

Possible “Building blocks” for the Ministerial Declaration of UNFF11.

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Ministerial Declaration should be key outcome of UNFF11 and therefore it must obtain all aspects of the developments of global forest partnership and strengthening of the organization, including UNFF secretariat. In general text should not be too “optimistic” about post 2015 IAF as we have in the summaries of AHEG2. It will create an illusion of wellbeing in forestry sector and play negative role for stakeholders’ mobilization.

Integration of forests into the post-2015 development agenda should be a key item of the Declaration.

This will give “guidelines” for the review the effectiveness of the current International Arrangement on Forests (IAF) and decide on the future of the Arrangement, taking into account intercessional activities:

- Reports of the Countries and other stakeholders;
- An independent assessment of the IAF;
- AHEG2 on IAF.

The declaration should include other important topics:

Contributions of forest goods and services to national and local economies.

Special attention should be paid to the forest services; importance of these services is not well recognized in many countries.

Integrate sustainable forest management into national development strategies.

Ideally countries should elaborate separate plans for SFM, which require good intersectoral cooperation.

Regional and sub-regional inputs.

The Declaration should assess regional developments, and encourage good practice.

Enhanced cooperation.

Special attention should be paid to the Global Environmental Conventions; find possibilities for strengthening/ update forest related articles or where possible, call for the separate protocol on forest.

Financial mechanisms.

We welcome an idea on the establishment of Trust Fund. Continuation of the negotiations with GEF as a main donor for global forest activities has paramount importance.

Enhance effectiveness of UNFF.

Changing status of the organization within UN system should be reviewed.