



Collaborative Partnership on Forests

Meeting report

9 May 2023, 13:15-14:45 EDT
S-25MM4, UNHQ, New York

In Attendance

CITES:	Ivonne Higuero	UNDP:	Tim Scott
	Maria Isabel Camarena	UNEP:	Mirey Atallah
CIFOR-ICRAF:	Michael Allen Brady (virtual)	UNFAO:	Zhimin Wu (Chair)
GEF:	Ulrich Apel		Malgorzata Buszko-Briggs
	Pascal Martinez		Theresa Loeffler
ITTO:	Sheam Satkuru	UNFCCC:	Dirk Nemitz (virtual)
	Hwan-ok Ma		Jenny Wong (virtual)
IUCN:	Pragyan Pokhrel	UNFF:	Juliette Biao (Vice-Chair)
IUFRO:	John Parrotta		Hossein Moeini Meybodi
	Andre Purret		Mita Sen
UNCBD:	Jihyun Lee		Ryo Nakamura
	Jamal Annagylyjova	WB:	Tuukka Castren
	Lisa Janishevski		
UNCCD:	Sasha Alexander	Regrets:	GCF

Members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) met at UNHQ, New York, on 9 May 2023 during UNFF18.

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

The CPF Chair welcomed the CPF members to the meeting. In his opening remarks, he highlighted the importance for the CPF to revamp the modality and improve how it communicated the impact of its work to demonstrate to Member States how the CPF is responding to their needs.

UNEP suggested to provide an update on the three Basin Summit under any other business in case time allows.

The proposed agenda for the meeting was adopted.

Item 2. Update on CPF work plan 2023

The CPF Secretariat provided an update on the updated work plan of the CPF and the CPF's priorities in 2023. The work plan of the CPF is a living document, which has been updated annually based on inputs provided by members and made available on the websites of the CPF and the UNFF along with its summary version. The work plan also includes in its annex priorities of the CPF in 2023.

Members of the CPF held a discussion on the future course of action to be taken on the CPF work plan and areas for further improvement, taking into account the views of the Member States expressed during UNFF18 regarding the work of the CPF.

The main points raised during the discussion included: the importance to provide regular updates on the CPF activities, particularly its Joint Initiatives, to Member States ; the importance to develop a systematic approach to communicating and promoting greater awareness of the impact/outcome of CPF activities and its products, including through assistance of the CPF Communicators' Network; developing core/key messaging for joint dissemination at major forest-related events, including through the representation of the CPF and its timeslot at the Rio Conventions' COPs; importance to implement the eventual outcome of the midterm review of the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF) related to the work plan; the preparation of a new work plan well in advance of UNFF19; the need for better coordination of national focal points to CPF member organizations; the possibility to better coordinate participation of CPF members in other events and representing each other.

Regarding the funding of the CPF activities, some members highlighted the importance of jointly mobilizing funds for joint activities of the CPF, whereas other members suggested adhering to the current fundraising practice of each CPF member contributing to the work of the CPF at their own expense in light of voluntary nature of the partnership.

Key actions to be taken:

- It was agreed to explore an approach that would help prioritise and sharpen the next CPF work plan;
- Discuss the work plan in depth during the CPF retreat in Nairobi in June 2023.

Item 3. Preparations for the CPF Retreat (22-23 June 2023, UNON, Nairobi) and next steps on the IAF midterm review related to the CPF

The CPF Secretariat reported that the taskforce of the CPF met virtually on 20 April 2023 to brainstorm on the upcoming activities of the CPF, particularly in the context of preparations for the midterm review of the IAF related to the CPF, the CPF High-level Event at the 2023 SDG Summit, and the CPF High-level dialogue on turning the tide on deforestation at UNFCCC COP28 in preparations for the CPF Retreat. The CPF taskforce agreed that: i) FAO and UNFFS prepare the draft concept note for the CPF High-level Event at the 2023 SDG Summit for CPF members' consideration; ii) FAO and UNFFS prepare a table of recommendations from the CPF OLI, and the suggested follow up actions for their implementation; and iii) CPF considers holding a webinar at least annually on a topic of global importance.

Members held a discussion and exchanged their views and ideas in preparation for the CPF retreat. These ideas and views included: the importance to explore possible ways to engage in joint programming, strengthen communication with member states of the UNFF and other governing bodies of CPF members, including through holding briefings, and through the work of the Communicators' Network; the importance to respond to and implement suggestions and proposals of the CPF OLI; importance to improve the focus and impacts of the CPF work plan and activities; and importance to make the case for the participation of the heads and principals of CPF members in the CPF High-level Event at the 2023 SDG Summit.

Key actions to be taken:

- Invitation to all CPF members to attend the retreat to be prepared by the CPF secretariat;
- FAO and UNFFS will prepare a draft concept note of the CPF retreat for circulation prior to the CPF retreat in June 2023;
- FAO and UNFFS will prepare a table of recommendations from the CPF OLI, and the suggested follow-up actions for their implementation;
- CPF will consider holding a webinar at least annually on a topic of global importance.

Item 4. Modalities, agenda, and expected outcome of CPF High-level Event at 2023 SDG Summit

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The CPF Chair invited CPF members to provide ideas for modalities, agenda and expected outcome of the CPF High-level Event at the 2023 SDG Summit, noting the importance to prepare for the event well in advance of the Summit to ensure an impactful event.

Members held a discussion and exchanged their expectations and ideas. The suggested ideas included: focus of the event on the mainstreaming of forest and forestry in support of the SDG achievement and/or the core/key messaging for joint dissemination; inclusion of the thematic focus such as forests and the SDGs, forest finance, forest partnership, and cross-sectoral dialogue; and focus on how the CPF and forest community can support the implementation of the outcome of the Summit.

Members also suggested that the event could include: a roundtable of heads and principals of CPF members, possibly with the high-level participation of Member State(s); a side event with the participation of Member State(s) and major groups; or an informal dinner.

Key actions to be taken:

- FAO and UNFFS will prepare a draft concept note of the CPF High-level Event at the 2023 SDG Summit for circulation and comments by CPF members prior to the CPF retreat in June 2023;
- Invitations to be signed by FAO DG, as the CEO of the lead agency of CPF.

Item 5. Date and venue of the next CPF meeting

The date and time of the next CPF members meeting will be communicated in due course.

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 members meeting.

Item 6. Any other business

FAO will circulate to the CPF members its proposal for the 2024 edition of the Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award. UNEP will circulate information regarding the three Basin Summit.

Item 7. Closing of the meeting

The CPF Chair closed the meeting at 14:55.
