Item 9a: UNECE and FAO in a changing international environment

Arnaud Brizay
Twentieth session of the Committee on Forestry

• COFO2010
• 4-8 October 2010, Rome
• 2nd World Forest Week
• “Forests and sustainable development”
• COFO recommended to FAO Council and FAO conference (who endorsed the proposals), *inter alia*:
  – To strengthen Global FRA (2015)
  – To develop a state of World Forest Genetic Resources
  – To include fire management in REDD+
  – To make use of the IYF to highlight forests’ contribution to development agenda

• COFO requested the secretariat to prepare the next MYPOW (2012-15)
Ninth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

• UNFF9

• 24 January to 4 February 2011, New York

• Launch of the International Year of the Forests (IYF)

• “Forests for People”
Ninth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

- UNFF9 recommended to ECOSOC the adoption of the Ministerial declaration on the occasion of the IYF, giving visibility to forests and creating momentum before “Rio +20”

- UNFF9 adopted a resolution on “Forests for People, Livelihood and Poverty Eradication” demonstrating the role of forests in achieving the MDG
Second Mediterranean Forest Week

• MFW II

• 5-8 April 2011, Avignon

• Promotion of the Collaborative Partnership on Mediterranean Forests signed in 2010 (CPMF: FAO, Plan Bleu, France, Germany, EFIMED...)

Second Mediterranean Forest Week

• **Enlarged Executive Committee** of Silva Mediterranea (review of WGs programmes, future SoMF, Integrated Strategy For Mediterranean Forests to be discussed in 2012)

• Session on **Wildfire Prevention** (finalization of a Position Paper which was later adopted):

• Session on the **European Forest Fire Information System** (extension of EFFIS to South and East members of the CPMF)
FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe

• FOREST EUROPE Oslo Conference

• 14-16 June 2011, Oslo

• Hosted by the government of Norway

• Co-organized with the government of Spain, who now holds FOREST EUROPE Chairmanship
FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe

• Ministers agreed:
  – on a common vision, strategic goals and measurable targets for European forests by 2020, and
  – on negotiating a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe.

• A two-track approach:
  – Oslo Ministerial Decision: European Forests 2020;
  – Oslo Ministerial Mandate for Negotiating a Legally Binding Agreement.
Oslo Ministerial Mandate

**Paragraph 27:** FOREST EUROPE Signatories

- REQUEST the Liaison Unit and INVITE UNECE, FAO, UNEP and EFI
- to service jointly the negotiating process in accordance with the Annex to the Rules of Procedure and
- based upon the respective expertise of each organisation and the resources that they can contribute within their mandates.

Orman 2011: Forests in a Green Economy, 10-14 October, Antalya Turkey
Annex to the Rule of Procedure

**UNECE, FAO and UNEP:**

- Servicing meetings of the INC and its Bureau including session management, document management and reporting as well as any other relevant tasks as requested by the Bureau or the Committee;
- Providing legal advice;
- Providing advice on synergies with Multilateral Environmental Agreements and processes;
- Liaising with UN organisations;
- Providing analysis and information in support of the negotiations.
Arrangements envisaged by the UNECE/FAO Section for the servicing of the INC

- Distribution of tasks among UN entities
- EXCOM on 19 September 2011:
  - Welcomed the commitment of interested donors to providing extrabudgetary resources, including secondment of staff
  - Approved that the ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber section contributes to the servicing of the negotiation
- Extrabudgetary project:
  - Funds from donors countries to support participation of eligible countries
  - ECE will host the project and establish the related trust fund
Conclusion on the servicing of the INC

The Committee and the Commission are invited to:

(a) Welcome the commitment of interested donors to provide extrabudgetary resources in support of the INC, including secondment of staff;

(b) Request that the UNECE and the FAO contribute to the servicing of the negotiation of the LBA on Forests in Europe, as appropriate. This includes the preparation and processing of related documents, their translation into the official languages, and to make them available to the INC.
Thank for your attention