, in particular, for the effective implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests and the achievement of the four global objectives on forests, taking into account the special needs and circumstances of Africa, least developed countries, low forest cover countries, high forest cover countries, high forest cover low deforestation countries, medium forest cover countries and small island developing States, ( only pending issue for this paragraph at UNFF8 was the reference to the title for the NLBI)*

**PP8. [Agreed]\*** *Recognizing further the difficulties of Member States, particularly developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition in accessing funding for sustainable forest management; and in this regard emphasizing the need to simplify and clarify relevant procedures and improve access to these funds,*

**PP9. [Agreed]\*** *Recognizing the need to raise the level of priority given to the forest sector by all Member States,*

**PP10. [Agreed]\*** *Stressing the importance of creating effective enabling conditions for investments, including private investments, in sustainable forest management, and emphasizing the need to support efforts of countries in this regard,*

**PP11. [Agreed]\*** *Recognizing the efforts that have been made by the international community, national Governments, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to generate new and additional resources to address major socio-economic and environmental challenges in recent years, including for sustainable forest management, and the need to further enhance these efforts,*

**PP12. [Agreed]\*** *Underscoring the negative impacts of the current financial and economic crisis on forests and people's livelihoods, and further emphasizing that financing for effective implementation of sustainable forest management, from all sources, is a key aspect of building resilience in many countries, in particular developing countries,*

*PP13. [Agreed]\* Reaffirming that each country has primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized for the achievement of sustainable forest management, and recognizing that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,*

*PP14. Urging countries to make concerted efforts to secure sustained high-level political commitment to strengthen the means of implementation, including financial resources, to provide support, in particular for developing countries, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, in order to achieve the global objectives and to promote sustainable forest management by:*

- (a) Reversing the decline in official development assistance for sustainable forest management;*
- (b) Mobilizing and providing significant new and additional resources for sustainable forest management from private, public, domestic and international sources to and within developing countries, especially least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition;*
- (c) Strengthening, through new and additional financial resources, provided on a voluntary basis, existing forest-related funds hosted by members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, including the National Forest Programme Facility, the Programme on Forests and the Bali Partnership Fund, to support national forest programmes and national actions aimed at implementing sustainable forest management as well as integrating forest issues in national development programmes and, where appropriate, poverty reduction strategies;*
- (d) Inviting the governing bodies of the National Forest Programme Facility, the Programme on Forests and the Bali Partnership Fund to enhance their contribution to sustainable forest management and the achievement of the global objectives by effectively managing and coordinating among themselves to facilitate access to the funds by developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, as appropriate;*
- (e) Assessing and reviewing the current funding mechanisms, including, if appropriate, the possibility of setting up a voluntary global funding mechanism as a contribution towards achieving the global objectives and implementing sustainable forest management;*
- (f) Inviting members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, in particular the World Bank, as host of the Programme on Forests, to maintain and enhance support to analytical work and knowledge generation and to develop new tools and approaches to key issues within the forest sector, in particular those relevant to the global objectives, in order to support developing*

*countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, in accessing additional national and international funding;*

- (g) Welcoming the ongoing work of the Global Environment Facility to clarify its focal area strategies and operational programmes, and in this context inviting the Global Environment Facility Council to fully consider the potential for strengthened support of the Facility for sustainable forest management, including the option to establish a separate operational programme on forests, without prejudicing other operational programmes;*
- (h) Inviting the governing bodies of international financial institutions, development agencies and regional banks to consider ways to generate and facilitate access to resources and to respond to requests from developing countries to finance forest-related activities;*
- (i) Creating an effective enabling environment for investment in sustainable forest management, including to avoid the loss of forest cover and forest degradation and to support reforestation, afforestation and forest restoration;*
- (j) Creating an enabling environment for the involvement of and investment by local communities and other forest users in sustainable forest management;*
- (k) Further developing innovative financial mechanisms for generating revenue to support sustainable forest management;*
- (l) Encouraging the development of mechanisms, including systems for attributing proper value, as appropriate, to the benefits derived from goods and services provided by forests and trees outside forests, consistent with relevant national legislation and policies;*
- (m) Fostering access, where appropriate, by households and communities to forest resources and markets;*
- (n) Supporting livelihoods and income diversification from forest products and services for small-scale forest owners, indigenous peoples, including forest-dependent local communities and poor people living in and around forest areas, consistent with sustainable forest management objectives.*

*(Paragraph proposed by the Co-Facilitators, based on the original proposal of the G77 on 1 Sep. 09 from ECOSOC Resolution 2006/49- OP5a and OP5 b, and after consultation with Member States)*

**PP15.** *Recognizing the importance of enhancing the quality of aid and increase its impact, including the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, (from General Assembly resolution 60/188, para. 5 (b))*

**PP16. [Agreed]\*** *Emphasizing that implementation of sustainable forest management is critically dependent upon good governance at all levels,*

**PP17. [Agreed]\*** *Emphasizing also that the United Nations Forum on Forests, as the global forum to address sustainable forest management policy issues, is in a unique position to strengthen coherence, cooperation and coordination in policy development related to forests and financing for sustainable forest management,*

**PP18. [Agreed]\*** *Recognizing the important role of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests in supporting the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument,*

*\*(Paragraphs marked as [Agreed], were agreed upon during the UNFF8 informal consultations on MOI and are reflected in document E/CN.18/2009/WP.1).*

**OP1.** Decides to establish an open ended intergovernmental ad hoc expert group with a view to making recommendations on establishing a voluntary global forest fund, based on, *inter alia*, the portfolio approach, as well as other relevant dedicated financing arrangements to mobilize resources from all sources to support the implementation of sustainable forest management, the achievement of the global objectives on forests and the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument, taking into account, *inter alia*, the results of the Forum's review of the performance of the facilitative process, views of Member States, and review of existing and emerging sustainable forest management-related financing instruments and processes, *(the UNFF8 Bureau proposal of 2 May 2009 slightly modified by the Co-Facilitators based on their bilateral consultations with Member States)*

**OP2.** Decides further that the open-ended ad hoc expert group will meet before the ninth and tenth sessions and submit a preliminary report during the ninth session for consideration, and submit final recommendations at the tenth session for its consideration and decision, *(UNFF8 Bureau proposal of 2 May 2009)*

*\*\* (This section, starting from OP3, originally proposed by Group of 77 and China at 8:15 p.m., 30 April 2009 and subsequently modified by the European Union and Japan/United States/Canada/Australia/New Zealand at 11:30 p.m., 30 April 2009. The present text is modified slightly by the Co-Facilitator on 2 Sep. 09, based on their consultation with Member States)*

**OP3. \*\*** *Decides* to establish a facilitative process working under the guidance of the Forum to be convened by the Forum secretariat, and invites the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and relevant stakeholders, including regional organizations, to actively engage in the framework of the multi-year programme of work to catalyse the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument and the achievement of the global objectives on forests in all types of forests, taking into account the special needs and circumstances of Africa, the least developed countries, the low forest cover countries, the high forest cover countries, the medium forest cover countries, the high forest cover low deforestation countries and small island developing States, and to provide advice and share best practices on policies and practices to create an enabling environment for investment in sustainable forest management; assist countries in accessing and making effective use of existing financial resources from all sources for sustainable forest management; and stimulate the provision of new and additional voluntary financial resources from all sources, with the following functions:

- (a) Assist countries in mobilizing new and additional financial resources from all sources for sustainable forest management and share examples of good practices;
- (b) Facilitate and simplify access to all sources of finance for sustainable forest management;

- (c) Assist countries in developing national financing strategies for sustainable forest management within the framework of national forest programmes or their equivalence as called for in the non-legally binding instrument;
- (d) Facilitate the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and capacity-building to developing countries;
- (e) Assist countries in improving the enabling environment, including forest law enforcement and governance for attracting public and private sector investment and philanthropic funding;
- (f) Enhance coordination, cooperation and coherence among relevant funding sources and mechanisms to improve the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument and the achievement of the global objectives on forests at all levels and to improve the effective and efficient use of available financial resources for its implementation;
- (g) Identify obstacles, gaps and opportunities to financing sustainable forest management.

**OP4.** *\*\* Calls upon* countries to support the facilitative process through voluntary financial contributions,

**OP5.** *\*\*Decides* that the United Nations Forum on Forests shall monitor the implementation and performance of the facilitative process supported by reports prepared by the Forum secretariat in close cooperation with the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and other stakeholders,

**OP6.** *\*\*Invites* members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to improve dedicated information and advice services on all sources of finance for sustainable forest management,

**OP7.** *\*\*Also invites* members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to consider an organization-led initiative to support the work of the Forum in helping countries on financing for sustainable forest management.