

CFA Initiatives

Rio + 8

CFA 2001. *The World's Forests Rio+8. Policy, Practice and Progress Towards Sustainable Forest Management*. Edited by Mia Söderlund and Alan Pottinger. 310 pp.

The Commonwealth Forestry Association is pleased to present this third book as part of the CFA series of publications entitled *The World's Forests*. The President of CFA, Jimmy Aggrey-Orleans, in his foreword, mentions the importance in the international dialogue on forests of Commonwealth countries and the contribution of experts from these countries in shaping the international agenda for action on forests. "Finally", he writes, "how fortunate that world of forests is, to have had Dr Jagmohan Maini and his team to promote international forest policy and sustainable forest management world wide". Jag Maini, Ph.D., O.C. was Coordinator and Head of the UN secretariat of the IFF

and IPF and now the UN Forum on Forests. He was also Chairman of CFA.

This publication focuses on the forest policy developments under the umbrella of the Inter Governmental Forum on Forests, reaching its conclusion with the ECOSOC resolution of 18 October 2000, establishing the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), which succeeds the IPF and IFF processes.

The initiatives of IFF are documented, high-level initiatives in support of sustainable management that took place in the period are reported and in chapter 20, Jag Maini considers 'where do we stand today' in the evolving perspectives of international forest policy. Rio + 8 available from CFA, price £12 or \$20 (£8 or \$12 to CFA members). For delivery by airmail please add £5.00/US\$8.00

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CFA Membership

Membership and Subscription Rates

	£		£
Ordinary member	45	Corporate member	150
Developing country member	10	Subscriber	150
Student member	10		

Membership is available to anyone throughout the world with an interest in forestry!

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Commonwealth Forestry Association, 6-8 South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3RB UK

Type of Membership: Ordinary Student Corporate Subscriber Developing Country

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CFA Membership

Chairman's Column

At the CFA's executive committee meeting in October, one item on the agenda concerned increasing benefits for members. This issue had been highlighted in a survey of members circulated with the March issue of CFNews and at the Commonwealth Forestry Conference in Fremantle. The result is summarized on page 3 in this newsletter by our membership secretary, Keith Jeddere-Fisher. Good progress has been made in negotiating preferential discounts for members for purchase of books from a leading UK publisher, for reduced entrance fees to certain facilities, and exploring the possibility of favourable reciprocal membership terms with like-minded organisations. We are also hoping to negotiate other benefits for members. Details of these initiatives will be published in future newsletters as soon as we are in a position to. However, all this doesn't detract from the fact that by supporting the CFA through your membership, those of us who pay the full rate are assisting our colleagues across the world who are unable to afford to do so. They are able to receive this excellent newsletter and the *International Forestry Review* because of your support. Please encourage others to join the CFA, if only for this purpose.

A key date for 2002 is the World Summit on Sustainable Development, next September in Johannesburg, South Africa, marking the 10th anniversary of the Earth Summit in Rio. The CFA is pleased to publish all the deliberations of recent years by the Inter-governmental forum on forests (IFF) in a book called *The World's Forests: Rio+8 - policy, practice and progress towards sustainable management* edited by Mia Söderlund and Alan Pottinger. This opportunity is afforded to us through the good offices of our immediate past-Chairman, Dr Jag Maini OC, and from the support of DFID and CIDA. Details of the Rio+8 will be found on page 11 and, of course, CFA members can obtain copies at a discounted price!

Next year's summit, Rio+10, provides an opportunity to take stock of what has been achieved in ensuring sustainable management of forests. Here is not the place to attempt a brief survey, but such occasions do prompt us as individuals as well as in the CFA itself to reflect for a moment whether what we have been doing is advancing, in some measure at least, our aim: 'to promote the well-being of the world's forests and all who benefit from them'.

from JULIAN EVANS, Chairman

The international newsletter of the Commonwealth Forestry Association

"To promote the well-being of the world's forests and all who benefit from them."

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Association News

CFA Office Address

Please note the change in address of the CFA Office. It is now: Commonwealth Forestry Association, Administrative Office, 6 - 8 South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3UB, UK.

AGM 2002

The next Annual General Meeting of CFA will be held on **Thursday evening 16th May 2002** in Devon, UK. This will be followed on Friday 17th May by visits to the Eden Project and woodlands of the Duchy of Cornwall.

Executive Committee

The 208th meeting of the Executive Committee was held in Oxford, UK, on 25th October 2001. The meeting was chaired by Prof Julian Evans and attended by the Vice Chairman, Mafa Chipeta and 10 members. The committee endorsed the current structure of membership fees. The recent enquiry and consultation with members on the role and benefits of CFA was discussed and the priorities for action in response to the suggestions considered. A summary of the results of the enquiry is published below. Finances were reported as delicately balanced, but viable. Publications were reviewed and the distribution of the Commonwealth Forestry Handbook with the December issue of IFR was announced. The World's Forests - Rio +8 is now available from CFA, price £12 or \$20 (£8 or \$12 to members of CFA) plus airmail postage.

The Committee considered the implications of the Commonwealth Forestry Conference resolution directed to Governments - 'that they should invite the CFA, representing forestry and related interests throughout the Commonwealth, to build closer links with Commonwealth govern-

Oxford forestry library

CABI and OULS

A 62-year collaboration between Oxford University Library Services (OULS) and CAB International (CABI) entered a new phase with the signing of an agreement ensuring that Oxford Forest Information Service, run by the Plant Sciences Library, will remain at Oxford for at least the next five years.

Oxford has been building its world-renowned collection of forestry and forest-related literature since 1905, originally based on the library of Sir William Schlich, the first Director of the School of Forestry at Oxford. The University's association with CABI dates back to 1938 when the Imperial Agricultural Bureau (which later became CABI) took over Oxford's Current Monthly Record of Forestry Literature and began producing *Forestry Abstracts*.

News of members and friends

Ralph Roberts moves East

Ralph, who is CFA Regional Vice-Chairman for North America, has accepted a two year assignment to open a new Atlantic Canada Regional Office for CIDA. This includes the eastern provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. Headquarters is located in Moncton and we have sub-offices in St. John's and Halifax. The purpose of this new initiative is to facilitate access to and participation in CIDA programs from this part of the country. Additionally, he continues in his role as the Agency's Chief Forester on a part time basis, involved with a number of forest related CIDA activities, including the International Model Forest Program and the UNFF. He assures us that 'CFA is still very much on his radar scope'.

ment forest departments and provide financial support in order to expand information sharing, to facilitate professional exchange and support continuing professional development as ways of strengthening forestry and related professions throughout the Commonwealth'. A first initiative in this direction would be to get back to the position where all government forest departments are corporate members of the CFA.

An important issue, raised under other business, was concern at the decline in capacity in Commonwealth university forestry schools. CFA will participate in discussions on this subject between British university forestry departments and the GB Forestry Commission.

UK Branch

Mr D.B. Henderson Howat has agreed to be chairman of the UK Branch.

Southern African Institute for Forestry

CFNews 14 reported on collaboration between SAIF and CFA, but gave limited information on the spread of membership. In fact SAIF has about 450 members in South Africa, 24 members in the rest of Africa (Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe), and 24 members in the rest of the world (Argentina, Australia, Denmark, Germany, India, New Zealand, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States).

from DIEK VAN DER ZEL

In Memoriam

We regret to announce the death of Norman Jones, UK.

Brazil bans mahogany export

The Government of Brazil banned the export of mahogany this week while it tries to crack down on illegal logging. Sawmills are turning out 80% more timber than the state has licensed. Most of this is exported and the trade includes the slow growing mahogany, which is in danger of being wiped out.

The US and Japan are the biggest consumers of Brazilian mahogany. Britain is also believed to be a significant customer for mahogany cut illegally in the Amazon. According to a report by Greenpeace, made with the help of the Brazilian environment ministry, Britain typically imports 1,729 cubic metres of mahogany a year through the Amazon port of Pará.

from THE GUARDIAN,
October 27th, 2001

Missing trees in Afghanistan

Afghanistan is now losing its last trees for firewood, or for export by the Pakistan based logging mafia. The latest estimates are that forest cover is now below 0.5%, down from more than 3% in 1980. By 2005, environmentalists fear, all the natural woods will have gone.

Like most Afghans, Faisabad's population of more than 100,000 relies entirely on firewood for cooking and heating. 'The wild trees that we can reach have gone. Now we are buying wood from farmers who are cutting their trees because they have nothing else to sell' says a wood trader.

from THE ECONOMIST, 3 November 2001

Stop Press – illegal logging intercepted

The Indonesian authorities, under the direction of the Minister for Forests, Dr Prakosa, carried out enforcement action, which resulted in the arrest of three ships in the Java Sea carrying 25 000 cubic metres of illegal timber from Central Kalimantan, worth Rp 40 billion (\$4 million).

from the ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION
AGENCY, London, UK and TELAPAK, Bogor, Indonesia,
13 November, 2001

New CFA Members

Prof. Julian Evans, Chairman and all of us in the Association, take the opportunity to welcome the 80 new members and subscribers from 24 countries who have joined CFA this year.

ARGENTINA: Mr H Hampel.

AUSTRALIA: Mr K Asumadu, Mr M.H. Bleby, Mrs H Crompton, Mr S Davey, Mr A Gerrand, Mr S Hill, Mr A.K. Kar, Mr D Louis, Mr J Love, Miss M MacGregor, Dr R Spencer, Mr D Wettenhall.

BANGLADESH: Mr M Afrad, Mr D.Z. Hassan, Mr L.M. Rahman.

CANADA: Mr P Martins.

COLOMBIA: Mr L.J. Silva Herrera.

CROATIA: Sumarski Fakultet.

FRANCE: INRA

GERMANY: Dr. Claus Steiner AG, Dr M Fischer, Mr F Lehrst.

GHANA: Mr K Aneyawl, Dr T.K. Orgle.

GUYANA: Mr R Drepaull, Ms M Kellman, Ms S.S. Ousman, Ms R Thomas.

INDIA: Md D Miah, Dr R Ravi, Mr Sanjaya, Prof O.P. Toky, Universal Subscription Agency Pvt.Ltd,

ISRAEL: Mr A.R. Chuchu

ITALY: Dipartimento di Scienze delle Produzioni Vegetali

JAPAN: Ms E Muller,

MALAYSIA: Mr M.N. Ahmad, Mr W.Y.W. Ahmad, Mr M Ingkat, Mr M.M. Jaini, Mr R. Junaidi, Mr M.K.B. Saad, Mr H Tukiman.

MAURITIUS: Mr F Nauyock.

NETHERLANDS: Mr K van Koppen.

NIGERIA: Mr C.O. Agbor, Mr E.O. Amang, Mr E.E. Bassey, Miss M.J.N. Efori, Mr E.B. Etigale, Mr I Niar, Mrs B.O. Nkor.

PAPUA NEW

GUINEA: Mr D Kaip, Mr E Maigud, Miss G.B. Samol.

POLAND: CHZ Ars Polona S.A.

SPAIN: Rowecom Espana.

SRI LANKA: Ms N Edirisinghe.

SWITZERLAND: Muenstergrass Buchhandlung.

TRINIDAD

& TOBAGO: Mr C Sambury
U.K. Ms S Anders, Dr P.O. Anegbah, Mr T.J. Foy, Mr A Gohor, Dr R Heaton, Mr S Hewitt, Miss M.A.Pinard, Mr T Seward, Swets Blackwell Ltd, Dr E.P. Toyne, Mr P Vatnabar.

UGANDA: Mr F Babweteera, Mr J.B. Bahati, Dr A.Y. Banamd, Mr D.N. Byarugaba, Dr W Gombya-assembakkwe, Dr J.R. Kaboggaza, Mr A.J.G. Lokwiya.

VANUATU: Mr A Gerrand.

2. Illegal Logging

FAO in SOFO 2001 refers to the growing awareness of the extent of illegal forest activities and of the immense environmental and social costs that they incur. Corruption, considered a taboo subject until recently, is discussed in international fora and is being tackled by governments. The fight against such crime and corruption includes monitoring, transparency, simpler laws, their enforcement and commensurate punishment. The following are some public perceptions on illegality.

The "Credibility Gap

CFNews 9 in June 2000 carried a report from Patrick Alley described forest policy reform in Cambodia in which Global Witness was given a monitoring role over the prevention of forest crimes. In June 2001 it released its report in advance of the Cambodia Consultative Group meeting in Tokyo. This gives an overview of the major forest related issues and incidents of illegal logging in Cambodia over the past year and examines the role of the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) in the reform process.

The formation of the Forest Crimes Monitoring Unit, the commitment to passing a new forest law and to establishing new concession agreements and management plans by September 2001 should be applauded. The levels of anarchic logging and the quantity of illegally exported timber have decreased dramatically over the past two years. However, the government is not addressing corruption and lack of transparency in the sector. The 2000/2001 cutting season has seen a significant rise in illegal logging by the legal concessionaires. The press release mentions a particular company and the lack of action on the part of the authorities.

The report highlights steps that the government could take that require the political will, but little in terms of resources. Such steps include requiring officials to declare financial and familial links to the forest industry, publishing Forestry Department procedures and increasing the public availability of information.

The Consultative Group meeting presents the government with an ideal opportunity to make a commitment to address corruption and to increase transparency in government departments; this could dramatically increase the pace of forestry reform.

The press release reports that Chan Tong Yves, Acting Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries responded that Global Witness took the engagement not to release directly any information without giving the possibility to the Government to verify and respond to such a document. This document, he said, was uncontrolled and unverified.

from GLOBAL WITNESS

Destructive logging in Liberia

In an open letter sent to the DLH Group in Denmark, environmental and human rights organizations called upon the company's CEO to stop dealing with Liberian logging companies who - according to the United Nations - are said to be involved in arms trafficking. Liberia's troubled forests are a vital part of the Upper Guinean Forest, one of the most threatened biodiversity hotspots in the world. These forests are the only home left for the highly endangered Pygmy hippopotamus, and are the last stronghold in West Africa for forest elephants.

DLH exports logs into Europe from the Liberia-based logging companies, Oriental Timber Company (OTC) and the Royal Timber Corporation (RTC). A recent UN report from the Sierra Leone Expert Panel, highlights the key role played by the logging industry in Liberia in assisting arms trafficking. Not only does the industry provide Charles Taylor's Liberian government with money through 'unrecorded extra-budgetary income', the report also states that logging trucks and logging roads near the border with Sierra Leone are used to provide the rebels from the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) with arms and provisions.

In the last decades, the destruction of the rainforest in West Africa has been extremely severe. The recent escalation of destructive logging in Liberia not only provides the Charles Taylor government with funds to support the rebels, it also jeopardizes the future ecological integrity of this critically threatened rainforest habitat.

from NEPENTHES, GREENPEACE and
GLOBAL WITNESS, July 2001.

Loggers to ravage rainforest in the Congo

The rights on 85 million acres (34 m ha) have been conceded by the Democratic Republic of Congo's government to representatives of the Zimbabwean president in return for military aid against rebels in the east of the country. The concession has been granted to Socebo, a Zimbabwe-registered company whose board includes senior Zanu PF and military figures. The deal was negotiated in 1999. Socebo was established last year. Its publicity claims that 'the company aims to be the world leader in trading tropical hardwoods - sustainable forestry management is our business'. The logging operation is to be run by the Zimbabwean army and Forestry Commission and is expected to bring in profits of £200m over the two to three years it will take to clear the concessions of the most valuable timber. Little of the logging money is expected to reach the Zimbabwean people, though their army's involvement in Congo is bankrupting the country.

Until recently poor communications and the continuing conflict had largely spared the area from the attention of commercial tropical timber firms. But a German company has been granted a 2.6 million-hectare concession by the desperately poor Congolese government and a series of deals with Malaysian and Chinese companies have also been concluded.

'The long-term impacts on local people's livelihoods and on rare wildlife such as the gorilla will be devastating,' said Patrick Alley, director of the human rights and environmental campaign group Global Witness. 'This is forest the world can ill afford to lose.'

from THE OBSERVER, 26 August 2001

Benefits of the CFA and ideas for the future

- The view of members

During March and April 2001 a questionnaire was circulated to all members of the CFA. The main areas of enquiry were the existing and the potential benefits that the Association provides to its members, and the purpose and potential of national branches. We are grateful for the 42 responses, which were received from members in 23 countries.

The first part of this note summarises the replies of the members and the second part identifies some of the more immediate opportunities that the CFA could develop in response.

In reviewing these responses it became apparent that there are three main types of members:

- Those in countries that do not have their own forestry association and are looking for all kinds of professional support and encouragement
- Those that are working within a single country and are interested in maintaining an overall awareness of international issues and developments in other countries
- Those who work in an international context, either in an international organisation or in a country or countries other than their own.

The members from these different groups have varying requirements and expectations from the CFA.

Responses of the members

The existing benefits of CFA membership:

The main benefit is clearly seen as the access to information concerning world forestry and as a medium for the exchange of information between professionals and between countries. Information includes policy, practice and events. The IFR and the CF News were identified as the main means. This access to information was also identified as the main (and virtually only) assistance that CFA provides to members in carrying out their professional work. The opportunities for networking and professional contacts with professionals around the world were also identified as a benefit by many. The CFA is also seen as a forum for unprejudiced dialogue on forestry and conservation issues. Some members also identified the Commonwealth background with its common language and culture as significant.

Other potential benefits of CFA membership:

The most frequent suggestion was that the information dissemination and membership networking functions of the CFA should make more use of electronic media. Specifically that information should be available on the internet, and there should be opportunities for discussion and dialogue on a website. The most frequent suggestion for additional information content was in connection with career development and the announcement of vacancies. It was also suggested that CFA could have a role in supporting national and regional conferences.

The role and activities of country branches:

There were very few responses describing the existing activities of country branches. Those listed were:- holding occasional meetings, an avenue for membership fees, a forum for national discussions and for the provision of professional support, and supporting the central CFA. There was a greater response on the potential role that national branches could have and this included:

- Hosting discussion meetings (possibly electronic) either alone or with other organisations and the dissemination of information

- Working with other national forestry associations and with other local natural resource organisations
- Supporting members networking both within the country and outside
- Increasing public awareness on forestry issues
- Lobbying on forestry issues
- Promoting professionalism and better professional ethics
- Representation at national conferences

A number of members responded that there was not a role for national branches due mainly to the large distances involved and the small number of members.

Members from a number of countries (Brazil, China, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Zimbabwe) felt that it would be good to establish a country branch and some of these members would be willing to join the organising committee.

Other suggestions:

A wide variety of specific suggestions were made. Those that occurred with most frequency were:

- Liaison and interaction with other organisations, in particular other international forestry membership organisations and organisations active in international forestry.
- Promoting professionalism
- New members should be recruited through forestry schools and through the international forestry organisations and their journals.

Priorities for CFA action

1 The CFA needs to acquire its own domain name and establish its own internet site. It can then begin to make information available to members and non-members. This could include:

- Information that is already available in printed form: introduction to CFA and membership information, information in the Handbook, CF News
- Links to other related internet sites
- A guide to what information is available from which sites
- Career development, job vacancies
- Information on specific issues of particular relevance to CFA members
- Discussion opportunities
- Question/answer networking service (via email)

Questions in relation to this are: the level of access for non-members, who has responsibility for the content (Publications Committee?), and who will do the work in establishing and maintaining it?

2 The CFA should consider its potential role in either supporting or initiating conferences at the national and regional level. Are there opportunities for collaboration with other organisations to work together either in connection with existing conferences or with new forums?

3 Develop greater clarity on the potential roles of national branches, and then through the provision of materials, ideas and encouragement, support the formation of branches in countries where interest has been shown.

4 Take more initiative in recruiting new members through the forestry schools and through international forestry organisations.

Comments and suggestions to
Keith.Jedderefisher@btinternet.com).

from KEITH JEDDERE-FISHER,
Membership Secretary

State of the World's Forests 2001

FAO has just published the final version of its assessment of the State of the World's Forests, the fourth in the series initiated in 1995. This covers the spectrum of key issues in the forestry sector today: the condition of forest resources and sustainable management, goods and services, the institutional framework and international dialogue. Many of the findings of the Global Forest Resource Assessment 2000 are presented in summary. This includes a number of interesting distribution maps. Special chapters are devoted to: - forests and climate change, the conservation of biological diversity and perhaps the most interesting innovation in this edition, illegal activities and corruption in the forest sector. The document concludes with a comprehensive and up to date review of the international dialogue and initiatives related to forests.

ITTO's New Plan of Action

The International Tropical Timber Council, at its 31st session, held in Yokohama, announced the 'Yokohama Action Plan', which spans 2002-2006. Its aim is to accelerate progress towards achieving exports of tropical timber and timber products from sustainably managed sources and it sets six major goals.

- Improving transparency of the international timber market;
- Promoting tropical timber from sustainably managed sources;
- Supporting activities to secure the tropical forest estate;
- Promoting the sustainable management of tropical forests;
- Promoting the increased and further processing of tropical timber from sustainable sources; and
- Improving industry's efficiency of processing and utilization of tropical timber from sustainable sources.

According to the Council's Chair, Dr. Josefina Takahashi, the new Action Plan reflects the broad scope of the Organization. "We have set a challenging agenda," she said. "But achieving sustainable tropical forest management and a sustainable timber trade requires nothing less".

ITTO Mission to Indonesia recommends log export ban

According to Dr. Untung Iskandar, spokesman for the Government of Indonesia, the ban took effect on 8 October after a meeting between Mission Leader Dr. B.C.Y. Freezailah and the Minister of Forestry, Dr. Prakoso, and will continue indefinitely, although it will be kept under review. Dr. Iskandar was speaking at the ITTC, following presentation of the Mission report by Dr. Freezailah and rapporteur, Dr. Cherukat Chandrasekharan.

The Mission reported on a wide range of issues relevant to forest management in Indonesia. These included ways of minimizing illegal logging and proposals to restructure the forest industry. It found that the most devastating form of illegal logging was that driven by those wanting to convert forest into mainly oil-palm plantations, causing the total destruction of forest biodiversity. Although illegal there is often "an implied or misplaced acceptance of the legality of such conversions". Another form of illegal logging is direct timber theft for commercial purposes, which is often conducted "with the backing of rogue elements of the enforcement apparatus (army, navy, police and forestry officials)".

The Mission also found considerable problems in the country's forest industries. For example, there is a huge over-capacity for plywood processing: demand for logs to feed local mills is now more than double the annual allowable cut from the natural forests. Moreover, the conversion efficiency of most processing facilities is low compared to world standards, reducing the ability of such facilities to compete in the world market when "no longer protected from market forces". This situation has created a strong demand for illegal timber, which, unless corrected, will ultimately "lead to both destruction of the forests and collapse of the industries".

Speaking at the opening of the session the Organization's Executive Director, Dr. Manoel Sobral Filho, said that ITTO member countries should cooperate to protect the tropical forest estate from illegal activities. While the prevention and punishment of forest crimes are the responsibility of local and national authorities, ITTO could assist by providing data and analysis and by helping to put in place the measures needed to prevent such illegal acts.

The Council should consider authorizing and financing case-studies on illegal logging and the illegal timber trade to identify common elements in the problems and recommend solutions and guidelines on prevention. Dr. Sobral cautioned, however, that concern in importing countries about illegal logging and illegal trade should not be used as a pretext for restricting the access of tropical timber to their markets.

Mission report and more information E-mail: itto@itto.or.jp
from COLLINS AHADOME, Information Officer, ITTO

Commonwealth Countries' Park

Nelson Mandela joined in a historic conservation project with the creation of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park. He said the peace park initiative was an example of how to improve relations between nations. The new borderless reserve will stretch from the Kruger National Park in South Africa into Zimbabwe and Mozambique. The electric fence that separated the Kruger from Mozambique is being torn down to create 40,000 sq km zone where visitors will be able to travel without showing their passports.

One benefit will be the relocation of 1000 elephants to Coutada 16 location in Mozambique, where the authorities are negotiating with local communities on the borders of the park and the German Development Bank is financing fencing and anti-poaching units. The elephants are being moved to prime elephant habitat, with good food and water. This will avoid the need to cull in Kruger, which would otherwise have been necessary to maintain that areas natural balance.

from THE GUARDIAN, October 5, 2001

World Forests Society and Environment

WFSE announces the publication of its second periodic international research review:- Palo, Matti, et al. (eds.) 2001. *World Forests, Markets and Policies*. Kluwer Academic Publishers/World Forests, Volume III. Dordrecht/Boston/London. 490 p. + Hardbound, ISBN 0-7923-7170-4. Price EUR 155/GBP 98/USD 145 + Paperback, ISBN 0-7923-5321-8. Price EUR 55/GBP 35/USD 50. The book has 32 articles, 25 boxes and 11 maps by 94 contributors from 30 countries and six continents. Book orders: orderdept@wkap.nl.

The research programme "World Forests, Society and Environment" has been adopted as a IUFRO Special Project 2001-2005.

1. Post-Kyoto Developments and Forestry

Readers will know from the media that the aims set out in the United Nations Climate Change Convention have proved hard to implement. The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), to give it its full title, introduced at the 1992 Rio Conference, set out the aims as: reducing emissions of greenhouse gases, promoting the conservation and enhancement of reservoirs of greenhouse gases, and planning to mitigate the damaging impacts of climate change. Agreement on these worthy causes was only the start of a long, stumbling process of arguing the way in which countries should achieve implementation. Several of these steps involve forests and the way in which they are managed.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a UN body established in 1988, is the official body advising governments on the science of climate change and its possible impacts. In its 2001 report it confirmed that man-made sources of greenhouse gases must be recognised as the cause of recent global warming. At the same time it noted, and this is important for foresters, that the degree of warming forecast was such as to cause increased respiration from soils and trees and to some extent forest decline, so potentially making forests sources of carbon dioxide rather than 'sinks'.

The progress of the discussions on implementation of the Convention in the years before 1997 was so unsatisfactory that a radical departure was agreed in 1997 at the 3rd Conference of the parties (CoP 3) held in Kyoto. Here binding agreements on reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases were proposed and at the same time, at the insistence of certain countries, notably the USA, schemes for helping to meet these targets were introduced through a number of 'flexibility instruments'. One of these proposed to adopt an idea which had been running right from the start at Rio, namely that countries might claim as offsets, sinks which were created through particular forest activities. In 1998 a major study was initiated to see how one would deal with all the necessary measures, monitoring, and certification required. This study, published in June 2000 as the 'Special report on land use, land-use change, and forestry', shows how carbon accounting might be carried out for the whole range of possible operations, from reduced impact logging to afforestation.

In his election campaign President Bush said that the Kyoto protocol was 'ineffective, inadequate and unfair to America'. In the same month as his election (November 2000) it was announced that the USA would not be sending representatives to CoP 6 to be held in The Hague later that month. In the event the US was represented, and a claim made for a substantial allowance of carbon sink. Countries sharing the USA's attitude on the possible economic cost of agreeing to major cuts in emissions clearly favoured the greatest use of flexibility instruments over cuts in emissions. Many critics, such as environmental NGOs, considered the adoption of such instruments a dodge, allowing the countries claiming them to be offered a free gift to go on with increasing emissions. But the Hague meeting could not agree on target reductions in emissions or the balance of means of achieving them. Though Britain's Deputy Prime Minister on behalf of European Union countries met US negotiators a month

later he returned empty-handed. And in all this discussion, a major issue concerned the ways in which forests might be treated in order to act, verifiably, as sinks.

Meanwhile some scientists were casting doubt on the validity of the argument favouring the use of forests as carbon sinks. On 9 November 2000, days before CoP 6 opened in the Hague, the Hadley Centre, the principal UK centre for research into climate modelling, published two papers. One spelled out in detail the effects after 2050 of warming, predicting that this would be such as a. to cause increasing die-back of forests thus releasing carbon, b. to increase respiration from soil. The second indicated that if afforestation was undertaken, so decreasing the albedo (reflectivity) of the cover, extra warming would result compared with use of the land as arable. The first exercise has clear implications for the use of trees as sinks where slow growing stands are concerned, the second would be more informative if extended to low latitude countries.

Following the Hague meeting, in July 2001 the Royal Society in London added its weight to the caution being expressed over forests' potential to help to offset carbon dioxide emissions. They too questioned the permanence of this carbon sink, basing their concern almost wholly on increased respiration arising with warming. They concluded that land carbon sink (mainly afforestation) projects 'should not be allowed to divert financial and political resources' away from such activities as increased use of renewable energy, increased fuel efficiency and sequestration of carbon dioxide at the combustion stage. While one may agree the general import, the conclusion, that damns projects aimed at increasing forest cover, appears unfortunate. Just because the promise of an operation is small does not mean that profitable projects will not arise so forming a useful component of a strategy that aims to find the least costly route to checking climate change.

Despite these quibbles, 178 countries (excluding the United States), meeting at CoP 6 (Part 2) in late July 2001 in Bonn, at last agreed to proceed with the Kyoto proposals. The protocol required that countries, which in total accounted for at least 55% of world greenhouse gas emissions, should agree to target reductions in emissions.

The target reductions in emissions by developed countries finally agreed are small but it has been agreed at CoP 7 held in Marrakesh in November 2001 that, in order to accommodate the wishes of countries which are important sources of emissions, notably Australia, Canada, Japan and Russia, these countries' forests, or in Japan's case ones to be created by them, will be given a major role as carbon sinks. Afforestation, reforestation and reduction of deforestation will count as allowable sinks to be set against countries' emissions although the quantities so allowed are limited. Responsibility for reporting the quantities of carbon involved will lie in each country's domain. Good practice guides remain to be worked out by the IPCC.

Forestry will thus play a role in implementing the Kyoto Protocol, although a smaller one than was thought possible only 3 years ago when a special issue of the Review was devoted to the subject.

from A.J. GRAYSON

COMMONWEALTH FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

Report and Accounts of the Governing Council for the year ended 31st December 2000

NARRATIVE REVIEW OF THE YEAR

- Our publications in the "Rio +" series continue to earn us international recognition. Rio+2 was launched at a meeting held at the Canadian High Commission in London in 1993. The Rio+5 was launched in 1997, and now Rio+8 is being launched at this 16th Commonwealth Conference. This publication, like its predecessors, is seen as an important reference document to be used by those engaged in international negotiations on forests, as well as by the professional scientific and academic communities. We are grateful to the Governments of Canada and the United Kingdom for their generous financial support towards the production of Rio+8. Preparations for Rio+10 are fairly advanced and plans call for its release at the next World Forestry Congress to be held in Canada in 2003.
- *Commonwealth Forestry News* (CFN) is another significant publication to communicate information on the recent developments on forests and forestry to professional colleagues, and to exchange ideas, as well as to report on CFA affairs and activities of "colleagues in the news". Reader response to this publication has been very positive. Launching and maintaining the high quality of CFN would not have been possible without the dedicated effort of Philip Wardle. Our most sincere thanks to him for agreeing to produce this excellent newsletter.
- The CFA Handbook, updated and published this year, contains a very rich mine of information that is well-organised and user-friendly. Our most sincere thanks to Peter Wood for undertaking this challenging task.

Membership

In spite of the ever-increasing costs of operations and the consequent necessity to increase membership fees, we have a notable increase in our membership. I believe that emergence of forests as a priority on the international policy and political agendas has reinforced the value of being a part of CFA and the mutually supportive role among national professional organisations, the national branches of CFA, and the international arm of CFA. However, fluctuations in the value of currencies continue to pose a problem in maintaining membership dues in some countries.

Contributions to International Forest Policy Deliberations

On many occasions, I have underlined the significance of the "Commonwealth Family" in context of intergovernmental and non-governmental deliberations on international forest policy. Commonwealth countries represent the microcosm of the world of forests. In the Commonwealth family, we have both the developed and the developing countries, as well as the "forest rich" and the "forest poor" countries. Collectively, we have a rich pool of experience on how to produce sustainably, large-scale industrial forest products in "forest rich" countries, as well as in meeting basic human subsistence needs in "forest poor" countries. Accordingly, it is not surprising to see colleagues from Commonwealth countries and CFA members leading international organisations such as FAO, IUFRO and CIFOR, as well as witnessing other CFA members who have helped to build consensus on politically sensitive forest issues. I firmly believe that experts and negotiators from the Commonwealth countries have made a significant contribution towards shaping the international agenda on forests.

Sponsorship of Participants to the 16th Commonwealth Forestry Conference

We are grateful to the Governments of Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom, as well as to the Commonwealth Foundation for their generous financial contributions to facilitate the participation of many CFA members in this CF Conference. This would not have been possible without active

solicitation of funds by Julian Evans, Peter Wood and many other colleagues in the CFA Governing Council and the Executive Committee.

Island and small states workshop at 16th Commonwealth Forestry Conference

I am pleased to report that the Commonwealth Foundation supported a well-attended workshop at the start of this conference. This will help strengthen Commonwealth partnerships with countries often weak economically because of their small size. The CFA is striving to increase branch representation in these smaller countries.

CFA Office

During the year Michelle Brooks took over the position as Secretary, following the retirement of Michelle Leeks. Michelle Brooks looks forward to extending her contacts with the membership. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of Pratima Mitchell and Virginia Ross to the good working of the Association.

Challenges Ahead

I hope that you would agree with me that when we look back at the last decade, one cannot be but impressed with how CFA has evolved and responded positively to the rapidly changing world of forests and forestry. Now, with an "off-shore" President and having a Chairman from both off-shore and the United Kingdom, as well as a range of publications described earlier, there is a wider geographic ownership of the Association. We now have national branches, awards to recognise achievements, support for young professionals and excellent publications that have received international recognition.

All this could not have been accomplished without the very dedicated efforts of the staff at CFA headquarters, the support by the Vice-President and the Vice Chairman, and the Governing Council, the Executive Committee, Regional and National Chairs, the Chairmen and members of various committees of the CFA. I am greatly indebted to Julian Evans and Peter Wood for their support. The CFA accomplishments outlined above could not be possible without their support to an "off shore" Chairman. Soon after leaving the Canadian Government, I accepted a two-year assignment with the United Nations and then also accepted to serve as the Chairman of CFA. My two-year assignment with the United Nations, which turned into a six-year stay, involved a very heavy workload and an equally demanding travelling schedule. Regretfully, I was unable to dedicate as much time to CFA as I had planned originally. I am greatly indebted to Julian Evans for taking on some of my duties.

Now, I hope to assist my very able successor, Julian Evans, on at least two areas which I think are of priority concern. First, to help mobilise enough resources to adequately staff the CFA office in Oxford. We need at least one full-time senior professional, as well as have appropriate staff to focus on publications, membership and mobilisation of funds. Secondly, we need to further strengthen and support the Regional and National Chairs. These were the two areas of my shortcoming.

Thank you for your attention and for your support during my term as the Chairman of CFA. It was a privilege to serve you.

Dr. J. S. Maini,
19 April 2001, Fremantle, Australia

Queen's Award

Dr. V. K. Bahaguna, Deputy Inspector General of Forests in India, was selected for the Year 2000 award. The presentation was made at the IUFRO Conference in Malaysia.

International Forestry Review

(incorporating the *Commonwealth Forestry Review*)

During the year four issues were published, including two special editions - one on reduced impact logging and the other on aid to forestry. Arnold Grayson retired as editor in August. We are deeply indebted to Arnold for raising the standard of the *Review* and for supervising its transformation into the *International Forestry Review*. We welcome Alan Pottinger as the new editor. The generosity of the Commonwealth Foundation assists the CFA to distribute the *Review* to developing country members.

Newsletter

The Newsletter is edited by Philip Wardle, and is becoming a very valuable means of communicating with the membership and others interested in the work of the CFA. Members throughout the Commonwealth are encouraged to contribute reports of regional groups and activities.

CFA Office

The office continues to deal with many wide-ranging enquiries and handles all the correspondence and accounting work relating to the association. During the year Michelle Brooks took over the position as Secretary, following the retirement of Michelle Leeks. Michelle Brooks looks forward to extending her contacts with the membership.

During the summer the office was refurbished, benefiting from Michelle's flair for organisation.

Promoting Best Forestry Practice throughout the Commonwealth

India's Forests Beyond 2000 - This conference, organised by our Vice-president, Peter Wood, and the President of the CFA-India Chapter, Dr V K Bahaguna, was sponsored by the Department for International Development, the Ford Foundation and the Government of India. Support of Pratima Mitchell in this and other areas is acknowledged.

Young Professional Forester Exchange Scheme

The second year's grant from the Commonwealth Foundation was awarded to the southern Africa region, for a south/south exchange of two foresters.

Zambia

The CFA-Zambia branch held its annual general meeting under the theme "Getting To Know the CFA and Its Influence".

Worshipful Company of Builders Merchants Scholarship

The first recipient of this scholarship, to attend the M.Sc. Forestry course at the Oxford Forestry Institute, was Antwi Oduro, a Ghanaian forester. The award cheque was presented on behalf of the livery company by their Master, Christopher Latham, to our President, H.E. Jimmy Aggrey-Orleans, High Commissioner for Ghana, at the Ironmongers Hall in the City of London.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

It is disappointing to report a deficit for the year 2000. This is, to some extent, due to the timing differences of Review subscription income. However, it is encouraging to note that membership fee income has risen by some 10%. The level of expenditure has been reasonably held bearing in mind the increased activity of the Association, in particular preparing for the 16th Commonwealth Forestry Conference. This has resulted in the General Fund now having a small deficit.

Income from the members, grants and interest sustains the CFA so that it can promote good management, use and conservation of forests and forest lands throughout the world. The Statement of Financial Activities gives details of income and expenditure. The movement in fixed assets is set out in note 5 to the accounts. The financial position at year-end is considered satisfactory in order to meet the future commitments and obligations. There are no post-balance sheet events to the knowledge of the Governing Council. The contributions of Christopher Latham, Hon. Treasurer, and of Virginia Ross, Budget and Accounting Adviser, are acknowledged.

Signed on behalf of the Governing Council
Dr J.S. Maini, 19th April 2001

COMMONWEALTH FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2000

COMMONWEALTH FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

Presented at the Annual General Meeting

(abridged)

	2000	1999
	£	£
Income		
Membership subscriptions	25,990	23,928
Life members (proportion this year)	125	125
Life member Appeal	2,593	1,072
Commonwealth Foundation - Core Grant- pro rata	7,500	12,500
Commonwealth Foundation - Review - pro rata	5,500	3,500
Other income	697	500
Other donations	2,118	45
Commonwealth Forestry Conference contribution to expenses		-
Review subscriptions	12,781	16,830
Advertisements	-	2,193
Sales of handbooks	-	145
Sales - other (Rio booklets)	208	3,199
National Savings Interest	255	138
Deposit Account Interest	336	254
Interest - other	795	848
Covenant income		45
	58,897	65,321
Less: Expenditure		
Salaries and allowances	22,635	20,127
Consultancy - accounting & computer	6,726	7,690
Review - printing	11,587	10,394
Review - dispatch	6,440	5,795
Review - editorial costs	5,483	4,948
Rent	3,754	3,373
Telephone, fax	438	627
Other printing, copying	870	1,043
Office expenses-stationery, reference & training	1,885	2,208
Postage	3,458	2,525
Commonwealth Forestry Exchange Program	-	204
Meetings	-	(92)
Travel	934	262
Newsletter	2,140	3,208
India Conference	-	-
Professional advice	-	-
Examiner's Report	400	400
Bank charges	728	773
Insurance - employers liability	324	337
Depreciation	340	463
Award	-	-
	(68,142)	(64,284)
Deficit for the year	(9,245)	1,037
Balance brought forward	7,874	6,837
Deficit carried forward	(£1,371)	£ 7,874

A full copy of the accounts is available on request from: Mrs Michelle Brooks, Secretary,
The Commonwealth Forestry Association, 6 - 8 South Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3UB.

I greatly welcome this opportunity to present to you my report as the Chairman of the Commonwealth Forestry Association. During my four-year term as the Chairman, we have made significant progress in increasing the profile of CFA in the international arena. The CFA has improved its financial stability, and strengthened activities at the national and regional levels. However, we will require our collective efforts to address a number of challenges and opportunities that we face ahead.

Leadership of the Association

In 1999, our past president, the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, who kindly guided the affairs of the Association for almost 20 years, expressed his wish to step down. The CFA Executive Committee, with great regret, agreed to respect the wishes of His Grace. During his tenure as the President, His Grace took great interest in the well-being of the CFA and opened many doors for us. His guidance was particularly valuable in reshaping the role and activities of CFA in response to the rapidly changing international context. We are ever so grateful for the personal support to CFA by both The Duke as well as the Duchess of Buccleuch and Queensberry.

We were very fortunate that H.E. Mr. J.E.K. Aggrey-Orleans, the High Commissioner of Ghana to the United Kingdom, kindly agreed to accept the invitation to serve as the President of CFA. This was a historic appointment, for this is the first time that CFA has a President from a country other than the United Kingdom.

Awards

Recognising outstanding achievements by the members of the international forestry community is an important part of CFA's activities. CFA's awards include: the Queen's Award for Forestry; the Schlich Memorial Awards; and the Tom Gill Medal. In 1998, at the recommendation of the Regional Chairs, the Governing Council supported the establishment of Regional Medals as awards for excellence in forestry in the regions.

During the past four years, we have awarded the Queen's Award for Forestry to two outstanding colleagues. Dr. Vinod Bahuguna of India and Dr. Stephen Bass of the United Kingdom received the Queen's Award for their distinguished contribution to forestry. Several Regional Medals have also been awarded during this period.

The first recipient of the Worshipful Company of Builders Merchants Scholarship to attend the M.Sc. Forestry course at the Oxford Forestry Institute, was Antwi Oduro, a Ghanaian forester.

In addition to recognising well-established colleagues, it is our professional responsibility to mentor and encourage young professionals. Assisted by the Commonwealth Foundation, the CFA was able to sponsor Ms. Madhu Sharma from Karnataka, India, on a professional study tour in Scotland in 1999. The United Kingdom Branch also organised a Branch meeting of young foresters in 2000. Special briefings on the CFA have been presented to students at the Oxford Forestry Institute.

Currently, the South Africa branch of the CFA is facilitating exchanges of two professionals between South Africa and Tanzania using funds from the Commonwealth Foundation.

Regions and National Branches

Two years ago, we were able to arrange a meeting of Regional Chairs in Oxford. This meeting increased our collective understanding of regional perspectives and priorities and enriched our knowledge of the regional and international realities.

During the past four years, the CFA Executive Committee considered the modalities of establishing national branches in various parts of the world. Ralph Roberts from Canada was very helpful in providing information on the legal and administrative aspects of establishing a national branch and its relationship with the CFA at the international level, as well as its relation with national forestry association. Several national branches have been established, and some with innovative membership arrangements, for example, with South Africa and India. National CFA branches are envisaged as complementary to, and not in competition with, the national professional foresters organisations. National branches of CFA are intended to contribute an international perspective to enrich the activities of the national organisations.

Whenever possible, "International CFA Colleagues" have supported the national branches. For example, Vice President Peter Wood was actively engaged in supporting a very successful symposium, entitled "India's Forests Beyond 2000", organised by CFA's India Branch. The sponsorship of this symposium by CFA, which is considered to be a neutral organisation, was particularly significant and widely welcomed; a politically sensitive forest policy issue was debated in an open public forum in India. Also, India launched the Brandis Chaturvedi Memorial Lecture Series with inaugural address "Forests, Democracy and Forest Service" presented by Peter Wood. The CFA-Zambia branch held its annual general meeting under the theme "Getting To Know the CFA and Its Influence".

International Meetings

CFA members have taken advantage of the opportunity to meet on the margins of other international meetings and to exchange views on areas of mutual and international concern. For example, CFA-sponsored meetings have been held in Rome, Geneva and Mutare (Zimbabwe), among many other locations.

Publications

CFA has made major strides in the area of information dissemination. I am particularly proud to report the following:

- The Commonwealth Forestry Review was retitled as the "International Forestry Review" (IFR) but fully incorporates the Commonwealth Forestry Review. This change is consistent with our evolving profile and broader international role, which extends beyond the borders of Commonwealth countries. I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the outstanding contributions made by Arnold Grayson in significantly upgrading the quality of this publication to the highest international standards. The International Forestry Review is one of the few international journals selected by a United States university for inclusion on CD-ROM, aimed to distribute selective scientific information to developing countries. I am also pleased to welcome the appointment of Alan Pottinger as the new Editor of IFR.