



## WORLD OF FORESTRY



EARTH NEGOTIATIONS BULLETIN/DEJON

### Tenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

The tenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF 10) was convened in Istanbul, Turkey, on 8–19 April 2013, focusing on the theme “forests and economic development” and involving nearly 1 300 participants.

Delegates, including ministers and heads of delegation, took part in a ministerial segment on 8–9 April. This included a high-level opening session featuring, among other things, a statement by the Prime Minister of Turkey, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. Mr Erdoğan said that global population growth and the deterioration of the global environment were creating new economic and social gaps and widening existing ones between regions, countries, peoples and individuals. “If we insist on this relentless competition, ambition and greed, there will be no world for our children to inherit,” he said.

A multistakeholder dialogue took place on 10 April, providing an opportunity for inputs by representatives of the Major Groups, comprising women; farmers and small forest landowners; forest workers and trade unions; scientific and technological communities; non-governmental organizations; children and youth; indigenous peoples and industry. The remaining agenda items were opened in plenary on 11 April.

Work on the UNFF 10 outcome took place in two working groups (WGs), which convened on 12–19 April. WGI addressed agenda items on: the assessment of progress made in the implementation of the Non-legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests and towards the achievement of the four Global Objectives on Forests; regional and subregional inputs; forests and economic development; and enhanced cooperation and

*Mahir Küçük, Deputy Under-Secretary-General,  
Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs, Turkey, and  
Jan McAlpine, UNFF Director, at the close of UNFF 10*

policy and programme coordination, including the provision of further guidance to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests. WGII addressed agenda items on the means of implementation (MoI) for SFM, emerging issues, and the Forum Trust Fund. The “Resolution on Agenda Items 3, 4, 5 and 8” and the “Resolution on Emerging Issues, MoI and the Forum Trust Fund” were adopted by acclamation on Saturday 20 April.

UNFF 10 featured many events organized in the margins of the session. Participants at one of these, on forests and landscape restoration (FLR), co-organized by the Forest Service of the Republic of Korea, FAO and the International Union for Conservation of Nature, learned about FAO’s plans to create the FLR Mechanism, to be supported by the Republic of Korea, and heard about that country’s successful forest rehabilitation efforts. Private-sector involvement in FLR and the roles of the Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration, the International Model Forest Network and the Asia Forest Cooperation Organization were also discussed.

Five “forest heroes” from Brazil, Puerto Rico, Rwanda, Thailand and Turkey were recognized at UNFF 10 for their outstanding contributions in support of forests, their communities and around the world. FAO Forestry Department Assistant Director-General Eduardo Rojas-Briales sat on the jury for the awards. The winning photographs of the first International Forest Photograph Contest, and the winning films in the Short Film Festival, were also showcased at the awards ceremony.



An FAO-organized side event on pilot experiences in implementing the Non-legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (NLBI) provided a platform for four countries – India, Liberia, Nicaragua and the Philippines – to share their experiences of FAO-supported implementation. The NLBI was adopted by the UNFF in 2007 to boost the implementation of SFM.

*Adapted from Earth Negotiations Bulletin, 13(187), Monday, 22 April 2013, and other sources.*

### Better coordination in timber trade instruments needed

Better coordination and sharing of experiences among nations in implementing anti-illegal timber legislation is needed to ensure a move to responsible trade in timber products, according to participants at the first Global Timber Forum, which was co-organized by FAO, the European Timber Trade Federation and the Forest Trust/Timber Trade Action Plan and held at FAO headquarters in May 2013.

Forum participants also agreed that responsible timber trade plays a key role in sustainable forest management by providing a commercial incentive to retain and increase tree cover and intensify forest productivity.

Over 80 delegates from 40 countries, including representatives of industry organizations and private-sector companies, attended the two-day meeting to increase understanding of sustainable sourcing and the use of timber in green building; share market expertise; and develop solutions to ensure inclusive and legal trade in timber and timber products. Importantly, this first Global Timber Forum provided a platform for sharing experiences on applying the new trade instruments to curb illegal trade, such as those in the European Union, the United States of America and Australia.

The meeting in Rome concluded that the Global Timber Forum should seek to formulate a Commitment Charter, followed by a long-term work plan with a revolving secretariat and an advisory board. Regional focal points were nominated for that end, from all six continents and including China.

André de Boer, Secretary General of the European Timber Trade Federation, said his organization would underwrite the initial development of the Global Timber Forum. The goal would then be to secure wider industry sponsorship in the form of partnerships, also including international specialized organizations in this field.

*For more information contact: Jukka Tissari, FAO Forestry Department (Jukka.Tissari@fao.org), or André de Boer, the European Timber Trade Federation (aideboer50@gmail.com).*



## SUSTAINING FORESTS, SUSTAINING PEOPLE THE ROLE OF RESEARCH

### The XXIV IUFRO World Congress

The United States of America is delighted to host the 24th World Congress of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, on 5–11 October 2014. Join scientists and professionals from around the world to share research and learn from one another's experiences around the Congress title of *Sustaining Forests, Sustaining People: The Role of Research*.

The 2014 World Congress in Salt Lake City will feature:

- 5 world-class plenary speakers
- 15 sub-plenary speakers
- 150 outstanding technical sessions featuring more than 2 000 oral and poster presentations
- Spectacular field trips
- An informative trade exhibition
- An exciting companion programme.

The Congress will focus on seven themes:

- forests for people
- forests and climate change
- forest biomass and bioenergy
- forest biodiversity and ecosystem services
- forest and water interactions
- forests and forest products for the future
- forest health in a changing world.

#### Key dates

- July 2013 to October 2013 – call for abstracts
- November 2013 – registration opens
- October 2014 – IUFRO World Congress

The 94th Annual Convention of the Society of American Foresters will be held simultaneously at the same venue, bringing an additional 1 500 forest land managers and decision-makers to Salt Lake City.

*To learn more about the World Congress, including information on the process for submitting session proposals and abstracts, or to become a sponsor or exhibitor, visit [www.iufro2014.com](http://www.iufro2014.com).*

*A limited number of scholarships are available through the Scientist Assistance Program. Learn more at: <http://iufro2014.com/registration/scientist-assistance-program>.*