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Programme element II.e (i)

Matters left pending and other issues arising from the programme
elements of the IPF process

Forest-related work of international and regional organizations

Report of the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

During the former Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) process, Governments reviewed the work of existing institutions and instruments, including their role and mandates vis-à-vis programme elements I-IV of its work programme, institutional linkages, gaps, and areas requiring enhancement, under its programme element V.1, "International organizations and multilateral institutions and instruments, including appropriate legal mechanisms". The Intergovernmental Forum on Forests is considering this matter in two parts, under its programme element II.e (i), "Forest-related work of international and regional organizations", which is covered in the present report; and programme element II.e (ii), "Forest-related work under existing instruments", which is covered in a separate report (E/CN.17/IFF/1998/11).

Chapter I of the present report provides an overview of the conclusions and proposals for action adopted by the former IPF on the issues related to its programme element V.1. Chapter II provides updated information on the forest-related work being carried out by international and regional organizations, highlighting the work of the members of the informal high-level

Inter-Agency Task Force on Forests; by other organizations in the United Nations system, the regional commissions and relevant regional intergovernmental bodies; and other international organizations and processes. Chapter III presents preliminary conclusions and proposals for action to further strengthen cooperation and synergies on the forest-related work being carried out by international and regional organizations.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF), in the programme of work adopted at its first session, under category II, "Considering matters left pending and other issues arising from the programme elements of the IPF process", defined programme element II.e as "Consider forest-related work of international and regional organizations", with the following mandate: "Further examine the forest-related work being carried out by international and regional organizations and under existing instruments in order to identify gaps and overlaps" (see E/CN.17/IFF/1997/4, para. 7).

2. The present report on programme element II.e (i), "Forest-related work of international and regional organizations", is complementary to the report of the Secretary-General on programme element II.e (ii), "Forest-related work under existing instruments" (E/CN.17/IFF/1998/11). It provides a summary of the most relevant and generic background information that IFF may wish to consider when examining further the forest-related work carried out by international and regional organizations. More specific information on the forest-related work of institutions is presented in the report of the Secretary-General on programme element I.a, "Promoting and facilitating the implementation of the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests" (E/CN.17/IFF/1998/2).

I. OVERVIEW OF THE CONCLUSIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR ACTION OF THE FORMER INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON FORESTS ON ITS PROGRAMME ELEMENT V.1

3. In its conclusions on this topic, the former Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) recognized the need to strengthen coordination among international organizations and multilateral institutions in order to provide a holistic and balanced approach to all types of forests. It also acknowledged that no single multilateral body, organization or instrument has either a mandate or the capacity to address, in a balanced, holistic and mutually reinforcing way, all issues that are currently on the international agenda with respect to all types of forests. The Panel also noted that existing forest-related legally binding instruments do not deal comprehensively with all issues relating to forests, including sustainable forest management. The Panel also agreed that in order to achieve the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests it is necessary to deal coherently with all the related social, cultural, economic, trade, environment, development, production, financial and technology issues that have a concrete impact on these objectives. The benefits of regional approaches should also be explored.

4. A number of interlinked forest-related areas needing enhanced international efforts that were recognized include improved mechanisms for focusing, coordinating and monitoring the activities of agencies and activities carried out under instruments on international forest-related issues; improved participation of major groups in forest forums and processes to promote sustainable forest management; strategic data collection and analysis; and more focused and effective funding for and coordination of research and development in priority areas concerned with sustainable forest management.

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5. In its negotiated proposals for action, the Panel called on organizations to continue their work in the informal high-level Inter-Agency Task Force on Forests (ITFF), focusing on the proposals for action negotiated by IPF, in accordance with their respective mandates and comparative advantage, and proposed that ITFF should undertake further coordination and explore means for collaboration and coherent action at the international, regional and country levels.

6. The Panel also called on countries to support work on forest-related issues done by international and regional organizations and agencies and work done under relevant instruments; to clarify the mandates of the relevant international institutions and organizations related to forest issues, inter alia, through their respective governing bodies in order to improve the integration and coordination of their efforts, and to guide the activities of each organization to areas in which they can be most effective; through the respective governing bodies, to work to eliminate waste and duplication, thereby using available resources in an efficient manner; to guide relevant international and regional institutions and those administering instruments, through their governing bodies, to accelerate incorporation into their relevant work programmes of the forest-related results of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), of further progress achieved since then and proposals for action adopted by IPF.

II. FOREST-RELATED WORK BEING CARRIED OUT BY INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

7. The present chapter updates information on forest-related work carried out by international and regional organizations. It does not attempt an assessment of forest activities of selected organizations. The information compiled is based on a questionnaire sent to all members of ITFF, a wide spectrum of institutions of the United Nations system, regional organizations, including economic commissions, regional development banks and other intergovernmental bodies, as well as several non-governmental organizations of recognized experience in forest-related activities. A list of the 42 international and regional organizations to which the questionnaire was sent is contained in the annex. Detailed responses were received from 29 institutions. Due to limitation of space, it is not possible to provide all the available information in the present report.

A. Informal high-level Inter-Agency Task Force on Forests

8. IPF gave unanimous support for the continuation of the ITFF and the continuation of the IPF secretariat based on staff secondments, which was clearly seen as a very innovative and successful mechanism.¹ The main objective of ITFF is to secure and coordinate support from its members for IPF/IFF in a manner that builds on the agencies' respective strengths, minimizes duplication and overlap, makes most efficient use of existing resources, and fosters partnership and collaboration. ITFF addresses forest issues at the global and regional levels but also assists many countries in national-level implementation of the IPF proposals for action.

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9. ITFF has met on several occasions during the IPF and IFF processes mostly in connection with preparation for the meetings of the Panel and Forum and the FAO Committee on Forestry. At the first session of IFF, in October 1997, ITFF met with the non-governmental organization community, where it was agreed to have regular consultations between ITFF and non-governmental organizations at future IFF meetings. To further facilitate this process of mutual consultations, the non-governmental organizations agreed to nominate a focal point. The next meeting of ITFF will take place at the margins of the second session of IFF. ITFF is Chaired by FAO.

1. The Inter-Agency Partnership on Forests: a plan to implement the proposals for action of the former Intergovernmental Panel on Forests

10. This plan was prepared collectively by the members of ITFF to support the implementation of the IPF proposals for action, mainly as a response to paragraph 145 of the report of IPF on its fourth session (E/CN.17/1997/12), in which the Panel called upon the appropriate international institutions and organizations to continue their work in the informal high-level Inter-Agency Task Force on Forests, under the chairmanship of FAO as task manager for chapter 11 of Agenda 21, focusing on the proposals for action recommended by the Panel, in accordance with their respective mandates and comparative advantage.

11. The objective of the plan is to support the efforts of countries to implement the IPF proposals for action through well executed and coordinated activities by ITFF members, in association with other international organizations, multilateral institutions and instruments, addressing needs at the national, regional and international levels. In particular, the plan identifies: (a) areas where concrete and coordinated action by ITFF member organizations is feasible and practical; (b) means by which existing resources can be used more effectively and efficiently; and (c) opportunities for participation by other potential partners, such as non-governmental organizations, private industry and other international organizations, for a more effective response to assisting Governments in the implementation of IPF's proposals for action.

12. The IFF secretariat has continued to promote the full implementation of the plan among all interested parties. It is recognized that the plan constitutes an important tool for ITFF to contribute in a collaborative and coordinated manner to the implementation of IPF proposals for action. The institutional arrangements established among ITFF members for supporting the implementation of IPF proposals for action are summarized in table 2.

13. The total annual cost of implementation of the plan, as tentatively estimated by ITFF, is approximately US\$ 50 million, increasing slightly from US\$ 45 million in phase I (present-2000) and US\$ 50 million in phase II (2001-2005) to US\$ 55 million in phase III (2006-2010). It should be noted that this is just a rough estimate made by ITFF to show the level of resources required to initiate a collective response for the implementation of the IPF proposals for action that are addressed to international organizations and agencies. Although these figures include some funds already available in

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regular programme budgets and trust funds of members of ITFF, they are primarily indicative figures of the level of additional funds yet to be sought from external sources.

2. Support for the secretariat of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests

14. The IFF secretariat continues with basically the same level of staffing, composed of senior officers on loan to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Only the Coordinator and Head of the secretariat and two support staff are hired directly by the United Nations. FAO, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, ITTO, UNDP and UNEP have each provided a senior staff member to the IFF secretariat. This arrangement has demonstrated several advantages, including relatively rapid deployment of experienced staff on an ad hoc basis, in accordance with the nature and mandate of IFF; a de facto inter-agency coordination function within the secretariat; and the ability of the IFF secretariat to draw on the full institutional capacity of ITFF members.

B. Potential institutional synergies to support the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests process

1. International organizations: United Nations system

15. In addition to the work being carried out by ITFF members, very significant supporting work in the field of forests is being carried out by several organizations of the United Nations system (for list, see annex). The work being supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through its technical and financial assistance to developing countries in the field of biodiversity strategies and action plans can have a positive impact in strengthening national forest programmes and vice versa. The work of the United Nations University and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in supporting forest-related research, conservation ecology, interrelationships between forests, society and the environment, and traditional knowledge are also relevant to supporting implementation of the IFF mandate. Similarly, the substantive contributions that organizations such as the World Intellectual Property Organization and the World Trade Organization could make to the Forum in dealing with issues related to traditional knowledge, trade and environment, and valuation of forest goods and services must be taken into account at the moment of "forging institutional synergies" with respect to specific programme elements.

2. Regional organizations

16. Regional commissions. The forest-related work being carried out by the regional commissions and other regional intergovernmental organizations is relevant for most of the IFF programme elements. Examples are the work of the regional commissions, such as the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in data collection, research and information relating to national forest programmes, polluted areas,

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supply and demand, forest conservation, criteria and indicators, valuation and economic instruments, the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean on the role of fiscal and other incentives in planted forests, paper industry, watershed management; and the work of the Economic Commission for Africa on soil erosion and the underlying causes of deforestation and destruction of land resources.

17. Regional development banks. The regional development banks focus their loans and technical assistance grants on a wide array of activities, including capacity-building, policy analysis, training, and research and information, covering almost all IPF and IFF programme elements. All of them assist countries in their national forest programmes, forest conservation, biodiversity, underlying causes of deforestation, economic instruments, valuation, environmentally sound technologies and forest investments. For example, the Inter-American Development Bank focuses its activities on polluted areas, national forestry development, forest conservation, and investments on industrial plantations and commercial forest management. The African Development Bank focuses on national programmes, low forest cover, conservation, underlying causes of deforestation, supply and demand of forest products and services, and forest products industry. It is important to note that all regional development banks have financial and technical assistance activities, including capacity-building and policy analysis on legal aspects of forests.

18. Regional research cooperation institutions. At the regional level, the European Forest Institute (EFI) has programmes in four priority areas closely related to the IFF programme: forest ecology and management; forest products, markets and socio economics; forest policy analysis; and forest resources and information. At the subregional level, the Central American Council of Forests and Protected Areas (CCAB-AP) constitutes another type of mechanism to influence sustainable forest management. CCAB-AP is primarily a subregional technical body for implementing the policies for sustainable use of forest resources in the subregion. Its main objectives are to negotiate funding from international donors; promote sustainable forestry and biological conservation policies; consolidate proposed protected areas; implement timber concessions policies and guidelines; and design and foster analytical forestry legislation. The working liaison of EFI and CCAB-AP with ITFF and other international organizations could notably strengthen the promotion and implementation of the IPF proposals for action in their regions. Possible areas of cooperation include protected areas, traditional knowledge, criteria and indicators, valuation, environmentally sound technologies, forest investments and legal regimes.

3. Other international organizations and processes

19. The information on this group includes the work of six forest-specific organizations and arrangements (International Center for Research in Agroforestry, International Union of Forestry Research Organizations, the Forest Stewardship Council, the criteria and indicators processes, International Wood Products Association) and the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forest in Europe, as well as seven forest-related international organizations (International Institute for Environment and Development, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, the World Conservation Union, World

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Conservation Monitoring Centre, World Resources Institute, World Wide Fund for Nature, World Business Council for Sustainable Development). Each of these organizations and processes are outside ITFF and the United Nations System. They collectively represent major institutional efforts to establish partnerships with a wide spectrum of national and regional non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples organizations, the private sector and other major groups. They promote and implement the international forest agenda at the local, national, regional and global levels. Due to space limitations, it was not possible to refer to all non-governmental organizations and their networks in the present report. It is recognized, however, that they have a major role to play in the implementation of IFF-related activities and IPF proposals for action. Collectively, their national and international activities cover a large part of the IPF and IFF programme elements. Many of them are working in partnerships with the members of ITFF.

20. Several established international initiatives to develop criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management (e.g., the Montreal Process, the Helsinki Process, the International Tropical Timber Organization Process) are now reaching an implementation stage. Meanwhile, new initiatives that have been started include the Tarapoto Process, the Dry Zone of Africa initiative, and the initiative in the Near East region. All these initiatives are considering criteria and indicators at the national level, and some countries have already implemented these criteria and indicators for monitoring the sustainability of their forest management and development. At the local level, some progress has been achieved in a limited number of countries. Forest management unit-level criteria and indicators have been tested with the participation of one of the ITFF members, the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) in a few temperate and tropical countries. Some countries have established forest management pilot projects, which include the testing and implementation of forest management unit-level criteria and indicators. Countries with a long historical tradition in forest management, particularly in Europe, have introduced new criteria of sustainability in their forest management unit-level practices.

21. At the G-8 meeting of Heads of State at Denver in June 1997, the seven major industrialized countries and the Russian Federation launched the Forest Action Programme and called for immediate implementation of the IPF proposals for action. This commitment was reiterated in the G-8 meeting held at Birmingham in May 1998. The Action Programme has five components: implementation of national forest programmes; establishing networks of protected areas; assessing the state of each (G-8) nation's forests, using agreed criteria and indicators; promoting private-sector management of forests; and eliminating illegal logging. The International Wood Products Association is advancing programmes for responsible forest management and international trade in wood products. The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is currently working in forestry within its activities on OECD environmental performance, statistics and indicators; official development assistance flows to the forestry sector; a scheme for the control of forest reproductive material moving in international trade; genetically engineered crop plants and tree species; and on the linkages between agriculture and forestry.

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22. The World Bank is the convener of a "CEOs process", in association with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the World Resources Institute (WRI), Conservation International, the World Conservation Union and a number of private-sector companies involved in forest products manufacturing (Apkindo, Aracruz Cellulose, Collins Pine Danzer etc.) related to forest reserves and sustainable forest management. In 1997, the World Bank also formed an alliance with WWF aimed at collaboration around two sets of quantitative targets: (a) to promote the establishment of an ecologically representative network of protected areas, covering at least 10 per cent of each of the world's major forest types by the year 2000 (the Bank has adopted a specific target of establishing 50 million hectares of new forest protected areas in its client countries by 2005); and (b) to cooperate to achieve independent certification of 200 million hectares of well managed production forests by 2005, 100 million in temperate and boreal forest regions and 100 million in tropical forest regions.

23. WRI has recently launched the Global Forest Watch as an independent mechanism to monitor the status and trends related to the world's remaining frontier forests, including monitoring the direct and underlying causes of deforestation in these areas. WWF is undertaking a series of case studies on the socioeconomic causes of biodiversity loss. Case studies will be carried out in a variety of locations with a diversity of social and economic conditions. This activity is being developed by the Macroeconomics for Sustainable Development Programme. The World Conservation Union is implementing programmes on conservation, valuation, biodiversity and protected areas, including information and policy work in partnership with WWF. The International Institute for Environment and Development is focusing its activities on forest policy and national policy processes, the sustainability of the pulp and paper industry, development of assessment tools and systems that provide information to policy makers and planners, and incentives for sustainable forestry and land use.

24. There are many opportunities for the Forum to link up with the efforts of all these partnerships and alliances, and to invite them to support and to collaborate with ITFF in the implementation of the IPF proposals for action. The potential institutional synergies to support the IPF/IFF processes are identified in table 2, which was prepared on the basis of the information compiled in the survey on the forest-related work carried out by international and regional organizations. Most of the activities being implemented by other international organizations and processes and regional organizations are complementary to ITFF efforts and the IFF programme of work, and offer an excellent opportunity for the Forum to forge institutional synergies for the benefit of the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

III. PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR ACTION

A. Preliminary conclusions

1. Strengthening the Inter-Agency Task Force on Forests

25. As a partnership mechanism in the field of forests, ITFF has been successful in initiating and strengthening forest-related collaboration among organizations within and outside the United Nations. Analysis of the information compiled by the survey undertaken by the IFF secretariat has shown that the forest-related work-programmes of ITFF members collectively cover the totality of programme elements in the international agenda on forests, as defined by the IPF and IFF processes. The focus within the work programmes of ITFF members include such areas as technical-operational (UNDP, FAO, CIFOR, World Bank); policy making (ITTO, FAO, UNEP); coordinating (UNEP, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Convention on Biological Diversity); financial support (World Bank, UNDP); and normative (ITTO, the Convention on Biological Diversity, UNEP). In addition to the recognition accorded by IPF, the Commission on Sustainable Development and the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session, ITFF has also been noted as an innovative approach by the Inter-Agency Committee for Sustainable Development charged with coordinating the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) and Agenda 21 by the United Nations system.

26. ITFF, as a new informal partnership mechanism, requires a strong institutional back-up from each of its member's organizations and their respective governing bodies. The strengthening of ITFF is primarily needed for implementing the IPF proposals for action, which are recognized as the internationally agreed priorities for forests (see E/CN.17/IFF/1998/2).

27. In the context of the implementation of the IPF proposals for action, the issue is not to insist on identifying overlaps and areas of duplication, or gaps in action among different members of ITFF or among other international and regional organizations. The real challenges ahead are to strengthen further the existing partnership among ITFF, members and to facilitate the establishment of new modalities of cooperation between ITFF members and other partners for making the best use of all the available forest-related institutional capabilities that exist at the regional and international levels. These institutional capabilities (see table 2) should be fully mobilized and utilized to support the efforts of countries to implement the IPF proposals for action.

2. Forging synergies

28. The IPF process emphasized the notion that forest policy and sustainable forest management must take into account the multiple benefits of forests at the national, regional and global levels, as well as recognize the high diversity of institutions involved in issues related to forests. In this regard, a better understanding of the work being carried out by different international and regional organizations will represent an important contribution towards the strengthening of the institutional synergies and will ensure more integrated

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approaches, rather than continuing with the fragmented views on forest policies, programmes and institutions that prevails to date.

29. There is a significantly unrealized potential for further strengthening the commitment and mobilizing the capacity of existing international and regional organizations to support and promote the goal of the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests. This can be achieved through the enhancement of their complementarities, and better coordination and facilitation of the policy dialogue to ensure greater coherence of action, including consistent policy guidance by involving their governing bodies. This approach would help to focus collective action on jointly agreed priorities.

30. There are numerous international activities and programmes related to forests undertaken by international and regional organizations and other non-governmental organizations. There is a need to encourage the forging of partnerships with all of these international and regional organizations in selected IPF/IFF programme elements.

31. Improved institutional partnerships will also be essential for the monitoring, reviewing and assessing progress in the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests (see E/CN.17/IFF/1998/6). Shared objectives on forest-related issues for promoting work among institutions is crucial for improving efficiency and coordination. Future efforts in international organizations, multilateral institutions and instruments should concentrate on making monitoring and reporting activities more effective and flexible to accommodate emerging needs. This approach should also provide for effective participation of and collaboration with the non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

32. The Forum may wish to consider how to fully utilize the existing institutional capabilities of ITFF and other potential partners to support actions needing enhanced international efforts. Priority areas include capacity-building; technology transfer and exchange; institutional and human resource development, in particular at the national and field levels; funding and coordination for research and development on national priorities for sustainable forest management; pilot projects of regional and international significance; and strategic forest data collection and dissemination of information.

33. The experience gained in preparing the survey of forest-related work has shown the need to design a comprehensive directory of forest-related international and regional organizations as a database for future reference by the Forum in all matters related to the forest-related work. The directory could include the available institutional information concerning missions, mandates, organizational structures, programmes, activities and budget. It is suggested that such a database also become accessible to all Governments and other interested parties in electronic form, such as via the Internet. This directory could also include detailed information about decisions by the governing bodies of each organization, meetings, project implementation and other relevant information. Additional information about bilateral and multilateral forest-related activities and private-sector and research institutions could also be included.

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B. Preliminary proposals for action

1. Supporting the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/
Intergovernmental Forum on Forests processes

34. The Forum may wish to call upon all interested parties, including the governing bodies of relevant international and regional organizations to:

(a) Identify practical means for mobilizing their diverse strengths and capabilities to support country-level efforts in implementing the proposals for action adopted by IPF;

(b) Foster synergies among different international and regional organizations and instruments, ensuring their active participation in and contribution to forest policy dialogue within the framework of IFF, and to the internationally agreed agenda on forests.

2. Strengthening the Inter-Agency Task Force on Forests

35. The Forum may wish to call upon ITFF member organizations to:

(a) Ensure that partnership arrangements be communicated throughout the organizational structure of the members' organizations;

(b) Inform their governing bodies about the outcome of the IPF/IFF process, and encourage them to strengthen forest-related activities and the inter-agency cooperation in this field;

(c) Explore the potentialities for institutional synergies with other partners, especially the regional development banks, regional commissions and other regional intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental organizations, and other international organizations;

(d) Design a comprehensive directory of forest-related international and regional organizations engaged in forest-related activities, as a database for future reference by the Forum in all matters related to forests.

3. Forging synergies

36. The Forum may wish to call upon the governing bodies of United Nations agencies, regional organizations and other international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to:

(a) Facilitate inter-institutional consultation on cross-sectoral forest policies, policy reforms, and planning and programmes for sustainable forest management;

(b) Enhance strategic data sets and analysis systems to allow the preparation and timely dissemination of user-friendly macro-parameters for monitoring and reporting on progress in sustainable forest management practices;

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(c) Establish a global forest research network, making full use of existing institutions, including the identification of mechanisms for an effective flow of research results to those engaged in policy and implementation.

37. The above conclusions and proposals for action are preliminary in nature. Considering that many institutional and legal issues are closely interrelated, the final conclusions and proposals for action under programme element II.e (i) would take into account the outcome of the substantive discussions under category III of the IFF programme of work scheduled for the third session of IFF.

Notes

¹ ITFF members are: the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity; the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR); the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO); the Department for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat; the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); and the World Bank.

Annex

LIST OF FOREST-RELATED INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTRUMENTS

Inter-agency task force on forests

Center for International Forestry Research
International Tropical Timber Organization
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
World Bank
Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat
United Nations Development Programme
United Nations Environment Programme
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

International organizations/United Nations system

Global Environment Facility
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
International Labour Organization
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
United Nations Industrial Development Organization
United Nations University
World Food Programme
World Intellectual Property Organization
World Meteorological Organization
World Trade Organization

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Regional organizations

Regional commissions

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Economic Commission for Africa

Economic Commission for Europe

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Regional intergovernmental bodies

African Development Bank

Asian Development Bank

Central American Council of Forest and Protected Areas

European Forest Institute

Inter-American Development Bank

Organization of American States

Other international organizations and processes

International Centre for Research in Agro-Forestry

International Institute for Environment and Development

International Union of Forest Research Organizations

International Wood Products Association

Montreal and other criteria and indicators processes, including the Forest Stewardship Council

Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe

Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

The World Conservation Union and associated non-governmental organizations

World Conservation Monitoring Centre

World Resources Institute

World Wide Fund for Nature International and associated non-governmental organizations

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World Business Council for Sustainable Development

Table 1. Inter-Agency Partnership on Forests

	IPF programme element	ITFF lead agency	Partners within ITFF	Proposed partners outside ITFF
I.1	Progress through national forest and land-use programmes	FAO	UNDP, UNEP, World Bank, ITTO, Convention on Biological Diversity	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, UNIDO
I.2	Underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation	UNEP	UNDP, FAO, CIFOR, Convention on Biological Diversity, ITTO	ICRAF, IUCN
I.3	Traditional forest-related knowledge	Convention on Biological Diversity	FAO, UNEP, UNDP, ITTO, DESA, World Bank	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, ILO, IADB, ASDB, AFDB, WIPO, UNESCO, WTO, UNIDO, UNCTAD, UNU
I.4	Part one: fragile ecosystems affected by desertification and drought	FAO	UNDP, UNEP, Convention on Biological Diversity	UNSO, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
I.4	Part two: impact of airborne pollution on forests	FAO	UNEP, Convention on Biological Diversity	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
I.5	Needs and requirements of countries with low forest cover	UNEP	FAO, Convention on Biological Diversity, World Bank	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, regional development banks

	IPF programme element	ITFF lead agency	Partners within ITFF	Proposed partners outside ITFF
II	International cooperation in financial assistance and technology transfer for sustainable forest management	UNDP	World Bank, Convention on Biological Diversity, ITTO, FAO, UNEP	Regional development banks
III.1(a)	Part one: assessment of the multiple benefits of all types of forests	FAO	UNEP, ITTO, CIFOR	ECE
	Part two: forestry research	CIFOR	FAO, Convention on Biological Diversity	IUFRO, ICRAF, UNU, International Boreal Forest Research Association, EFI, WCMC
III.1(b)	Methodologies for the proper valuation of the multiple benefits of forests	World Bank	(Not yet consulted) FAO, CIFOR, Convention on Biological Diversity, ITTO, UNEP	EFI, HIID
III.2	Criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management	FAO	UNEP, ITTO, UNDP, Convention on Biological Diversity, CIFOR, World Bank	UNESCO, IUFRO, IUCN, WWF, regional development banks
IV	Trade and environment relating to forest goods and services	ITTO	FAO, UNEP	UNCTAD, WTO

Source: "Inter-Agency Partnership on Forests: a plan to implement IPF proposals for action", Inter-Agency Task Force on Forests, New York, June 1997.

Table 2. Potential institutional synergies to support the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests process

IPF programme element	ITFF lead agency	Main partners within ITFF	Other potential partners
I.a. Promote and facilitate implementation of the proposals for action of IPF	See annex	See annex	See annex
I.b. Monitor progress in implementation of IPF proposals for action	See annex	See annex	See annex
II.a. Need for financial resources	UNDP	World Bank, DESA, UNDP	GEF, UNIDO, AFDB, ASDB, CACF/PA, IADB, OECD, WWF
II.b. Trade and environment	ITTO	UNEP, FAO	UNCTAD, WTO, ECE, ECLAC, AFDB, ASDB, EFI, IADB, IHPA, OECD, WBCSD, FSC
II.c. Transfer of technology	FAO	UNEP, World Bank, Convention on Biological Diversity, ITTO, UNDP	ILO, UNIDO, ICRAF, IHPA, WBCSD
II.d. Issues needing further clarification		UNDP, CIFOR, ITTO, Convention on Biological Diversity, FAO	UNESCO, UNU, ECA, ADB, CACF/PA, IUCN, WRI, WWF
Underlying causes of deforestation	UNEP		
Traditional forest-related knowledge	Convention on Biological Diversity	CIFOR, ITTO, FAO, UNEP, World Bank	UNESCO, AFDB, ASDB, IADB, WRI, IUFRO, IUCN, UNU, CACF/PA, WIPO, WTO, UNIDO, UNCTAD, ILO
Rehabilitation of forest cover	FAO	UNEP, UNDP	UNESCO, UNU, WFP, ECA, AFDB, IADB, ICRAF, IUCN
Forest conservation	UNEP	FAO, ITTO, CIFOR, Convention on Biological Diversity, World Bank	UNESCO, ECA, ESCAP, AFDB, ASDB, IADB, IUCN, WWF, WRI, WCMC

IPF programme element		ITFF lead agency	Main partners within ITFF	Other potential partners
	Research priorities	CIFOR	FAO, UNEP, Convention on Biological Diversity, ITTO, World Bank	UNESCO, IUFRO, IUCN, WRI, GEF, UNU, WIPO, WMO, ICRAF, IIED, EFI, AFDB, ASDB
	Valuation of forest goods and services	World Bank	UNEP, FAO, CIFOR, CBD, ITTO, UNDP	GEF, UNCTAD, UNU, WTO, AFDB, ASDB, IUCN, OECD, WRI, WBCSD
	Economic instruments, tax policies and land tenure	World Bank	UNEP, FAO, Convention on Biological Diversity, ITTO, UNDP	GEF, UNU, ESCAP, ESCWA, ECA, ECE, ECLAC, IUCN, OECD, WRI, WBCSD
	Supply and demand of wood and non-wood forest products and services	FAO	ITTO, UNEP, Convention on Biological Diversity	AFDB, ASDB, IADB, UNESCO, OECD, WRI, IUCN
II.e	Forest-related work of organizations	DESA	All	All
III	Identify elements, build a global consensus and engage in further action	DESA	ITTO, Convention on Biological Diversity, UNEP	WIPO, WTO, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change