

In Attendance

FAO:	Hiroto Mitsugi (Chair)*	IUFRO:	Alexander Buck
	Peter Csoka*	UNDP:	Phemo Kgomotso
	Thais Linhares-Juvenal*	UNEP:	Marieta Sakalian
	Zhang Daowei	UNFF:	Hossein Moeini Meybodi
GEF:	Gustavo Fonseca (Vice-Chair)		Ryo Nakamura
	Ulrich Apel		Hosny El-Lakany (for item 3)
ITTO:	Youngtae Choi		Eduardo Rojas-Briaies* (for item 3)
IUCN:	Salome Begeladze		

* via Skype

Regrets: CBD, CIFOR, CITES, ICRAF, UNCCD, UNFCCC, WB

Members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) met alongside the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD in New Delhi, India on 6 September 2019.

1. Welcome by the Chair, tour-de-table and adoption of the agenda

Following brief opening remarks by Hiroto Mitsugi, Chair of the Partnership, Gustavo Fonseca, Vice-Chair of the Partnership, welcomed members and invited members to introduced themselves. The proposed agenda for the meeting was adopted.

2. Preparations for UNFF15

a. Update on intersessional activities

The UNFF Secretariat provided updates on intersessional activities and preparations for UNFF15, including: i) Expert workshop in support of the CPF JI on streamlining forest-related reporting: Further improving a Global Core Set of Forest-related Indicators to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the UNSPF 2030 (22-24 October 2019, FAO HQ, Rome); ii) Capacity building workshop on reporting on progress made towards implementation of the UNSPF, including implementation of the UNFI and the VNCs (28-30 October 2019, UN-ESCAP, Bangkok); iii) Expert Group Meeting on the Clearing House of the UNFF Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN) (12-13 November 2019, UNHQ, Geneva); and iv) Expert Group Meeting on development of the UNFF Quadrennial Programme of Work for the period 2012-2024 (14-15 November 2019, UNHQ, Geneva).

b. UNFF15 High-level Segment

The UNFF Secretariat highlighted other forthcoming UNFF activities and deadlines, including: submission of survey response on possible elements of the Quadrennial Programme of Work (4POW) 2021-2024 (by 23 September 2019); submission of input on key elements/building blocks for the declaration of the UNFF15 High-level Segment (by 31 October 2019); and the submission of the national reports (by 15 November 2019). It was added that the third meeting of the UNFF15 Bureau was scheduled to be held on 11 November 2019 at UNOG, Geneva. At this meeting the Bureau would also discuss the organization of work of UNFF15, as well as options to

expedite for a consensus on the draft HLS declaration. This may include organization of informal consultation on the zero draft ministerial declaration of the UNFF15 High-level Segment in March 2020, subject to confirmation. In this regard, the UNFFS added that it would be important for the CPF members to consolidate and provide their views on the Declaration, and the organization of the CPF Dialogue, prior to the Bureau meeting.

c. CPF Dialogue

Members discussed the possibility to organize a CPF dialogue on the margins of UNFF15, noting the need to identify focused target stakeholder groups, particularly women, civil society and youth. Members noted that a CPF dialogue at the margins of UNFF 15 would be timely and important to share the new CPF vision with all stakeholders. It was suggested to prepare a proposal for the organization of the dialogue building on experiences of similar dialogues held by the Collaborative Partnership on Wildlife.

Key actions to be taken:

- The Chair will circulate a note on the experience of the Collaborative Partnership of Wildlife dialogues and the organization of the CPF Dialogue for members' consideration;
- The Chair in consultation with members will submit its proposal on the organization of the CPF dialogue and share it with the UNFFS for inclusion in the agenda of the third meeting of the UNFF15 Bureau by 31 October 2019;
- Members are invited to participate in the forthcoming UNFF Expert Group Meetings and other intersessional activities in preparation for UNFF15.

3. Development of the CPF strategic vision towards 2030

a. Presentation of the findings of the study

Hosny El-Lakany and Eduardo Rojas-Briales, UNFF consultants, presented the main findings of the draft analytical study on the development of the CPF strategic vision towards 2030, outlining objectives, approach and results of the study, including an initial proposal for structure, main components and issues, as well as strategic priorities for inclusion in the vision.

Members discussed possible ways to advance global forest policy coherence through the development of the vision, noting the importance to focus the vision on how CPF could contribute to advance the achievement of the Global Forest Goals, particularly targets under Goal 6, and operationalize the vision through the CPF work plans. It was suggested to focus the language of the vision on a concise, strategic and high-level message. The Policy Document and the Workplan should be complementary to the Visions so the three documents together provide policy and operational guidance for the Partnership. The Vision should aim at assisting Member States to advance implementation of the UNSPF 2030, using the agreed language from the CPF Policy Document, the UNSPF 2030 and other global forest-related targets and commitments.

Other suggestions included: review of the status of the implementation of the vision in 2024 at the mid-term review of the International Arrangement on Forests; inclusion of the UN decade on ecosystem restoration in the vision as a tool to enhance cooperation among CPF members.

b. Next steps and timetable of the working group

Members explored possible next steps and timetable for the task of the working group on the development of the CPF strategic vision towards 2030. Members suggested that a concrete recommendation/proposal for the vision by the two consultants would provide a good basis to facilitate the work of the working group.

It was suggested to hold the next meeting of the working group on 15 November 2019 at UNHQ, Geneva in conjunction with the UNFF Expert Group Meetings on the GFFFN Clearing House and the 4POW 2021-2024.

c. Meeting of CPF Heads and Principals

FAO offered to host the meeting of the CPF Heads and Principals on 27 January 2020 at FAO HQ, Rome. Members noted the importance to expedite the work of the working group to prepare a proposal for the vision well in advance of the meeting of the CPF Heads and Principals to ensure preparation of the meeting in a timely manner. Some members proposed that if CPF heads and principals of their organizations are not available for the meeting, their representatives should come to the meeting being authorized to make decision with regard to the new CPF vision on their behalf.

Key actions to be taken:

- Members will provide concrete comments and suggestions to chapter 8 and 9 of the draft consultants' report by 20 September 2019;
- UNFF consultants will revise the draft report for consideration by the working group, taking into account the discussion held at the CPF meeting and written inputs to be provided by members;
- The secretariat will circulate a timetable for the development of the draft proposal for the vision and CPF-UNFF meeting schedules and deadlines;
- The Chair in consultation with the secretariat will propose the draft programme of the meeting of the working group scheduled to be held on 15 November 2019 at UNHQ, Geneva;
- Members will inform the availability of their head/principal to participate in the meeting of CPF Heads and Principals tentatively scheduled to be held on 27 January 2020 at FAO, Rome.

4. Implementation of the CPF Work Plan

a. CPF at CITES COP18, UNCCD COP14, SG Climate Summit, UNFCCC COP25, Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

Members considered possible CPF participation in the forthcoming major meetings of members to strengthen the visibility of the Partnership.

UNEP informed that the Environment Management Group will facilitate the coordination of the UN input to the development of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity framework. It was added that the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030 could provide an opportunity for the CPF's contribution.

FAO introduced the draft letter of the Chair addressed to the UN Secretary-General to communicate the Partnership's readiness to support and promote contributions of forests to sustainable development on the occasion of the 2019 Climate Action Summit, reminding members to provide comments, if any, by 9 September 2019. It was suggested to include a reference to the SDG Summit and partner with DESA Under-Secretary-General in view of his secretariat role in organizing the Climate Action Summit and the SDG Summit.

FAO shared that the Government of Chile was considering organizing a forest day during the UNFCCC COP25, under which events could be held to highlight issues related to forests and climate change, and offered further information after the conclusion of the LACFC session. UNFF also shared that DESA was planning to have its pavilion at the UNFCCC COP25, under which side event(s) on forests could be held in partnership with CPF members.

IUCN shared an update on the IUCN World Conservation Congress to be held from 11 to 19 June 2020 in Marseille, France, which could provide a platform to organize CPF activities.

Key actions to be taken:

- Members will provide comments and inputs to the draft letter of the Chair to the UN Secretary-General by 9 September 2019.

b. Follow-up to the donor meeting

FAO informed that the minutes of the last donor meeting held on the margins of UNFF14 was to be finalized and suggested to support Germany who is expected to share it with the anticipated members of the donor community, together with the updated projects. FAO proposed to hold the next CPF donor meeting in conjunction with UNFF15 or FAO COFO25 scheduled to be held from 20-26 June 2020.

Members stressed the importance to take into account the lessons learned from the past donor meetings when organizing the next meeting, noting the need to prepare new Joint Initiative proposals to ensure clear opportunities for funding. It was added that a new initiative on forest education was being considered by FAO and IUFRO.

Key actions to be taken:

- Members will continue to develop new Joint Initiatives proposals, taking into account donors' interests and funding opportunities.

c. Update on recent Joint Initiatives activities and JIs in the pipeline

GEF informed that it held a follow-up meeting on green finance jointly with CIFOR and UNEP, highlighting its possible next steps to prepare a project proposal for submission to GEF and to donors for co-financing.

IUFRO provided an update on the GFEP assessment on forests and poverty, outlining the outcome of the scoping meeting and the first meeting of the expert panel, as well as the forthcoming schedules leading up to the launch of the assessment report on margins of the 75th session of the UN General Assembly in 2020. The second meeting of the expert panel will be hosted by CIFOR-ICRAF in January 2020 in Nairobi, Kenya.

ITTO shared that it held an expert workshop in June 2019 in Switzerland to develop guidelines on tropical forest landscape restoration (FLR) in support of the JI on FLR. It was added that ITTO plans to convene an international forum "Together Towards Global Green Supply Chains" from 22–25 October 2019 in Shanghai and Huzhou, China to consider the importance of legal and sustainable wood product supply chains and promote the establishment of a platform to facilitate business exchanges and collaboration among wood product producers, buyers, industries and markets worldwide.

FAO briefed members on the status of the 2019 Wangari Maathai Award (WMA), highlighting the selection of the award winner by the jury and the schedule of the award ceremony scheduled to be held on 30 September 2019 during the IUFRO Congress in Curitiba, Brazil, and noted the relatively modest interest in members to contribute financially.

FAO provided an update on the JI on streamlining forest-related reporting. The expert workshop entitled "Further improving a Global Core Set of Forest-related Indicators to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the UNSPF 2030" is scheduled to be held from 22-24 October 2019 at FAO HQ, Rome, adding that its outcome will feed into the work of the CPF taskforce scheduled in 2020.

FAO informed that the first dialogue of the Sustainable Wood for Sustainable World (SW4SW) took place from 28-30 May 2019 in Douala, Cameroon, highlighting the outcome of the meeting and the plan for the next dialogue scheduled to be held from 29-31 October 2019 in Pretoria, South Africa. These regional dialogues are held in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders and highlight regional priorities to strengthen sustainable wood value chains and consider the formulation of a preliminary roadmap.

IUCN shared that its new publication on forest landscape restoration, land degradation neutrality and the Bonn Challenge with a focus on country actions will be launched on the margins of the UNCCD COP14.

UNFF shared that its UNCCD COP14 side event will be held on 12 September 2019 with the participation of several CPF members as speakers.

5. Strategic discussion on the issue of CPF membership

CPF Meeting/Meeting of CPF Working Group | 6 September 2019, New Delhi, India

Members discussed possible approaches to the issue of the CPF membership. Several members suggested considering a consistent approach to membership requests, including the development of criteria for membership, periodicity of membership evaluation and gap analysis, building on the existing membership provisions contained in the CPF Policy Document and the past membership exercises.

Some members highlighted that the development of the CPF strategic vision towards 2030 and the mid-term review of the International Arrangement on Forests scheduled in 2024 could provide an opportunity to consider new membership requests in line with a long-term approach to membership, which would need to be further elaborated based on the existing principles outlined in the CPF Policy Document. Some members suggested to work on this topic in parallel with the development of the vision and include the basic principles into the vision.

Some members suggested to consider the pending IFSA request and that it could be considered at the next CPF heads and principals meeting or at the next regular meeting of the Partnership to be held on the margins of UNFF15. It was noted that any action related to membership should be taken in a systematic manner and in line with the Policy Document and the Rules of Procedure.

Key actions to be taken:

- The Chair in consultation with the Secretariat will provide a note on possible next steps to be taken on the issue of CPF membership.

6. Any other business

Next meeting of the Partnership

Members considered possible timings of the next meeting of the CPF working group and decided to meet on 15 November 2019 at UNHQ, Geneva in conjunction with the UNFF Expert Group Meetings on the Clearing House of the GFFFN and the 4POW 2021-2024.

Key actions to be taken:

- The Chair in consultation with the Secretariat will propose the draft programme of the next meeting to be held on 15 November 2019 at UNHQ, Geneva.
