
The CPF Chair welcomed the CPF Working Group members. The Chair invited the working group to nominate its chair to lead its work. Members decided Andre Purret of IUFRO to chair the working group.

FAO recalled discussions held at the last CPF meeting in September 2020 regarding the purpose of the working group to propose a template/structure of the CPF work plan 2021-2024 for consideration by the CPF, noting the timeline to prepare a template/structure by November/December 2020 and the draft work plan by January 2021.

UNFF provided background information and updates on the work of the UNFF, outlining the status of the UNFF programme of work 2021-2024 and its scope, as well as the overview of the UNFF16-17 thematic priorities to be considered in the development of the CPF work plan 2021-2024.

Members expressed their views regarding the template/structure for the CPF Work Plan 2021-2024, and felt that the structure of the work plan 2017-2020 provided a good basis to consider for the work plan for 2021-2024, noting the need to develop a cohesive framework to underpin the CPF priorities for the period, taking into account the UNFF programme of work, thematic priorities of the UNFF sessions and other forest-related priorities of member organizations, and the strategic priorities underlined in the CPF Strategic Vision towards 2030 (SV2030). It was added that the template/structure for the CPF Work Plan 2021-2024 could capture the full extent of the contributions of the CPF and its members to the UN Strategic Plan for Forests and its Global Forest Goals, as well as other globally-agreed goals and targets on forests, including the eventual post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and other forest-related international developments such as the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. Members discussed the advantages/disadvantages of a static work plan in comparison to a document that is updated regularly as per current practice.

Main ideas suggested included: analysis/assessment on the existing Joint Initiatives in terms of their progress and possible continuation/extension; integration of the CPF SV2030 in the work plan to guide its priority areas; promotion of the CPF Joint Initiatives in the work programmes of CPF members and their governing bodies; promotion of CPF activities beyond the CPF members; integration of cross-cutting issues such as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on forests; inclusion of a budget section to show the total budgets of the Joint Initiatives; inclusion of fundraising activities and administrative budget (in a clear and simple format) for the CPF activities; engagement of and partnership with non-CPF partners and stakeholders including through the CPF
dialogue; addition of a section where organizations can also report individual activities; and improving the visual appearance of the work plan including for the communication/outreach purposes.

Key actions to be taken:

- The Chair of the Working Group will propose the structure of the CPF work plan for 2021-2024 by 6 November based on the views expressed by members of the working group;
- Members will provide comments and suggestions on the proposed structure of the CPF work plan for 2021-2024;
- The Chair, in collaboration with the CPF Chair and the Secretariat, will produce an initial draft of the template, to be discussed at the second meeting of the working group;
- The Chair will propose the date and time of the next meeting of the CPF working group scheduled to be held in the week of 23 November 2020.

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