

UN Forum on Forests Secretariat, New York
24-25 August 2006

Mr. Hans Hoogeveen, H.E. Mr. Hamidon Ali, Mr. Arvids Ozols and
Mr. Andre-Jules Madingou. Mr. Andres Landerretche represented H.E. Mr. Cristian Maquieira.

Mr. Pekka Patosaari, Mr. Mahendra Joshi, Mr. Jorge Illueca, Ms. Barbara
Tavora-Jainchill, Ms. Afsa Kemitale and Ms. Catalina Santamaria.

Ms. Vivian Pliner.

Ms. Mira Woldberg, Mission of the Netherlands; Mr. Razif Mubin, Mission of Malaysia;
and Mr. Gregoire Lomba, Mission of Gabon.

The agenda of the second meeting of the Bureau were the following:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Adoption of the minutes of the first meeting, held on 21 June 2006
3. Preparations for the Seventh Session and intersessional work in the context of the outcome of
ECOSOC

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resolution, negotiated at UNFF6, and subsequent adoption of the ECOSOC resolution and decision of UNFF 6, with the following two amendments:

- (i) The concept of convening an ad hoc working group (AHWG) on a non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests (NLBI) had been changed to an ad hoc _____ group (AHEG) in the final resolution (see Paragraph 29 of the resolution). The resources for convening an AHEG would be met from the existing appropriation under section 9, Economic and Social Affairs, or the Trust Fund in Support of the United Nations Forum on Forests.
- (ii) The actual year for the Proclamation of an International Year of Forests had been changed to _____ (instead of 2010, as contained in the draft resolution).

The Bureau expressed satisfaction with the adoption of the UNFF6 report including the ECOSOC resolution, which aimed to strengthen the int

New York, and, in this context, reviewed the draft roadmap prepared by the Secretariat

member States and other groups on the compilation. This Note should be prepared for the AHEG meeting.

- The Secretariat to further develop an outline of the instrument with integral text. This would entail a first draft of the instrument, including options based on differing proposals on specific issues provided by countries.
- The date for submitting comments by member States on the compilation of proposals extended to 15 September 2006.

Mr. Hans Hoogeveen briefed the Bureau on his participation in the meeting with the ECOSOC Bureau and on the panel discussion of the Chairpersons of the functional commissions, held 7 July 2006 in Geneva during the ECOSOC substantive session. These meetings provided an opportunity to showcase UNFF and its contribution to ECOSOC's new mandate. It was recommended, that such meetings should take place earlier, during the substantive session, to make better use of time and to facilitate cooperation and collaboration among the functional commissions of ECOSOC.

The Bureau exchanged information on the follow-up to the decisions taken at the first meeting, on: consultations with member States; approaching FAO and other CPF members for staff secondment and interagency cooperation, and fundraising for UNFF.

The Chair informed the Bureau that he had already sent a letter to the Director-General of FAO as per the decision of the first meeting. He also informed that letters to the Heads of governing bodies of CPF have already been sent inviting their support for enhanced interagency cooperation. He also announced that the Netherlands has committed funds to the UNFF Trust Fund, and encouraged Bureau members to encourage donors in their respective regions for contributions to said Trust Fund.

The Bureau reviewed the substantive issues to be concluded and adopted at the seventh session, specifically: (i) the non-legally binding instrument, and (ii) the MYPOW. As requested by the Bureau at its first meeting, the Secretariat prepared Discussion Notes on the MYPOW, the Regional Dimension in UNFF and Interagency collaboration, including CPF. The Bureau reviewed the information presented in the notes.

On the *MYPOW*, the Secretariat highlighted the importance of developing a focused MYPOW, taking into consideration biennial sessions, global objectives, additional principal functions, the NLBI, grouping of issues for deliberations at each session, inputs from regions, and recurrent issues such as multi-stakeholder dialogue and high-level segment, among others. The Bureau noted the complexity in developing a MYPOW for adoption at UNFF7. They highlighted the need to clearly link the MYPOW and the NLBI.

On the Note on *Regional Dimensions*, the Bureau expressed the need for allowing regions to design their own formats, functions and meetings in light of their particular experiences and mechanisms. The Bureau requested the Secretariat to further explore how regions could best

provide their

- a. The outcome of the AHEG, panel discussion of international law scholars, and finalization of the instrument

- a. Multi-year programme of work
- b. Enhanced cooperation and coordination (including guidance to CPF)

The Bureau welcomed the Country-Led Initiative (CLI) in Bali being organized by the Government of Indonesia, with support of the Government of Germany and other potential donor countries and organizations. The Bureau expressed its support of this meeting and decided to actively participate in it. It is expected that the CLI would help elaborate and develop a broader understanding of the concept and elements of the new MYPOW and its consideration and adoption at UNFF 7. Taking into account outcomes of the AHEG meeting in December and subject to a final decision by the Steering Committee, the following topics are proposed for the CLI 1) Multi-year programme of work: consideration of new realities (i.e. global objectives) and identification of structure and key components; 2) Exploring ways to strengthen global-regional interactions in IAF: how to incorporate this dimension in the new MYPOW; 3) Linkage between NLBI and UNFF and implications for the MYPOW; and 4) Means of implementation. The CLI is scheduled for 13/14 -16 February 2007 in Bali, Indonesia. The Bureau also recommended that the meeting should be for four days to fully capitalize on the experience available at the CLI.

Mr. Hoogeveen thanked the Bureau members and the Secretariat for their active participation in the meeting and adjourned the meeting at 12:45 pm on 25 August 2006 (second day of the meeting).