

Progress Report on the Proposed IPC- Reform

COFO-Item 7.6 Statutory Bodies



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COFO 23 / WORLD FOREST WEEK



International Poplar Commission (IPC)

- oldest Statutory Body of FAO, established in 1947
- FAO hosts the IPC Secretariat
- 37 member countries, more than half of which are developing economies



Main challenges of IPC

- Strong interest by poplar and willow specialists, but difficult to attract interest of other stakeholders and partners
- Country membership stagnant (1 new member since 2000)
- IPC and NPC's lack resources and face challenges in meeting their obligations
- Links with FAO mandate (sustainable livelihood, land-use and food security) is not always apparent
- Technical fields represented by working parties need to be more integrated into environmental and development issues
- Narrow geographic and technical focus (poplars and willows) calls for expansion of the thematic scope to include other genera and species.



IPC-Reform: Substance

- Expansion of the thematic scope to include in the portfolio other fast-growing species
- New title of the Commission:
International Commission on Poplars and Other Trees Sustaining People and the Environment
- Thematic restructuring of the working parties
 1. Taxonomy, Nomenclature and Registration
 2. Domestication and Conservation of Genetic Resources
 3. Climate Change, Plant Health and Resilience to Threats and Crises
 4. Sustainable Livelihoods, Land-use, Products and Bioenergy
 5. Environmental and Ecosystem Services
 6. Policy, Communication and Outreach
- Strengthening national poplar commissions
- Increased funding of IPC-Secretariat



IPC Reform: Process

- ▶ Report to COFO 2012
- ▶ Agenda item of the 24th Session of the IPC, India 2012
- ▶ Report to COFO 2014
- ▶ Agenda item of the 47th Executive Committee Meeting, Canada 2014
- ▶ Agenda item of the 100th Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (CCLM 100), Rome 2015
- ▶ **Report to COFO 2016**
- ▶ Formal approval by IPC-member states at the 25th IPC-Session, Germany, Sep 2016
- ▶ Formal approval by the FAO Conference, Jun 2017



Points for consideration

COFO 2016 may wish to encourage the IPC-Executive Committee:

- to continue the reform process as indicated
- to seek the approval of the proposed amendments from the delegates of the 25th IPC-session (Berlin, Sep 2016)

**Thank you for your
attention !**



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