

In Attendance

FAO:	Ewald Rametsteiner	IUFRO:	John Parrotta (virtual)
	Peter Csoka		Alexander Buck
	Nora Berrahmouni	UNDP:	Tim Scott (virtual)
	Theresa Loeffler		Dario Vespertino (virtual)
CBD:	Jamal Annagylyjova	UNEP:	Mirey Atallah (virtual)
CIFOR:	Robert Nasi (Vice-Chair)	UNFCCC:	Jenny Wong (virtual)
GEF:	Ulrich Apel (virtual)	UNFF:	Juliette Biao
	Pascal Martinez		Hossein Moeini Meybodi (virtual)
ICRAF:	Ravi Prabhu (virtual)		Barbara Tavora Jainchill
ITTO:	Sheam Satkuru		Ryo Nakamura
IUCN:	Carole Saint Laurent (virtual)	WB:	Tuukka Castren (virtual)

Regrets: CITES, UNCCD

Members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) met at FAO HQ, Rome, in a hybrid format on 6 October 2022.

Item 1. Opening of the meeting, one minute of silence in memory of Mr. Gustavo Fonseca, and adoption of the agenda

Mr. Robert Nasi, Vice-Chair of the CPF, welcomed the CPF members to the meeting. In absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair chaired the meeting.

Members observed one minute of silence in memory of Mr. Gustavo Fonseca, the GEF Secretariat, for his longstanding contributions and support to the work of the CPF.

The proposed agenda for the meeting was adopted.

Item 2. Updates on the implementation of the UNFF17 decisions related to the CPF

a. CPF assessment and organization-led initiative

The UNFF Secretariat provided an overview and updates on the status of the implementation of the UNFF17 decisions related to the CPF, highlighting preparations for the midterm review of the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF MTR) to be undertaken at UNFF19 in 2024, including the ongoing questionnaire to Member States and partners by a team of consultants to collect their views on this matter, and the forthcoming Expert Group Meeting on “the UNFF’s contribution to the 2030 Agenda, Involvement of Regional/Subregional Entities, and Involvement of Major Group and Other Stakeholders” (11-13 January 2023, Bangkok). The UNFF Secretariat

further shared an update on the status of the CPF assessment, including the joint recruitment of two consultants, Mr. Alhassan Attah and Mr. Thom Sprenger, by FAO and UNFFS to prepare the initial CPF assessment report.

Mr. Thom Sprenger, on behalf of the two consultants for the CPF assessment, provided an overview of the status of the preparations of the CPF assessment report and schedules of interviews with representatives of Member States and CPF members present in Rome, as well as those representatives who are not present in Rome, noting that the consultants expect to prepare the initial findings of their assessment towards the end of October.

In response to members' queries, the UNFF Secretariat further informed that there would be ample opportunities for CPF members to share their views on the outcome of work and recommendations of the consultants. The consultants report would be presented to the CPF Organization-led Initiative (22-23 February 2023, FAO HQ, Rome) to review and discuss the result of the work of the consultants among countries, CPF members and other stakeholders. CPF members would have the opportunity to review and discuss among themselves the consultants' report before the OLI takes place and their feedback would be considered by the consultants. And then another opportunity for CPF will be to provide their inputs and views during the OLI. Regarding the IAF MTR report by the consultants, FAO noted the value of having a CPF coordinated response prior to the OLI and other CPF members supported the idea.

In addition, all outcomes of the intersessional work on the IAF MTR, including the CPF OLI, would be presented to the Open-ended Intergovernmental Ad Hoc Expert Group (AHEG) to be held before the end of 2023, which aims at making a proposal to UNFF19 on the IAF MTR. CPF members are also expected to participate in AHEG and they will have the opportunity to share their views. At UNFF19, which is a policy session, the Forum would further discuss and decide on the IAF MTR. At this juncture, CPF members will also have the opportunity to share their views.

The UNFF Secretariat recalled the provision of the UNFF17 resolution regarding the call to continue to strengthen the CPF collaboration with and support to the work of the Forum and its members for the implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests (UNSPF), noting the need to further integrate the UNSPF into the CPF members' work programmes.

b. Secondment from CPF members to the UNFFS

The UNFF Secretariat highlighted the importance of the CPF members' contributions to the work of the UNFF, and encouraged CPF members to consider the secondment their staff to the UNFF Secretariat per the UNFF17 invitation, particularly for the work of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN), building on past experiences with collaboration through the secondment of staff.

Members noted the importance of the work of the GFFFN on forest finance and its collaboration and synergies with other related work of the CPF members such as the UN-REDD. The ITTO Secretariat offered to explore the possibility of providing online support to the GFFFN activities.

Key actions to be taken:

- Members are invited to submit their response to the questionnaire on the midterm review of the International Arrangement on Forests by its extended deadline of 14 October 2022;
- Members are invited to coordinate joint input to the review process of the CPF, the Chair will prepare a draft proposal and will circulate to Members for inputs and comments.
- The Chair in consultation with the secretariat will prepare the draft concept note and programme of the CPF OLI and will circulate to CPF members for consideration; and
- UNFF will provide additional information on its needs for the secondment from the CPF members.
- Members are invited to nominate their representatives to participate in the UNFF Expert Group Meeting on "the UNFF's contribution to the 2030 Agenda, Involvement of Regional/Subregional Entities, and Involvement of Major Group and Other Stakeholders" (11-13 January 2023, Bangkok);

Item 3. Preparations for CPF activities in 3Q and 4Q of 2022

a. Joint activities in the forthcoming events and other opportunities, including CBD COP15 and UNFCCC COP27

b. Updates on the implementation of the CPF work plan

The Vice-Chair highlighted the forthcoming major events in the remaining period of 2022, particularly CBD COP15 and UNFCCC COP27, and invited members to identify opportunities for the CPF to plan its joint activities and events.

The CBD Secretariat provided updates on the status of preparations for CBD COP15, outlining the schedules of the fifth Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) to be held prior to the opening of COP15, the COP15 high-level segment in the second week of COP15, and the Rio Pavilion and side events on forests, noting that decision on forests may be expected to be taken during COP16 in support of the implementation of the eventual post-2020 GBF and countries' thematic programme of work on forests.

Some members expressed their interest in making substantive contributions to the discussions of CBD COP15, including during the high-level segment, through a monitoring side event, the restoration day in support of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, and to the implementation of its eventual outcome related to primary, production and all other types of forests, including through resource mobilization for forest finance.

The UNFCCC Secretariat shared updates on the status of preparations for UNFCCC COP27, highlighting the focus of the COP President's thematic days such as land, water, food security, agriculture and biodiversity; forest-related issues to be considered during COP such as agriculture, mitigation and adaptation; modality for the implementation of Article 6.4 on mechanisms; high-level roundtable discussions to be held in the first week of COP; and the CPF High-level Dialogue on Turning the Tide on Deforestation at UNFCCC COP27 on 17 November.

Some members noted the importance to promote forest-based climate actions building on the adoption of the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use at COP26, and indicated their interest in taking part in the CPF High-level Dialogue.

Key actions to be taken:

- CBD will share additional information on how CPF members can contribute to the discussions of CBD COP15;
- The Chair in consultation with the Secretariat will circulate the draft concept note and programme of the CPF High-level Dialogue on turning the tide on deforestation to be held on 17 November 2022 during UNFCCC COP27;
- CPF members are invited to support the CPF UNFCCC COP27 side event with input and through promotion;
- Members are invited to provide updates on their respective CPF activities for inclusion in the UNFF18 documentation.

Item 4. Membership request of the Green Climate Fund

Following the introduction by the Vice-Chair on this matter, members exchanged their views on membership request of the Green Climate Fund.

Members welcomed the interest expressed by the Green Climate Fund in the CPF membership. Members recalled that the CPF deferred the decision on membership until the conclusion of the midterm review of the International Arrangement on Forests in response to the membership requests by the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFOCO) and the International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA). It was also mentioned that one issue under consideration of the IAF-MTR is "suitability of establishing criteria for membership of the CPF" which corresponds to the membership requests that the CPF received from IFSA and AFOCO.

Meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests | 6 October 2022

Several members noted the importance to ensure a consistent approach to the issue of membership and suggested considering the issue of membership based on the results of the midterm review of the International Arrangement on Forests in 2024, which will include the CPF membership criteria as part of the CPF assessment. Members also indicated that it would be important to see what added value to be brought by the GCF to the work of CPF.

Several members stressed the importance to take a fast-track approach to consider the membership request by the Green Climate Fund. They further encouraged the CPF to remain agile and able to take decisions. Some members highlighted that an opportunity for making decisions on the CPF membership requests of GCF, AFOCO and IFSA would be at the next CPF members meeting, noting that AFOCO is a regional body.

Following the discussion, members agreed to invite the Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund to a future CPF meeting to present potential contributions and added value of them joining the CPF.

Key actions to be taken:

- The Chair in consultation with the Vice-Chair and the Secretariat will determine the timing to invite the Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund to a CPF meeting to present potential contributions and added value of them joining the CPF.

Item 5. Next meeting and any other business

The Vice-Chair proposed to hold the next CPF meeting during next six months, the latest in February 2023 at FAO HQ, Rome, in conjunction with the CPF OLI.

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. Closing of the meeting

The Vice-Chair closed the meeting. The meeting was concluded at 2:30 p.m.
