



Collaborative Partnership on Forests

Meeting report

7 April 2022 at 15h Rome time/9h New York time
via Microsoft Teams

In Attendance

FAO:	Maria Helena Semedo (Chair)	ITTO:	Hwan Ok Ma
	Tiina Vahanen	IUCN:	Carole Saint-Laurent
	Peter Csoka	IUFRO:	John Parrotta
	Malgorzata Buszko-Briggs		Andre Purret
	Anssi Pekkarinen	UNDP:	Josep Gari
	Ewald Rametsteiner	UNEP:	Gabriel Labbate
	Theresa Loeffler	UNFCCC:	Dirk Nemitz
CBD:	Jamal Annagylyjova	UNFF:	Juliette Biao
	Lisa Janishevski		Hossein Moeini Meybodi
CIFOR:	Robert Nasi (Vice-Chair)		Ryo Nakamura
	Michael Allen Brady	WB:	Garo Batmanian
CITES:	David Morgan		Muhammad Najeeb Khan
	Maria Isabel Camarena		
GEF:	Pascal Martinez	Regrets:	ICRAF, UNCCD
	Teayeon Kim		

Members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) met in a virtual format on 7 April 2022.

Item 1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

The Chair welcomed the CPF members to the meeting and highlighted the importance for the CPF to strengthen its partnership to advance complementarity and synergies in the work of its members, noting the opportunities to demonstrate the partnership at the forthcoming meetings and events, particularly the XV World Forestry Congress, UNFF17, UNCCD COP15, 2022 HLPF, CBD COP15 and UNFCCC COP27. She also welcomed Ms. Juliette Biao as the new Director of UNFFS.

The proposed agenda for the meeting was adopted.

Item 2. Updates and preparations for UNFF17

UNFFS shared updates on the status of preparations for UNFF17 (9-13 May 2022, UNHQ, New York/hybrid) and its organization of work, highlighting expected role and contributions of the CPF and its members to the UNFF17 policy discussions, including: High-level Round Table (HLRT) on forest-related multilateral developments; CPF's activities in support of the thematic priorities for the biennium 2021–2022; impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on forests and forest sector; means of implementation; monitoring, assessment and reporting; and the midterm review of the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF). The main outcome documents would be the omnibus

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resolution and the Chair's summary of discussions, including the summary of the HLRT and the input to the 2022 HLPF. All side events would be held in a virtual format.

UNFFS also provided updates on the status of preparations for the IAF midterm review, outlining expected tasks for the CPF, particularly the preparation of an independent study and the organization of the Organization-led Initiative to assess the progress made by the CPF in carrying out its functions towards the objectives of the IAF.

Members noted the importance to follow up on and implement the eventual UNFF17 decisions on the IAF midterm review related to the CPF and advance the planning of its intersessional activities on this matter. The CPF chair highlighted the importance of the inputs of CPF members to the review. Members highlighted the importance to self-reflect and capture and convey the full value of the CPF beyond the Joint Initiatives to Member States and how its value could be taken into account in the IAF midterm review.

The CPF Chair proposed to hold the Friends of the CPF meeting on the sidelines of UNFF17 to engage with member states and exchange information on the CPF activities. The meeting could focus on selected Joint Initiatives to have focused discussions and receive informal feedback from Member States.

It was suggested to clearly define the objective and expected outcome of the meeting taking into account lessons learned from the experience of past CPF donors' meetings.

Key actions to be taken:

- Members are invited to provide any input they may have to the draft statement of the CPF Chair on the CPF activities to be delivered under UNFF17 agenda item 3.a.ii.
- The Chair in consultation with the secretariat will provide the concept note for the Friends of the CPF meeting to be held on the sidelines of UNFF17 to advance its preparation. Member are invited to suggest the Joint Initiatives that they wish to present during the meeting.
- Members are invited to provide updates to the CPF work plan prior to the UNFF17 session.
- Preparation of the TORs for the independent study and selection of the consultant in consultation with the CPF Chair and members.
- Planning and preparation of an Organisation-led Initiative to support the IAF midterm review.
- The secretariat to circulate the draft UNFF17 omnibus resolution to members for information.

Item 3. Preparations for CPF activities in 2022

a. Joint activities in the forthcoming events and other opportunities, including XV WFC, UNCCD COP15, CBD COP15, 2022 HLPF, FAO COFO26, UNFCCC COP27

The Chair highlighted the forthcoming events in 2022, particularly the XV World Forestry Congress, UNCCD COP15, CBD COP15, 2022 HLPF, UNFCCC COP27 and COFO26, and invited members to identify opportunities for the CPF to plan its joint activities and events.

CBD informed that the fourth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework is scheduled to be held in June 2022 in Nairobi to finalize the draft framework for consideration at COP15 to be held in the third quarter of 2022. CBD will consult with CPF members to explore the possibility of organizing the event on forests during CBD COP15. It was added that CBD will organize side events on the CBD's forest ecosystem restoration initiative and launch of the online course of ecosystem restoration during the XV WFC, and other events related to forests at the Rio Pavilion during UNCCD COP15.

UNFCCC provided updates on the status of preparations for UNFCCC COP27, highlighting the possibility to hold the COP27 President's event on the follow up to the Glasgow Declaration on Forests and Land Use, reinforced by the IPCC report, as well as a heads of the CPF dialogue on turning the tide on deforestation, building on its success at the previous COPs and the relevance of the topic.

FAO shared that the twenty-sixth session of FAO COFO (COFO26) will be held from 3-7 October 2022 in Rome/hybrid, noting that its main focus will include interlinkages and synergies between agriculture and forestry. It was added that the SDG15 in-depth review at the 2022 HLPF will also provide an opportunity for the CPF to showcase its work through the organization of a side event.

b. Updates on preparations for XV WFC, including the CPF Dialogue and the 2022 Wangari Maathai Award

FAO provided updates on the status of preparations for the XV World Forestry Congress (2-6 May 2022), highlighting the CPF special events to be held during the congress, including: Special Event on Heads of CPF Agencies Dialogue with representatives of Major Groups; Special Event on Role of forests in a post COVID-19 recovery: re-imagining the future of forests; the Wangari Maathai Award (WMA) ceremony; and the Special Panel of the WMA winners. In particular, the Special Event on Heads of CPF Agencies Dialogue with representatives of Major Groups will focus on forest solutions to tackle climate change, conflicts and food insecurity.

c. Scheduling of meetings of the members' governing bodies

The Chair shared that some Member States expressed concerns regarding the scheduling of the forest-related events and meetings of the members' governing bodies, and noted the importance to coordinate more effectively among members to avoid conflicting meeting schedules and facilitate Member States' participation in the meetings.

Key actions to be taken:

- UNFCCC will consult with the UNFCCC COP27 President regarding the possibility to hold the heads of the CPF dialogue on turning the tide on deforestation;
- FAO will provide details of the Special Event on Heads of CPF Agencies Dialogue with representatives of Major Groups to be held during the XV WFC. Heads and principals of the CPF are invited to attend in person/virtually/through a video message to address the event;
- CPF members to decide if they want to showcase their work during the 2022 HLPF to consider organizing a side event.
- Members are asked to share and coordinate the schedules of their major events and meetings of the governing bodies to avoid conflicting schedules and facilitate Member States' participation in the meetings.

Item 4. Updates on Joint Initiatives

a. Forest Education

IUFRO provided updates on the activities of the JI on Forest Education, highlighting the forthcoming WFC side event on "Harnessing the full potential of Tertiary Forest Education Globally" (5 May 2022) to share the key findings and recommendations of the global forest education study and the latest digital innovations in forest education, including a panel discussion on tertiary forest education. The JI also provides an input to the WFC session on forest education and the global report on forest education will be launched during WFC, subject to confirmation. Lead members of the JI are exploring the possibility to incorporate smallholder community-based approaches into the activities of the JI.

b. Streamlining Global Forest-related Reporting

FAO provided updates on the activities of the JI on Streamlining Global Forest-related Reporting, highlighting the preparation of the document "Status of, and trends in, the Global Core Set (GCS) of Forest-related Indicators" to accompany the 2022 State of World's Forests Report to be launched in early May 2022. FAO is preparing the online questionnaire to collect information for the analysis on the added value of the GCS indicators, which will be circulated to CPF members for input. It was added that the data collection for the Global Forest Resources Assessments (FRA) 2025 is scheduled to start in early 2023.

c. Global Forest Expert Panels

IUFRO shared that the Global Forest Expert Panels (GFEP) assessment report on forests and human health is scheduled to be launched in March 2023, aligned with the theme for the International Day of Forests 2023.

d. Forest Landscape Restoration

IUCN reported that the report of recommendations will be made available based on the activities of the recently-concluded JI on Forest Landscape Restoration, noting the idea of exploring the possibility to consider a second phase of the JI with a focus on topics such as forests and conflicts, health, climate change, and food security to enhance further coordination and synergies on forest landscape restoration.

e. Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award

FAO informed that the Wangari Maathai Award (WMA) ceremony and the Special Panel of the WMA winners will be held during the XV WFC, noting that the financial contributions to the WMA prize have been announced by CIFOR, ICRAF, IUFRO and UNFF, inviting other members to consider as well. A regionally balanced of five renowned forest expert came together to decide on the winner of the 2022 Wangari Maathai Forest Champions award which will be announced during the ceremony at the Congress. It was added that FAO in collaboration with CIFOR revamped the WMA tribute short movie to be launched during the WMA event at the XV WFC.

There was a suggestion to recognize the financial contributions of CPF members to the WMA in the WMA activities.

Item 5. Next meeting and any other business

The Chair proposed to hold the next CPF meeting in June/July 2022.

Key actions to be taken:

- The Chair in consultation with the Vice-Chair and the Secretariat will propose the date and time of the next CPF meeting.

Item 6. Closure of the meeting

The Vice-Chair closed the meeting. The meeting was concluded at 4:40p.m. Rome time (CEST)/10:40 a.m. New York time (EDT).
