

**United Nations Forum on Forests
Bureau of the Ninth Session (UNFF9 Bureau)**

Minutes of the Fifth Meeting

Sunday 12 September 2010
High Commission of Malaysia
58 Red Hill Road, Gigiri,
P.O. Box 42286 - 00100
Nairobi-Kenya

Participation

Bureau Members: Mr. Arvids Ozols, Mr. Ingwald Gschwandtl, Mr. Raymond Harold Landveld, Mr. Zainol Rahim Zainuddin, and Mr. Ndiawar Dieng.

UNFF Secretariat: Ms. Jan McAlpine, Mr. Hossein Moeini-Meybodi, Mr. Benjamin Singer, Ms. Ninon Thermidor, and Ms. Edith Niamke

Other: Mr. Jan Heino and Mr. Macharia Kamau

The agenda of the fifth meeting of the Bureau was the following:

- 1- Preparation for the UNFF9: Preliminary programme of work of the UNFF9
- 2- Proposed list of invitees for the High Level Segment of the UNFF9
- 3- Proposed guidelines for the Country, Regional, and Organizational-Led Initiatives (CLI,RLI,OLI)
- 4- Preparation for the AHEG-1

Adoption of the agenda

Mr. Arvids Ozols, Chair of the UNFF9 Bureau, opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed members of the UNFF9 Bureau and the participating staff members of the secretariat. He also thanked Mr. Zainuddin for hosting the Bureau meeting in the Malaysian High Commission in Nairobi. He then proceeded with the adoption of agenda for the meeting.

1- Preparation for the Ninth Session of the UN Forum on Forests: Preliminary programme of work of the UNFF9

The Bureau received a draft programme of work of the UNFF9 for the period 24th January – 4 February 2011, prepared by the secretariat. According to the draft programme of work, all agenda items of the UNFF9 and relevant Secretary General's reports and other official documents will be introduced in the plenary sessions on 24 and 25 January 2010. During these days, two mandated panel on food, energy, and economic challenges as well as the panel on regional input will be held as well. The morning session on 26 January is allocated to Multi-Stakeholders Segment. In light of the tight schedule of the UNFF9, Ms. McAlpine, the UNFF Director urged the Bureau to invite the major groups to use the allocated time for the multi-stakeholders dialogue more efficiently.

From the afternoon of 26 January, detailed discussions on agenda items will be followed in two parallel working groups. Working group one will consider the main theme of the session (forests for people, livelihood and poverty eradication). This group will also conduct the discussions and negotiations on a draft ministerial declaration, as well as the discussion on the IYF. It was proposed that two Bureau Members namely; Mr. Zainol Zainuddin (Malaysia) and Mr. Ingwald Gschwandtl (Austria) co-chair this working group. It was also proposed that working group 2 to be co-chaired by two Bureau Members: Mr. Raymond Harold Landveld (Suriname) and Mr. Ndiawar Dieng (Senegal). This group would be responsible for agenda items on means of implementation; assessment of progress in implementation of forest instrument and achievement of global objectives on forests; regional input; and enhanced cooperation.

The secretariat pointed out that based on the previous discussion in the Bureau meetings, the UNFF9 agenda item of "Emerging Issues" would not be addressed as an individual item, and would be integrated in the report of the Secretary General to the high level segment, and in the reports on forests for people. Based on the proposed programme of work, both working groups are scheduled to finalize their work by the end of 1 February 2010, just before the High Level Segment of the UNFF9. It was also noted that while working group one conducts the negotiation on draft ministerial declaration, there should be the possibility for a short joint meeting of both working groups in the first week that allow participants in working group 2 to share their views on the declaration with working group one.

Regarding the High Level Segment (2- 3 February 2010), the secretariat added that the HLS basically includes the official launch of the IYF, keynote speeches and roundtable discussions on a number of major themes relevant to forests, dialogue with the heads of the CPF member organizations, and finally the adoption of the ministerial declaration.

The Bureau Members welcomed the programme of work, and stressed the need for active participation and engagement of all stakeholders in the work of the UNFF9, and in particular in the high level segment. The Bureau also emphasized the need to brief Member States on the details of programme of work of the UNFF9, in particular the

arrangements for the high level segment. In light of heavy agenda for the high level segment, the Bureau also invited cooperation of Member States to ensure efficient time management during this segment.

Decision: The Bureau agreed with the proposed programme of work as well as division and allocation of tasks among working groups. The Bureau also agreed on the need to further work on organizing the high level segment in a most productive and efficient manner.

2- List of Invitees for the High Level Segment of the UNFF9

The Bureau was informed of potential invitees for the high level segment of the UNFF9. The list was not a final one and includes a number of high officials who had indicated their willingness to consider participating in the high level segment.

Decision: The Bureau took note of the list and requested the secretariat to further pursue the matter through official channels.

3- Proposed Guidelines for the Country, Regional and Organization-Led Initiatives

Pursuant to previous decision of the Bureau, requesting the secretariat to prepare draft guidelines for the Country-Led, Regional-Led or Organizational –Led Initiatives, the secretariat submitted draft guidelines for consideration of the UNFF9 Bureau.

The Bureau emphasized the important contributions that such initiatives could provide to the UNFF, and the need for such initiatives to be open to all UNFF stakeholders. The Bureau also stressed the need for relevant Bureau Members to be present in such meetings and initiatives that are being held in their respective regions.

Decision: The Bureau agreed on the draft guidelines, with minor changes. The Bureau also requested the secretariat to submit the guidelines to the Forum for its consideration at the ninth session.

4- Preparation for the AHEG1

Mr. Jan Heino and Mr. Macharia Kamau, two nominated Co-Chairs for the AHEG1 were invited to join the Bureau discussion on this agenda item. The Bureau of the UNFF9 congratulated the two nominated Co-Chairs for their nomination and expressed its full support to the Co-Chairs. The Co-Chairs were also briefed by the Chair of the UNFF9 Bureau and Members of the Bureau on the history and the programme of work of the AHEG1 including the nature of the outcome of the meeting which would be a co-chairs summary. The Bureau of the UNFF9 and the Co-Chairs agreed to have daily meeting at the end of each day, in order to review the progress of work of the AHEG1, and to make decision on next step, if necessary.

Closing of the Bureau Meeting

Mr. Ozols thanked the Bureau Members, the Co-Chairs and the Secretariat for their active participation in the meeting. He then adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.