

# United Nations Nations Unies

THE UNITED NATIONS FORUM ON FORESTS SECRETARIAT  
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27 June 2013

Excellency,

It is my pleasure to transmit, herewith, a letter from Ambassador Macharia Kamau, Chair of the Bureau of the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF11). The Bureau has taken this Decision with respect to the intersessional activities leading up to UNFF11 on the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF).

Please accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,



Jan L. McAlpine  
Director

To:  
All Permanent Missions to  
the United Nations in New York

Cc.  
Chairman of the G77 and China,  
EU Presidency, JUSCANZ and Eastern  
European member countries

# United Nations Nations Unies

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REFERENCE: UNFF-13-L-HMM-207

27 June 2013

Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Bureau of the eleventh session of the UNFF (UNFF11) held its first meeting on 25 and 26 June 2013 at the office of UNFF Secretariat in New York, with its full membership. The main focus of the meeting was to initiate the intersessional activities on the international arrangement on forests (IAF), as agreed at the 10<sup>th</sup> session of UNFF (UNFF10) in Istanbul. In this context, the Bureau discussed a number of issues including the terms of reference for the independent assessment of the IAF, and the nomination of the co-chairs for the ad hoc expert group (AHEG) on the IAF.

The Bureau reviewed and finalized draft terms of reference for the independent assessment of the IAF. The final text of the terms of reference for the independent assessment of the IAF is attached. To enable the Bureau to identify the most qualified consultants for this work, the UNFF11 Bureau also decided to submit the terms of reference for the independent assessment to Member States and invite them to propose qualified consultants who are interested to apply for this consultancy. All proposed names should be sent to the UNFF11 Bureau and the UNFF Secretariat, no later than 9 August 2013.

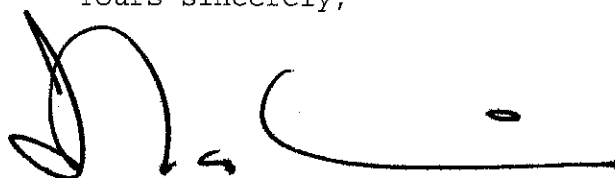
The UNFF11 Bureau also decided to appoint two eminent co-facilitators (one from the South, one from the North) to guide the work of the team of consultants. The main task of the co-facilitators is to act on behalf of the UNFF11 Bureau and facilitate the work of the consultants in producing one consolidated output for consideration of AHEG on IAF.

The UNFF11 Bureau also discussed the process for nomination of the co-chairs for the two meetings of the AHEG on the IAF, and decided that two co-chairs, one from the South and one from the North should jointly conduct the work of the two meetings of the AHEG on the IAF. To this end, I wish to invite the Group of 77 and China, as well as Eastern European Group and the WEOG, in

consultation with their member countries to nominate one name for the South and one name for the North respectively, as the Co-Chairs of the AHEGs on the IAF. In this context, it would be appreciated if the names of the two nominated co-chairs could be communicated to the UNFF11 Bureau and the UNFF Secretariat, at the latest by 30 September 2013.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'M' followed by a horizontal line that ends in a small dot.

Macharia Kamau  
Chair of the UNFF11 Bureau

All Permanent Missions in NY  
Chairman of the G77 and China,  
EU Presidency, JUSCANZ and Eastern European member countries