

USA Opening Intervention for FICE

The US. agrees with the Chair's view that science should guide our deliberations on FICE.

In October 2008, the U.S. Forest Service adopted a Strategic Framework for Responding to Climate Change. In this, there are seven key technical principles guiding our domestic actions responding to climate change.

- 1) Adaptation to the effects of climate change is essential if we are to sustain forests to provide ecosystem services and continue greenhouse gas mitigation.
- 2) Management for adaptation will not be possible or needed everywhere; priorities will need to be set to determine the most beneficial outcomes.
- 3) Improved risk analysis and decision support tools will be critical to facilitate new policies and management approaches in the face of uncertainty.
- 4) Continual monitoring and incorporation of new science into planning, policies and decisions are essential to adaptation and mitigation in a changing environment.
- 5) Alliances and collaboration will be essential to achieve science-based, integrated approaches for adaptation and mitigation. UNFF can be a forum for such collaboration and information sharing.
- 6) Institutional and public support and encouragement for implementing innovative approaches is essential.
- 7) Strategies, policies and actions for addressing climate change need to be integrated across all levels and in all activities.