



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

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

MINISTERIAL MEETING ON FORESTS

on

International Cooperation in Sustainable Forest Management

Rome, Italy, 14 March 2005

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. Opening of the Meeting

Statement by the Director-General.

2. Election of the Co-Chairs

The meeting will elect two Co-Chairs.

3. Adoption of the Agenda and Arrangements for the Meeting

The meeting will adopt the agenda and will be informed of the meeting procedures.

4. International Cooperation on Forest Fire Management

Fire is an important land management tool but careless or criminal use of fire as well as fires caused by lightning or other natural causes may have catastrophic impacts. Wildfires are major causes of forest degradation and may result in loss of human life, economic devastation, social disruption and environmental deterioration. The frequency, intensity and extent of damage from forest wildfires can be reduced through effective fire management, which includes fire prevention, fire preparedness and fire suppression.

Potential exists to increase cooperation at global and regional levels on forest fire management, including information and early warning systems, and fire prevention and control. The Ministers will be invited to consider initiating action to develop a global accord for international cooperation on forest fires.

For reasons of economy, this document is produced in a limited number of copies. Delegates and observers are kindly requested to bring it to the meetings and to refrain from asking for additional copies, unless strictly indispensable.

Most FAO meeting documents are available on Internet at www.fao.org

5. Maintaining International Commitment to Sustainable Forest Management

At the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in 1992, international commitment to sustainable forest management was confirmed and its role in sustainable development recognized. In 2002, the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) reaffirmed the contribution of forest resources to energy, health, food security, water resources and conservation of biological diversity -- key elements of sustainable development that are also addressed by the Millennium Development Goals. These summits underscored the important contributions from all sectors in achieving sustainable development.

Various regional and global efforts, including the IPF/IFF/UNFF processes, are intended to help countries improve forest management. National commitments to develop and protect forest resources have increased over the past decade. Nonetheless forest degradation continues to be unacceptably widespread, in part due to forces outside the forest sector. Furthermore, the continued demand for land keeps deforestation at a high level in many regions. Addressing deforestation and forest degradation will require not only concerted efforts in sustainable forest management, but also stronger intersectoral cooperation, particularly at the national level.

Ministers will be invited to discuss ways to strengthen international cooperation to accelerate sustainable forest management and approaches to improve national intersectoral cooperation and coordination.

6. Adoption of a Statement of the Ministerial Meeting

7. Closure of the Meeting