



No. 56101/51

The Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat, with reference to the latter's Note No. UNFF-13-L-HMM-219 of 16 July 2013, soliciting views and proposals from Member States and other relevant stakeholders on the international arrangement on forests (IAF).

In this connection, the Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations would like to transmit herewith the completed "format" on the IAF.

The Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.

Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations,
New York.

28 January B.E. 2557 (2014)



United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat,
NEW YORK.

Country/Organization: Thailand / Royal Forest Department

Date of Submission: 30 October 2013

UNFF Intersessional Activities on the International Arrangement on Forests
Format for Soliciting Views and Proposals on the International Arrangement on Forests
United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat
July 2013

1. According to the multi-year programme of work adopted in 2007, the overall theme of the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF11) in 2015 will be “Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward for the international arrangement on forests (IAF).” At this session, the Forum will review the effectiveness of the IAF and decide on its future.¹

2. In preparation for UNFF11 in 2015, the Forum has made a number of decisions during the last fourteen years.² Most recently, Member States through Resolution 10/2 of UNFF10 decided to undertake several intersessional activities to ensure UNFF11 has a strong basis to review the effectiveness of the IAF and make a decision on the future of the IAF.

3. One of the three components of the intersessional activities on the IAF, as outlined in Resolution 10/2 of UNFF10, is to solicit views from Member States and other relevant stakeholders on the IAF. Specifically, the Resolution invites countries, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, its member organizations, other relevant organizations, relevant regional and subregional forest-related mechanisms, institutions, instruments, organizations and processes, major groups and other stakeholders to submit views and proposals to the Forum’s Secretariat on the six key issues set out in paragraph 5 of the same resolution, and the full range of options on the future international arrangement on forests. The UNFF Secretariat should provide the compilation of these views and proposals to the first meeting of the ad hoc expert group (AHEG1) on the IAF³.

4. This format has been prepared by the Forum’s Secretariat to facilitate submission of the inputs on the IAF to AHEG1. The electronic version of this format is available at: (<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/docs/Views-on-IAF.doc>). Member States and other relevant stakeholders are invited to download this format and use it to submit their views and proposals in English. The explanation in each box should not exceed 150 words. Member States and other stakeholders are kindly requested to submit the original copy of the completed format in word processing software, with a scanned copy of the official letter from their respective organization/ministry/mission, via email to: unff@un.org, with copy to Mr. Hossein Moeini-Meybodi at: moeini-meybodi@un.org, and Ms. Thida Sam at: sam2@un.org. All inputs should be sent to the UNFF Secretariat by **30 October 2013**.

¹ Resolution 1 of UNFF7 and its annex (E/2007/42), please see:

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N07/349/31/PDF/N0734931.pdf?OpenElement>

² ECOSOC Resolutions 2000/35 and 2006/49, Resolution 1 of UNFF7 and its annex (E/2007/42) and Resolution 2 of UNFF10 and its annex (E/2013/42)

³ OP 5 and 6 of Resolution 2 of UNFF10 and paragraph 2 of its annex- Please see: <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N13/321/90/PDF/N1332190.pdf?OpenElement>

**Format for Soliciting Views and Proposals on the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF)
July 2013**

Ministry / Organization: Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment / Royal Forestry Department

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Section A: Full range of options for the IAF

A.1 Please select (with X in front of the options below) and explain the preferred option for the future of the IAF:

- A legally binding instrument on all types of forests
- Strengthening of the current IAF
- Continuation of the current IAF
- Other options (please describe)

Section B: Performance of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and its processes since 2000, and future options for UNFF

B.1 Please explain if you consider the current UNFF structure and its biennial sessions as sufficient to take necessary actions and to provide policy advice and guidance on all issues related to all types of forests and at all levels: Sufficient

B.2 Please describe the UNFF's performance and list its key achievements in implementing its principal functions, as stated in ECOSOC resolutions 2000/35 and 2006/49⁴: With regard to the UNFF's performance, most of member countries adopted to promote the sustainable management of all types of forest and the enhancement of the coordination and cooperation among Governments, international organizations and public-private partnerships for the improvement of forest resources and local communities including the peoples whose livelihoods depend on forests.

⁴ Please see these documents at:

- http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/2000_35_E.pdf
- http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/iaf/2006_49_E.pdf

B.3 Please provide your view on the future options for the UNFF: Establishment of IAF and Global Forest Fund so that the UNFF will not only provide policy guidance but also implementation on the ground.

B.4 Please describe the potential roles for UNFF in implementing the UN post-2015 development agenda and the SDGs: The role of UNFF should support the achievement of the UN Post-2015 development agenda and the SDG, ESP, implementation on the ground.

B.5 Please describe the role and impact of Country-Led Initiatives and ad hoc expert groups in the work of the UNFF: N/A

B.6 Please indicate how effective you consider the engagement of major groups in the work of the UNFF and provide suggestions on their further engagement: It's effective only on awareness raising but no clear actions on implementation on the ground.

B.7 Please explain the role and impact of the International Year of Forests and the International Day of Forests in promoting greater awareness and strengthening political and public commitment for forests: In Thailand, the major stakeholders pay commitment to promote the greater awareness and strengthening political and public commitments on forests. At the international level, we do not have sufficient information.

Section C: The Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (Forest Instrument) and the four Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs)

C.1 Please indicate progress in the implementation of the forest instrument:

Adequate
 Inadequate
 Not sure

C.2 Please provide suggestions on how to improve progress: Need more supports on technical and financial to improve the progress ,and also the monitoring and evaluations for better improvement.

C.3 Please indicate progress in achieving the GOFs:

| | Adequate | Inadequate | Not sure |
|-------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| GOF1: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| GOF2: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| GOF3: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| GOF4: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

C.4 Please provide suggestions on how to improve progress: Need more resources on technical and financial to support the implementation, and also the monitoring and evaluations for better improvement.

C.5 Please explain how implementation of the forest instrument has contributed to the implementation of forest-related international conventions, and vice versa: It is very much contribute to other conventions such as UNFCCC, CBD, UNCCD, CITES, etc.

C.6 Please describe how the forest instrument and the GOFs can contribute to the post-2015 UN development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals: GOFs can support various activities related to forest which contribute/implement to post-2015 UN development agenda and SDG.

Section D: The Forum's Secretariat

D.1 Please indicate if you consider the structure, human and financial resources of the compact Secretariat of the UNFF adequate to fulfill its mandates:

- Adequate
 Inadequate
 Not sure

Additional explanation: Require more staff and budget to increase the effectiveness of the work.

D.2 Please provide suggestion(s) on strengthening the Secretariat of the Forum to enable it to fulfill its functions more effectively: Need regional UNFF officers to closely work with members in each region.

D.3 Please provide suggestion(s) on how the Forum Secretariat's role, as a CPF member and as CPF secretariat, should be strengthened: Should have both regional and global forum for UNFF and have more frequently meetings/activities.

Section E: CPF and CPF Member Organizations

E.1 Please explain the impacts and sufficiency of the programs and actions taken by CPF and CPF member organizations in implementing resolutions and supporting the work of UNFF since its inception: The impacts of CPF and CPF's member are not sufficient to achieve the goals of UNFF

E.2 Please describe how the CPF and its member organizations can further contribute to the work of the UNFF, and how to ensure availability of necessary resources for its activities in support of the work of the Forum: Establishment of voluntary Global Forest Fund.

Section F: Financing options and strategies

F.1 Please provide views on financing options and strategies, including the creation of a voluntary Global Forest Fund, to generate resources from all sources for sustainable management of all types of forests and trees outside forests: Agree to create the voluntary Gloval Forest Fund. UN should establish measures to generate resources to put in the funds for the implementation.

F.2 Please suggest concrete steps that UNFF, CPF members and other organizations should undertake to develop forest financing options: Initially,UNFF all concerned parties should have a committee to create the establishment of the fund and appropriate methods of contributions such as;

1. voluntary contribution from UN developed countries
2. Other global fund, such as GEF, CPF, FCPF, etc. should clearly indicate proportion to support the program of work for forestry development with this financial mechanism.
3. Voluntary donation from private sectors