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# Way forward for the future IAF and interconnections with SDGs & post-2015 UN development agenda

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# Way forward on IAF – AHEG 1 discussion



- General agreement on need to strengthen:
  - Policy/program coordination at international level (reduce fragmentation)
  - Regional/subregional engagement
  - Stakeholder engagement
  - Facilitative Process & access to funding
  - Monitoring, assessment & reporting
  - Science-policy interface
  - Impacts/implementation at national level

# Way forward on IAF – AHEG 1 discussions



- Less convergence on form of future IAF
  - Negotiate new forest treaty of some kind  
LBA/LBI/convention/framework convention
  - Strengthen existing IAF institutional  
elements (UNFF, CPF, UNFFS)
  - Need to establish a global forest fund
  - Be creative, think outside box
  - Too early to focus on form – 1<sup>st</sup> need to  
consider functions & see results of  
independent assessment
  - LBI vs NLBI debate not a new issue

# A look back – Outcomes of LBI-NLBI debate



- 1990 (G7 Summit): US began push for GFC to look at forests “holistically” & complement FCCC & CBD negotiations. By 1991, OECD countries favored GFC. Developing countries not convinced
- 1992: Rio adopted Forest Principles. Could not agree to negotiate GFC based on FP. N-S split
- 1995: CSD focused on forests & reopened debate on GFC. Some shift in positions away from N-S but no consensus. Compromise was IPF (2 year mandate)
- 1997: Rio+5 (UNGASS) again debated GFC pros & cons. Compromise was IFF (2 year mandate)



# A look back – Outcomes of LBI-NLBI debate



- 2000: IFF4 again debated GFC. Compromise is current IAF (outside the box) & agreement to review IAF in 5 years and -  
Consider with a view to recommending the parameters of a mandate for developing a legal framework on all types of forests
- 2005: UNFF5 talks broke down. No decisions. No ministerial declaration. 4 GOFs agreed *ad ref*
- 2006: UNFF6 adopted 4 GOFs and agreed to negotiate NLBI
- 2007: UNFF7 adopted FI & MYPOW 2007-2015  
Agreed to review IAF in 2015 “and consider the full range of options, including an LBI”

# AHEG1 begins a new round of talks on future IAF



- Developments since 2007 provide new context for looking at IAF options
  - REDD+, Aichi targets, GEF forest strategy, Nagoya Protocol, HLPF, UNEA, SDGs, Post-2015, etc...
- When considering LBI, some basic questions:
  - Would LBI be based on FI (put FI in legal framework)? Or something different?
  - Would LBI have general obligations or specific targets?
  - What would be funding mechanism? What level of \$\$ is expected & from what sources?
  - Is LBI likely to have universal membership? Or will some key players be missing?
  - How long before LBI becomes operational? Could be 8+ years from decision to launch INC to entry into force = 2023+
  - What happens to IAF in meantime? Cease to function? Replaced by INC process? Carry on work?

# Way forward...?



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- Assume current IAF carries on for some years even under eventual LBI scenario
- 10 sets of initial proposals on ways to strengthen IAF – in or out of the box?
- Draw on views submitted by members, AHEG1 discussions, other ideas

# 1. Make the FI, its GOFs & the SDGs centerpiece of the IAF



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- Streamline and focus functions of IAF on FI/GOFs & forest SDGs/targets, and clarify roles of IAF components. For example --
- UNFF: High level policy platform. Catalyst for FI implementation (using various visions/models)
- CPF: Supports UNFF & promotes policy/program coordination thru joint programming & initiatives
- UNFF members: Policy dialogue. Promote international coherence on forests by including relevant aspects of FI in work programs of CPF orgs.
- UNFF trust funds, XB\$\$: Support, *inter alia*, “low cost - high benefit” activities, e.g. help countries prepare national reports, FI implementation plans, public awareness strategies



## 2. Reaffirm & extend FI & GOFs to 2025



In doing so:

- Incorporate forest SDGs into FI
  - Annex or new IV bis
- Elaborate GOF 5 on governance & enabling conditions
- Rename/coin a “handle” for FI to improve marketing and understanding
- Clarify linkages between paras 6&7 of FI, GOFs and forest SDG/targets

### 3. Take a strategic approach to MYPOW



- Develop 8-10 year strategic plan for FI implementation with benchmarks or targets
- Take into account recent developments & post-2015 agenda
- Establish 2-4 year program of work (POW) focused on specific aspects of FI (paras 6&7/GOFs/SDG) and linked to benchmarks

# 4. Review & strengthen CPF in consultation with CPF members



Magdalena Valley, Colombia  
Photograph by WWF/ R.G. Bernal

- Clarify role of CPF within the IAF and its relationship to UNFF. Also consider:
  - Establishing basic operating guidelines
  - Clarifying responsibilities, expertise/gaps & division of labor, including for UNFFS
  - Identifying ways to:
    - Strengthen science-policy interface
    - Increase ownership in CPF by all members
    - Engage stakeholders and non-CPF orgs./processes
  - Establishing CPF trust fund to increase capacity
    - Account under UNFF TF or separate TF
    - Administered by UNFFS
    - Supported by contributions from UNFF members & budget allocations from CPF orgs.
- Role of UNFF members in supporting CPF through governing bodies of CPF organizations

# 5. Strengthen regional/subregional inputs & impacts



- Support travel of regional reps to UNFF sessions
- Organize “Region Days” at UNFF to highlight regional perspectives (UNFCCC Forest Day model)
- Develop web-based regional communication tools (newsletter, portal, etc.)
- Add Regional Liaison position to UNFFS
- Convene regional meetings in non-UNFF years
  - Involve UNFF members, regional/sub orgs. & processes, range of stakeholders
  - Organize in coordination with FAO Forestry Commissions, Reg’l Economic Commissions, other ROs (ACTO, ASEAN, AFF, SADC, etc.)
  - Rotate among UN regions

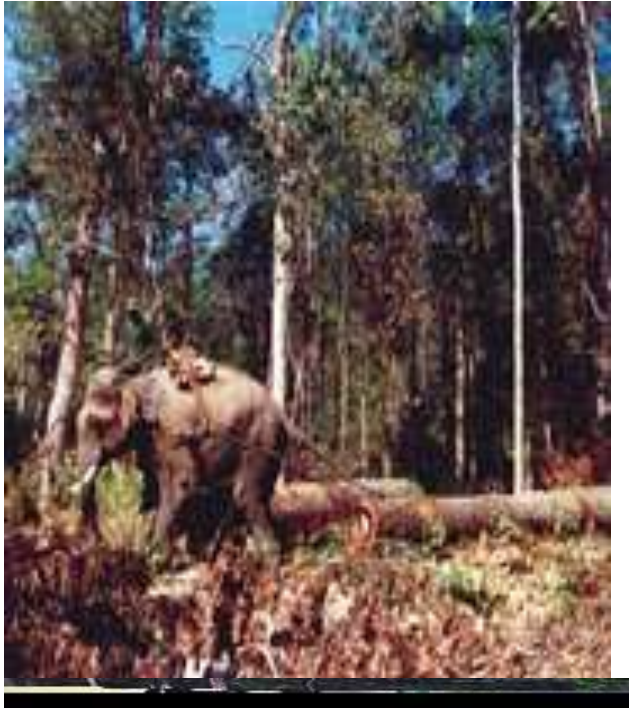


# 6. Strengthen stakeholder engagement in UNFF



- Move beyond MG/MSD format to more interactive models with wider range of stakeholders
- Engage forest products industry/trade – major sources of investment \$\$, income, technology
- Create platforms to discuss FI elements of interest to industry
  - Enabling environments – partnerships - production – processing – recycling – illegal logging – certification
- Engage philanthropic orgs. – potential source of \$\$ . Expected role in post-2015 agenda
- Set up informal advisory group to help UNFFS with above & to consider MG proposals
- Review UN rules of procedure

# 7. Strengthen impacts of CLI/RLI/OLIs



*Photo: Myanmar Forest Department*

- Clearly focus CLI/RLI/OLIs on specific POW topics
- Incorporate CLI/RLI/OLI outcomes & recommendations in Sec-Gen papers on POW topics
- Identify elements of a successful CLI/RLI/OLI process (e.g. planning, preparations, participation, timeframe, organization of work, etc.)
- Revise current guidelines to take these suggestions into account

# 8. Take Facilitative Process to next level



- Establish a “global forest mechanism” (CCD model) to advise/help countries:
  - Develop financing strategies for SFM/FI (short-medium- long-term)
  - Access financing to implement FI from range of sources (& identify conditions needed for success)
  - Attract investment in SFM/FI (& get “investment ready”)
  - Connect with potential technical coop. partners (N-S, S-S, triangular, public-private)
  - Mainstream SFM into broader development frameworks
- Unit within UNFFS but locate to maximize synergies: NY, Rome (FAO, GM), good offer?

# 9. Strengthen MAR on FI implementation



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- Establish streamlined standard reporting format with a core set of indicators
- Institute data sharing arrangements with FRA, ITTO, C&I, etc. to better harmonize & minimize burdens
  - Set up “global forest indicators” partnership
- Add a MAR Coordinator to UNFFS
- Use UNFF trust funds to help countries prepare reports
- Establish 5-year reporting cycle to identify progress & trends. Avoid reporting fatigue. Sync with FRA
- Convene AHEG/SBI to review progress on implementation after each reporting cycle
- Mainstream MAR results into UNFF decisions



# 10. Strengthen UNFFS



Magdalena Valley, Colombia  
Photograph by WWF/ R.G. Bernal

- Clarify main secretariat functions:
  - Support intergovernmental process
  - Support CPF and serve as CPF member
  - Administer trust fund(s)
  - Promote forests/SFM/UNFF as part of UN in NY
- Establish clear priorities for UNFFS
- Develop 2-year work plan for use of RB & XB\$\$ based on priorities and capacity
- Develop fund-raising strategy to increase XB resources: \$\$ for TFs, projects/activities, in-kind
- Urge secondments from CPF & UNFF members
- Double RB posts to 16 (still compact!)

# Further thoughts on way forward for IAF



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- Many of these proposals apply in principle to LBI option
- Pros & cons of global forest fund need a full airing under all future IAF options
- Important to recognize that GOFs/IADGs (SDGs) are part of FI & FI implementation - not separate. UNFF 9:
  - “FI is an integrated framework to implement SFM, achieve the GOFs & enhance the contribution of forests to IADGs”
- CPF organizations are sovereign with their own membership & mandates. This will not change under any IAF option

# Further thoughts on way forward for IAF



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- Reduced forest fragmentation at the international level can be achieved only if UNFF members
  - coordinate in capitals across ministries
  - take consistent messages on forests/SFM/FI to CPF governing bodies
- IAF can foster coherence but it can't "make it happen" absent member commitments
- Implementing FI contributes to implementing Rio Conventions & vice versa
- All CPF organizations are mechanisms for delivery of FI implementation at national level.
- Regional organizations also have considerable potential to be delivery mechanisms

# SDGs & post-2015 UN development agenda



- 2010: MDG Summit catalyzed post-2015 process. Focused on sustainable development
- 2012: Rio+20 initiated OWG process to propose SDGs, building on MDGs & other IADGs (e.g. Monterrey Consensus)
- Both processes handled within GA and will eventually converge



# SDGs-OWG Process



- Opportunity to go beyond MDG 7 - highlight contribution of forests to sustainable development
- Options for forests:
  - Stand alone forest SDG
  - Crosscutting SDG with forest targets -- OWG focus area 17 “ecosystems & biodiversity”
  - Key: Include forest targets under all relevant SDGs (poverty-food-energy-etc.)
- 2 proposals for 10 forest targets: (1) CPF and (2) UNECE/FAO workshop (January 2014)

# SDG/OWG Process – Next Steps



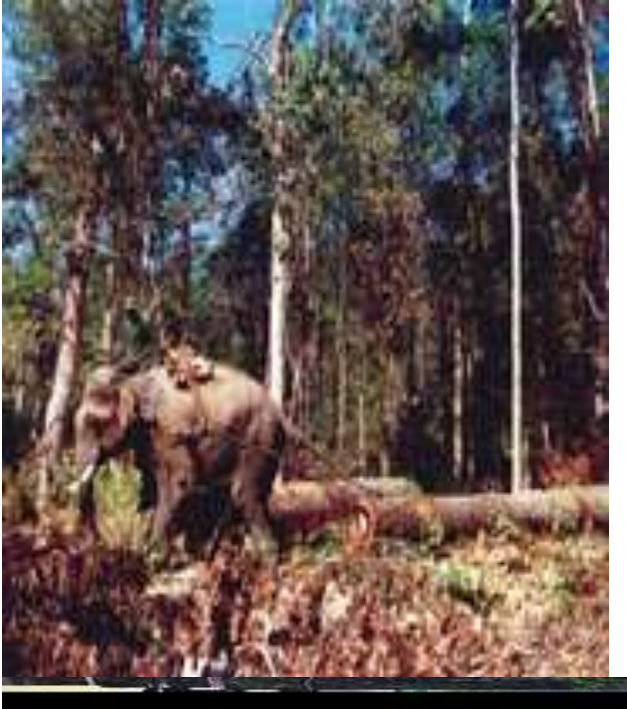
- March 2014 - OWG begins negotiating SDGs
- Sept 2014 - OWG proposes SDGs/targets to GA
- SDGs/targets finalized thru post-2015 process
- Next few months – window for proposing forest targets under various OWG focal areas

# Post-2015 Process – Many Work Streams



- UN System Task Team to provide analytic inputs
  - 60 agencies led by DESA-UNDP. 2 reports. 18 think pieces
  - WGs. TST provides inputs to OWG
- Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing
- High Level Panel of Eminent Persons
- DCF high level symposia/dialogues on future role of development cooperation
- High Level Political Forum
- Regional & national consultation process
- UNDG multi-stakeholder consultations on 11 themes
- UN Global Compact – business/private sector
- Sustainable Development Solutions Network – scientific & academic community. **Global expert panel on forests, oceans, biodi, ecosystems**

# Opportunity for UNFF11



*Photo: Myanmar Forest Department*

- Post-2015 work streams will come together (somehow) and feed into final preparations for GA in Sept 2015
- Timing of UNFF11 (May 2015) offers opportunity to send “message” to HLPF and GA on contribution of forests/SFM/future IAF to post-2015 development agenda





Thank you for your  
attention!