



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
Nations

Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная
организация
Объединенных
Наций

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY

NINETEENTH SESSION

Rome, Italy, 16-20 March 2009

REVIEW OF FAO PROGRAMMES IN FORESTRY: FOLLOW-UP ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 18TH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY

| Recommendations | Actions Taken |
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| <p><i>State of the World's Forests</i></p> <p>Requested FAO to continue to report on the state of the world's forests through an integrated approach using national focal points, regional forestry commissions, advisory committees, and collaborating with other processes and organizations.</p> | <p>The <i>State of the World's Forests 2009</i> draws upon FAO's regional forest sector outlook studies, which are prepared through a comprehensive consultation process, involving national focal points and the regional forestry commissions.</p> |
| <p><i>Forests and Energy</i></p> <p>Requested FAO to assist Members to develop integrated bioenergy strategies; to organize workshops to promote dialogue on the sustainable production and consumption of bioenergy, alternative energy, and bioenergy-related technologies; to prepare an analytical report on the use of wood for energy generation; to support Members in updating information on energy balances and potentials; and to strengthen cooperation among members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) on bioenergy issues.</p> | <p>FAO assisted in developing national wood energy strategies in Argentina, Croatia, Central African Republic and Spain. Activities have been initiated in Serbia and Rwanda. The outcome of these activities is published in several documents and has been presented at a number of national and international meetings.</p> <p>FAO assisted countries in updating and upgrading their national information systems for improving energy balances and assessing the potentials of woody biomass for energy</p> |

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| | <p>generation. FAO, jointly with the International Energy Agency (IEA), has contributed to the harmonisation of terminology on bioenergy, wood energy and statistics.</p> <p>FAO continued to work closely with IEA Bioenergy Task 31 on the guidelines for sustainable wood fuel production. Several draft chapters dealing with criteria and indicators for sustainable charcoal production and social and environmental aspects of woodfuel production have been prepared. A workshop is planned for the first half of 2009 to facilitate discussion of the draft guidelines following which feedback will be sought from member countries.</p> <p>FAO is working with the Asian Development Bank and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to support countries in Asia with bioenergy policy development and sustainable bioenergy programmes.</p> <p>Two thematic studies on forests and bioenergy have been prepared within the Asia-Pacific Forestry Sector Outlook Study.</p> <p>FAO jointly organized with the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) a global workshop on wood-based bioenergy as well as regional meetings in Cameroon and Indonesia.</p> <p>A High-Level Special Event on Forests and Energy was organized during the FAO Conference in November 2007. Jointly with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) a policy forum was organized during the European Timber Committee meeting in October 2007.</p> <p>A comprehensive document on Forests and Energy has been prepared and produced in six languages:</p> <p>http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/i0139e/i0139e00.htm</p> |

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| <p><i>Forest protection</i></p> <p>Requested FAO to strengthen support to countries to address increasing threats to forest ecosystems from wildfires, pests and invasive species; and to build networks on invasive species and a wildland fire network in the Near East Region.</p> | <p>The Near East Network on Forest Health and Invasive Species (NENFHIS) was established and is operational http://www.fao.org/forestry/51295/en/</p> <p>Phase II of the FAO-Italy-Syria Fire Management project was approved and initiated. Planning is under way for an inaugural meeting to establish a Near East fire management network in early 2009.</p> <p>The Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network remains very active, with several regional workshops and trainings.</p> |
| <p><i>Voluntary Guidelines</i></p> | |
| <p>Requested FAO to facilitate the implementation of Voluntary Guidelines on Fire Management, Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Management of Planted Forests, and Guidelines for Reduced Impact Forest Harvesting; and to finalize the Strategy to Enhance International Cooperation on Fire Management.</p> | <p>National workshops were held to prepare action programmes for implementation of the planted forests guidelines in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, P.R. China, Lao PDR, Paraguay, Thailand, Uruguay and Vietnam. Regional workshops were held for Asia Pacific, South America and South East Asia. National Forest Programme Facility (NFP) support was provided to prepare national guidelines for planted forests in China and Lao PDR. Projects to implement the planted forests guidelines for planted forests were initiated in Burundi and Armenia.</p> <p>National workshops were held to undertake needs assessments and prepare action programmes for implementation of the fire management guidelines in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. Regional workshops were held in Cuba [Spanish Caribbean], Trinidad [English Caribbean], Indonesia [SE Asia], and Australia (Australasia, South Pacific and Asia Pacific).</p> <p>A Strategy to Enhance International Cooperation in Fire Management was prepared. The Fire Management Actions Alliance (FMAA) to implement the voluntary guidelines for fire management and enhance international cooperation in fire management was launched</p> |

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| | <p>by FAO with 50 founding members at the 4th International Wildland Fire Conference, Seville, Spain, in May 2007. The Secretariat of the FMAA was established in FAO with a dedicated website: http://www.fao.org/forestry/firealliance/en/</p> <p>FAO completed a five-year Japan-funded project to support implementation of codes of practice for forest harvesting in Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam. Capacity building in monitoring and audit of code implementation is ongoing in collaboration with Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, and Vietnam (with support from Norway and Australia). Training in implementation of the African forest harvesting code was provided to Liberian foresters at two workshops.</p> |
| <p><i>Progressing Toward Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)</i></p> <p>Requested FAO, in collaboration with Members and partner organizations, to develop, promote and implement management tools to bridge the gap between policy and actions at all levels with emphasis on inter-sectoral and landscape approaches.</p> | <p>In the context of national forest programmes, FAO provides support to countries to strengthen links with other sector policies, including national poverty reduction strategies. A specific example of action stimulated by FAO are the networks established under the International Poplar Commission which have helped bridge the gap between science, policy and practices in China to restore floodplains (Yangtze, Hue and Yellow Rivers) and desert landscapes (Three North Region) allowing millions of people to return to former lands and forge their livelihoods by adopting agroforestry systems.</p> <p>FAO organized a first world urban forestry meeting “Trees connecting people – In Action Together” (Bogotá, 2008), promoting interdisciplinary and multisectoral approaches, in line with the FAO mandate for food security and improved livelihoods.</p> |
| <p>Requested FAO to continue its support to national forest programmes, including in partnership with the National Forest Programme Facility; and requested FAO to make available updated information on the status and progress of national forest programmes.</p> | <p>FAO has continued to support national forest programmes through capacity building in collaboration with the NFP Facility. Three training modules on stakeholder participation, financial mechanisms and conflict management have been developed and applied in seven Facility partner countries. The NFP Facility is</p> |

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| | <p>maintaining partnerships with 70 countries and four regional organizations. FAO has established and is making available a new database on country forest policies, legislation and institutions, including an update on the status and progress of national forest programmes.</p> <p>http://www.nfp-facility.org/home/en/</p> <p>FAO and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) have jointly developed an ECOWAS Forest Policy document. In addition, FAO is supporting ECOWAS and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA), two major West African sub-regional organizations, in spearheading the “Forest Dialogue for West Africa” process. This initiative aims at harmonizing forest policies within the sub-region and addresses relevant transboundary and shared forest and wildlife-related issues.</p> |
| <p>Recommended that FAO collaborate with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to assist developing countries to take advantage of GEF as a source of funding to improve forest management.</p> | <p>FAO has prepared a Framework Strategy for Sustainable Forest Management for GEF-4, responding to a request from the GEF CEO.</p> <p>Working with member countries, FAO has developed GEF projects covering a wide range of issues, including: forest degradation and rehabilitation; protected areas; bushmeat production; alien invasive species; forest assessment; community forestry; and watershed protection.</p> <p>Six forestry project concepts have been approved by the GEF so far, covering 19 countries and with a total budget of USD 125.0 million (including GEF financing of USD 34.8 million). The location of these projects are: West Africa (8 countries: USD 44.0 million, including USD 11 million from GEF); Central Africa (4 countries: USD 10.2 million, including USD 4.2 million from GEF); Cameroon (USD 4.5 million, including USD 1.7 million from GEF); Iran (USD 7.3 million, including USD 2.7 million from GEF); Pacific Islands (4 countries: USD 16.2 million, including USD 6.3 million from GEF); and Brazil (USD 42.8 million, including USD 8.9 million from GEF). In each country, matching funds are identified</p> |

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| | <p>from various other sources.</p> <p>Full project documents are currently being prepared in these countries and project implementation is expected to start during 2009-2010. In addition, concept notes are being prepared for another six projects in eight countries, with a total budget of USD 14.4 (including GEF financing of USD 6.8 million).</p> <p>Within countries, GEF project development is overseen by GEF Focal Points, who are often located in Ministries of Environment. They have been informed about the availability of support from FAO for the development of projects and heads of forestry agencies are advised to consult with the Ministries early on if they are considering requesting GEF support for forestry projects.</p> |
| <p><i>Putting Forestry to Work at the Local Level</i></p> <p>Requested FAO to assist communities and smallholders in developing countries to develop small-scale forest-based enterprises for timber and non-timber products.</p> | <p>Through projects, FAO is assisting smallholders and communities in up to 20 countries in the development of small forest-based enterprises. In partnership with International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and with support from the World Bank, FAO is assisting six countries in strengthening networks of small forest-based enterprises and in improving their access to markets and to service providers. This pilot activity will result in the development of a toolkit for better connecting small forest-based enterprises.</p> <p>FAO organized an international conference on capturing opportunities in forest harvesting and processing for the benefit of the poor (Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam); publication of proceedings: "A cut for the poor"</p> |
| <p>Requested that FAO carry out further studies on forest tenure in Central Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean.</p> | <p>FAO has completed in-depth studies of the situation of forest tenure in Central Asia and Latin America, including 18 country case studies on the impact of forest tenure on SFM and poverty reduction. The results are being published as Working Papers and policy briefs.</p> |

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| <p><i>Shaping an Action Programme for FAO in Forestry</i></p> <p>Welcomed FAO's intention to review its strategic plan for forestry, and requested that the review take note of broader reviews, including the Independent External Evaluation (IEE) of FAO and general UN Reform; recommended that the regional forestry commissions be involved in the review, and that FAO should provide opportunities for Members, the private sector, and civil society to contribute.</p> | <p>The FAO Forestry Department has developed a draft FAO Strategy for Forests and Forestry that will be presented to the 19th Session of COFO for consideration. The Draft Strategy was developed in consultation with the Regional Forestry Commissions and through broad consultation with Members, the private sector, and civil society. The Draft Strategy has been closely integrated with the IEE review process in FAO.</p> |
| <p>Requested FAO to strengthen its role as a knowledge and communication centre for forestry, with an emphasis on information and analysis in support of sustainable forest management, by producing, publishing and disseminating technical and policy reports, guidelines, country information and databases.</p> | <p>FAO has continued to strengthen its knowledge and communication capabilities through an improved and increasingly dynamic internet site, improved databases, and new policy reports. New guidelines have been developed for the management of arid zone forests. New FAO Forestry Papers have been published on <i>Forests and Energy</i>, <i>Forests and Water</i>, and <i>The World's Mangrove Resources</i>. A multi-media information package on human-wildlife conflict has been produced and disseminated.</p> |
| <p>Requested FAO to support national monitoring, assessment and reporting on forests, including their social, economic and environmental benefits.</p> | <p>Over the past eight years, FAO has developed significant capacity to respond to countries which request support in national forest monitoring and assessment (NFMA) that feeds into the national decision making processes and strategic planning. In the past two years, 24 national and regional workshops have been held, six new national projects were initiated, four projects were completed, and a global expert consultation held on NFMA. Meeting on evolving needs was held with 34 participants from 14 countries and seven international organisations and NGOs. FAO is implementing a project on Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting for Sustainable Forest Management in Asia (MAR-SFM), funded by Japan.</p> |
| <p>Recommended that FAO continue to work with CPF members and other organizations and processes to further harmonize forest-related reporting and terminology.</p> | <p>The Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2010 will integrate international forest-related reporting requirements. FRA 2010 will provide quantitative data to evaluate progress towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target of the UN Convention on Biodiversity (CBD), the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) Global Objectives on Forests and the Millennium Development Goals. It also incorporates indicators of SFM of the ITTO, the Ministerial</p> |

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| | <p>Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE) and the Montreal Process.</p> <p>An initiative on definition, assessment and reporting on forest degradation has been launched as part of the CPF efforts to harmonize forest definitions and to streamline forest-related reporting. Two regional workshops on harmonising forest-related reporting were held in Asia and the Pacific under the FAO/Japan Regional Project on Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting on Sustainable Forest Management in the Asia-Pacific Region.</p> |
| <p>Recommended that FAO, in collaboration with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and other partners, assist countries in strengthening their capacities to develop and implement climate change mitigation and adaptation measures.</p> | <p>FAO, under the leadership of the Natural Resources Management and Environment (NR) Department, convened the High-Level Conference on World Food Security: the Challenges of Climate Change and Bioenergy, in Rome from 3 to 5 June 2008.</p> <p>http://www.fao.org/foodclimate/hlc-home/en</p> <p>FAO, UNDP and UNEP, launched the UN Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (“UN-REDD”) in September 2008. UN-REDD is assisting countries develop and implement REDD strategies and is contributing to the development of approaches for a REDD instrument under UNFCCC.</p> <p>All Regional Forestry Commission meetings in 2008 addressed climate change issues, providing briefings on new developments in UNFCCC and opportunities for countries to share experiences and views on forests and climate change.</p> <p>FAO co-sponsored the International Conference on Adaptation of Forests and Forest Management to Changing Climate with Emphasis on Forest Health: A Review of Science, Policies and Practices, held in Umea, Sweden from 25-28 August 2008.</p> <p>FAO, as Chair of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, coordinated the preparation of the</p> |

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| | <p>Strategic Framework for Forests and Climate Change.</p> <p>FAO's forests and climate change programme is maintaining an active information function, including a publications series, information notes and policy briefs, website and an electronic information service, CLIM-FO-L.</p> |
| <p>Requested FAO to assist developing countries, especially in Africa, to better manage and use under-utilized wood species and in reforestation with suitable species.</p> | <p>Technical support was provided to countries, including in Africa, on selection of species for afforestation and reforestation based upon site conditions, socio-economic and environmental contexts and market drivers.</p> |
| <p>Requested FAO to provide more information and analysis about the sources and use of extra-budgetary funds, including an ex-post assessment of all Forestry Department funding.</p> | <p>Updated information will be provided to COFO following the closure of the 2008 accounts.</p> |
| <p>Regional Forestry Commissions</p> <p>Emphasized the role of the regional forestry commissions in providing a link to the international dialogue of COFO and of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF).</p> | <p>In 2008 all six Regional Forestry Commissions identified issues to be brought to the attention of COFO. In addition, each Commission submitted a report to the UNFF Secretariat, providing regional views on at least one of the major agenda items for UNFF-8 (New York, 20 April-1 May 2009).</p> |
| <p>Recommended that the chairs of the regional forestry commissions play an active role in planning and managing the work of COFO through its Steering Committee and that the Steering Committee should meet at least once between the official COFO sessions.</p> | <p>The COFO Steering Committee met in Rome in September, 2008, and developed the agenda for the 19th Session of COFO. The COFO Steering Committee also decided to launch the first World Forest Week in connection with COFO in March 2009.</p> |
| <p>World Forestry Congress</p> <p>Requested FAO to continue its collaboration with the World Forestry Congress Organizing Committee, and recommended that Members and partner organizations actively participate in the Congress.</p> | <p>FAO and the Government of Argentina are actively working together to organize and promote the XIII World Forestry Congress to be held in Buenos Aires from 18 to 25 October 2009. Broad participation from all countries and all sectors will ensure a successful congress.</p> |