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Chairman's Column

The start of the Association's eightieth year is a timely moment to look back over the changes that have occurred in our profession and to contemplate the future of forestry and the CFA. Policies and practices obviously differ between countries; however, general patterns of change can be recalled - from exploitation of natural forests, through the establishment of industrial plantations, to the encouragement of trees in farming systems, and most recently to the development of participatory forestry involving all stakeholders in planning and managing forests and in enjoying the benefits.

Governments and international organizations now recognize the value of forests in providing many services and products and even the most extreme environmental pressure groups begin to accept that demands for "conservation" can be met in well managed production forests. Plantations are more acceptable again although they are managed by industry rather than by governmental forest services. Nevertheless, the pressures on forests and forest land continue to grow, particularly in tropical countries.

The status of the forestry profession and the nature of forest education have changed. Forestry as an academic discipline has disappeared or is under threat in many

universities in the face of demands for more pure sciences. Fewer students wish to pursue a career in the subject. Increasingly small forestry-related modules are being taught in courses of environmental science and geography with a decline in graduates able to manage a whole ecosystem for all its benefits.

So what is the role of the CFA? It must clearly be seen to benefit its members and the profession at large. In times of change it has a role in providing coherence and continuity. It has a significant role too in providing international information and support for its branches and individual members in many countries in dealing with governments and the public. The CFA may also be seen as an umbrella organization for forestry professional institutions around the world. Modern information technologies facilitate this and the CFA Secretariat has moved into the electronic age, enhancing the accessibility and value of publications, archives, databases and web-sites to members.

A continuous process of policy review is preferable to periodic strategic planning exercises. Consequently I welcome, at all times, views about the roles, activities and structures in the future Association. I thank all members for their support in the past and wish you all success in 2004.

from Professor JEFF BURLEY,
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

The Commonwealth Foundation

It is a pleasure to announce that the Commonwealth Foundation have agreed to continue their generous support to the CFA for another year. Their grant is vitally important in enabling us to produce and distribute the Commonwealth Forestry News, particularly to developing countries. In addition it will help some of our forthcoming activities, notably: the production of an on-line guide to support scientific authors in the Commonwealth to produce papers, reports and policy briefs; the production of a 'large-type' version of the *International Forestry Review* and a 'hearing book' version of the *Commonwealth Forestry News* accessible via the CFA website; and support for the activities of CFA national branches.

The CFA is proud to work closely with the Commonwealth Foundation and I would urge you to visit their website at <http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com> to find out more about their wide range of programmes.

from ALAN POTTINGER, Technical Director, CFA

AGM 2003 at XII World Forestry Congress, Quebec

The 81st Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 24th September, 2003 at 1830hrs in the Hilton, Quebec at the XII World Forestry Congress.

Those attending included: D. Poore (Chairman of the AGM and Vice President), J. Burley (Chairman CFA), A. Pottinger (Technical Director), M. Arnold, J. Ball, D. Bills, M. Bleby, Mrs J Burley, T. Geary, H. Gupta, P. Kanowski, J.P. Lanly, M. MacGregor, J. Maini, R.L. Newman, G. Petrokofsky, Mrs J. Poore, A. Robinson, M. Robbins, M. Singh, Mr and Mrs H.T. Tang, D. van der Zel, P. Vinden, P. Wardle, G. Weetman,

Chairman's Report

The Chairman, Prof Jeff Burley introducing his report said: "It is my great pleasure to join in the welcome to you tonight here in Quebec City. The Executive Committee agreed that the World Forestry Congress would be an excellent opportunity to make the CFA AGM open to a greater number of people from countries around the world.

"I succeeded Professor Julian Evans as Chairman at the last AGM because he had to stand down for personal family reasons. At that time we appointed a Technical Director, Mr Alan Pottinger, a former employee of the Oxford Forestry Institute and the Green College Centre for Natural Resources and Development with experience of research and development work in many tropical countries. In this role Alan is responsible for the running of the daily business of the Association and the management of the secretarial staff.

"Alan is also the Editor of the *International Forestry Review*, for which he has obtained accreditation as a peer reviewed journal acceptable to the Science Citations Index. Another component of the publications programme is *Commonwealth Forestry News* produced quarterly by Philip Wardle. Of particular importance is the work of the Publications Committee, chaired by John Brazier, and the Editorial Advisory Board, chaired by Jim Ball.

"Four facets of the CFA activities during the year merit special mention. Firstly, the Technical Director and Executive Committee have effectively encouraged and supported national branches. Secondly, the Technical Director has been successful in attracting funds from donors to finance special activities and issues of the IFR. Thirdly, the Chairman has re-established fund-raising

activities including direct applications to charitable foundations in the UK. Fourthly, the Association has recognized the value of awards."

(The Chairman's report and accounts were published in CFN22 September 2003).

Technical Director's report

The past year has seen the restructuring of the management of the Association through the establishment of this post (Technical Director), plus that of Membership Secretary, and the dissolution of the posts of Secretary and Assistant Editor of the IFR. These changes were stimulated by the need to reduce costs along with recognition of the value of electronic communication.

The Association is based around the concept of a strong international network of individuals in national branches, but many members are questioning whether CFA is currently supporting them in this area. Recent developments with national branches in Zambia and Uganda suggest that closer links between CFA International and key local members may be the stimulus needed.

The CFA website with CFA Members Handbook, CFNews and access to IFR on-line, has proved popular with our membership.

A request was made to include a full list of members on the CFA website. J Burley explained the restrictions placed on the CFA by the Data Protection Act with regard to listing members but it was agreed that a password protected page on the website would not breach these regulations.

The International Forestry Review

The four main developments to note are:

The IFR is now **on-line** and therefore available throughout the world via the internet.

We have recently produced the first in a series of **CDs** to contain the full text of the archive of the IFR, and its predecessors the CFR and EFR.

Three IFR **Special Issues** have been produced in the past year covering Small Island Developing States, Non Timber Forest Products and Illegal Logging. Significant funding has been received from donors to support their publication.

A **Young Scientist Award Scheme** has been initiated to support first-time authors in their efforts to publish a paper in a peer-reviewed journal.

Commonwealth Forestry News

The aims of CFNews are: to publish a newsletter to reach the membership and a wide audience in a more direct and less formal form than the review; to seek active participation of the members in all parts of the Commonwealth and beyond; to inform members and a wider audience of matters of current forestry concern in the Commonwealth and internationally, stimulating debate and interaction; and to publicise the Association's activities and encourage wider membership.

CFNews is currently distributed to 1800 addresses; 1000 copies of CFN22 were distributed at the XIIth World Forestry Congress in Quebec. All issues of CFNews are now posted on the CFA International website thanks to the earlier initiative of John Roper and the Canadian Branch providing their website.

Particular thanks go to Mikael Grut for copy editing, to Peter Wood, founder and valued adviser, to Nell Baker for doing the list of international meetings and to Janet Wardle for reviewing copy.

Association's Awards

R.L. Newman announced the Asia-Pacific Award for Excellence, to Tang Hon Tat with the citation: "The Association considers you to be an outstanding contributor to the profession of forestry over a long time of solid commitment. You have demonstrated by your leadership in dealing with the interests of 22 Pacific Island Developing Countries and Territories the ability to advance the development of sustainable use and management of forests. Thus you have also assisted people associated with the forests to make their own contribution to their particular environments".

The Asia-Pacific Award for Excellence went also to Datuk Mukshar bin Dato'Md Shaari for excellence in enhancement of sustainable forest management in Peninsular Malaysia. (See CFN22)

P. Wardle was elected to a Fellowship of the Association in recognition of outstanding service to the Association, particularly through the development and editorship of Commonwealth Forestry News.



Duncan Poore congratulates Tang Hon Tat (photo above) and Philip Wardle (photo right)

Training

M. MacGregor (formerly of the International Forestry Students Association) congratulated the Association on the developments made since the previous AGM but requested that the CFA consider more carefully improvement of training opportunities for young people.

Election of Officers

In accordance with the Royal Charter and Bye Laws of the Association nominations had been received for the post of CFA President and other nominations were expected. An election would take place as soon as possible by postal ballot among members of the Governing Council.

Members of the Governing Council serve for three years.

The following were re-elected: Nell Baker (*Research Associate, Global Canopy Programme, UK*) Peter Berg (*President, Berg Forests Ltd, NEW ZEALAND*) David Henderson-Howat (*Chief Conservator for Scotland, Forestry Commission, UK*) Jerry Vancly (*Prof. Sustainable Forestry, Southern Cross Univ, AUSTRALIA*) Don Wijewardana (*MAF International Policy, Director of Forest Policy, NEW ZEALAND*).

The following were elected: Hans Drielsma (*General Manager, Forestry Tasmania, AUSTRALIA*) Janette Forte (*Senior Social Scientist with the Iwokrama International Programme for Rainforest Conservation and Development, GUYANA*) Johnson Mhungu (*CFA Africa Regional Chair, ZIMBABWE*) Dr A.K. Mukherji (*former Inspector General of Forests, Govt Of India, INDIA*) Dr S.N. Rai (*Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Karnataka, INDIA*) Paul Ryan (*Consultant, AUSTRALIA*) Dr R.V. Singh (*former Director General of the Indian Council of Forest Research & Education, INDIA*).

The following indicated their wish to step down from the Governing Council: Alan Brown, Mafa Chipeta, Ross Florence, Mary Hobley, Keith Jeddere-Fisher, Salleh Mohd Nor, Joh Scriba, John Turnbull.

The Vice-Chairman, M. Chipeta, had resigned from the post due to pressures of work. Nominations for the position were being sought. The meeting recognised Mafa's outstanding service to the CFA.

The CFA Treasurer, C. Latham, had indicated his desire to step down from the position as soon as a suitable replacement was found. Christopher's long service to the Association, most recently as Treasurer, but also as a past Chairman and current Vice President was highlighted and the meeting recorded its appreciation of his great contribution to CFA over many years.

UK Charity Commission had stated that the current list of Trustees (which included all members of the Governing Council) was not appropriate due to its size and inclusion of non-UK citizens. Consequently the meeting approved the appointment of the following CFA members as UK trustees; J. Burley, J. Evans, C. Latham and P. Wood.



In Memoriam

We regret to announce the death of T.G. Allan, UK

Regional and national branch reports to AGM

Asia Pacific Regional Committee Report 2003

For the 6th year we have identified suitable people to receive the CFA Regional Medal Awards of Excellence. These awards since inception have been given to people in Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea.

In Malaysia Thang Hooi Chiew, the Queens Award winner has been an attentive secretary for the regional awards selection. A new Branch Chairman is to be announced shortly. Talks are continuing to encourage the PNG Foresters Institute to have a strong link with the CFA.

Mr Newman's private office continued to operate as the Regional office and signage has been placed outside to indicate that role. Thanks go to the Office Bearers of the branches for their support.

Australian Branch

For the 6th year we have identified suitable people to receive the CFA Regional Medal Awards of Excellence. In the case of Australia the awards are being announced and given out now at the National Association Forest Industries Annual Conference by the Governor-General of Australia. The Annual Conference also provides an opportunity for an Australian committee meeting and discussions with CFA members generally.

The event is the masthead for current CFA activity in Australia.

The Branch Chairman, Professor Jerry Vanclay is now planning for a session at the Commonwealth Governments Annual Primary Industry Meeting in March 2004 to present information and results of the World Forestry Congress.

A recent membership drive in Australia by contacting all members of the Association of Consulting Foresters of Australia and others only resulted in two new members. This is a serious problem, which needs addressing at the CFA main executive committee level.

from **BOB NEWMAN, Vice President and Regional Chairman for South East Asia and the Pacific**

New Zealand

The small but enthusiastic band of members in New Zealand, with chairman, Peter Berg and secretary, Don Wijewardana, has continued to keep in touch throughout the year.

Most of our members are also members of the NZ Institute of Forestry and opportunity has therefore been taken where possible to host events jointly.

The focus of these meetings has generally been on the key issues. New Zealand's extensive softwood plantations have few significant advantages over similar forests located in countries much closer to the major world markets for wood products so emphasis is being placed on those aspects which help create some other market-place preference for NZ sourced wood. Sustainable management and environmental performance are two areas where our forests are considered to perform very well. The value of forests as carbon sinks is another matter of heightened interest given the NZ Government's ratification of the Kyoto protocol.

Our members appreciate the reach of CFA around Commonwealth countries and the opportunities for networking it provides, but would like it to take a much more unequivocal approach in this respect to help distinguish it from the many national forestry organisations that exist in virtually all Commonwealth countries alongside the local section of CFA.

from **PETER BERG**

India

In place of M.K. Sharma, the Director General of Forests (DGF) Govt of India, who stepped down on retirement, I.N.K. Joshi, the new DGF, was unanimously elected as the Chairman, CFA India.

The Brandis-Chaturvedi memorial lecture on 'Property rights, Science and sustainable forestry' was delivered by Dr William Bentley, Professor of forest policy and management, University of Yale, on 19.8.2003, at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The intellectual full house gathering interacted on the emerging issues in forest management in the U.S. It was revealed that, as in developing countries, in developed countries as well, funding for forestry is of low priority and research did not find the required support. Prof Bentley advocated a change in the perspective in support of forestry in general and forest research in particular for balancing the ecological and social issues.

The Brandis-Chaturvedi Memorial lecture is instituted by CFA, India Unit in Commemoration of Brandis, the founder of scientific forestry in India and Chaturvedi, the first Inspector General of Forests when India attained independence.

CFA India and the NGO Earthcare Foundation, are jointly hosting a seminar on 17.10.2003, on conservation and water harvesting. Case studies on conservation and water harvesting from Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra states will form the basis of the deliberations.

Dr Piare Lal, a member of the governing council of CFA, was recently honoured for his research work on cloning. Lastly, it has been the untiring efforts of DR V.K. Bahuguna, Secretary, CFA India Unit that has kept the CFA flag high and flying.

from **S.SHYAM SUNDER, Regional Chairman, South Asia**

South African Chapter

The first AGM was held during the International Woodfor Conference and Exhibition at Hilton College in Kwa-Zulu Natal on 2 July 2002. The AGM for 2003 was held on 7th October in Pretoria. We have 42 CFA/SAIF members and 8 direct CFA members with the able secretariat of the Southern African Institute of Forestry, administering its affairs.

This Chapter is very proud to have its second proposal for the CFA African Award being accepted. It was granted to Mr. Joh Scriba, retired Principal of the Saasveld Forestry College, near George in the Western Cape.

The Rio+8 CFA booklet, prepared for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, was sent to a large number of African forestry-related universities who much appreciated this CFA gesture.

from **DR. DICK VAN DER ZEL**



Joh Scriba with CFA African Award for Excellence

Zambia Branch

The branch announces a National Symposium on "Promotion of forest resources of medicinal value in Zambia" to be held in the Republic of Zambia 9th to 10th January 2004 under the International Networking For Young Scientists (INYS) Scheme. The symposium has been organised through a partnership of the British Council and the CFA under the auspices of the UK Science Team. CFA Technical Director, Alan Pottinger, will participate.

Opening: Ms. Winnie Mwango Musonda; Welcome: Mr John Mitchell, Director, British Council, Zambia; Keynote Speaker: Minister: Science and Technology.

Presentations will include:

Science and Technology: Where are we in Zambia? by Victor K. Kawanga;

Investigating practices and conceptions in herbal medicines: by Prof. Dr. Mazuru Gundidza, University of Zimbabwe;

Government Science and Technology Reform Programme by Dr. Mwenya, Zambia;

Research on products from plants of medicinal value, by Dr. Kafwembe TDRC, Ndola;

Helping phytotherapists undo secretive approaches, by Mr. Felix Njovu, CBU, Kitwe;

Sharing of IKPs and conventional knowledge and application of solutions, by Ms. Winnie Mwango Musonda, UNDP Zambia.

These will be followed by discussion sessions.

from VICTOR K. KAWANGA

UK Branch

Since May 2002, the UK Branch has held two events. The first was a seminar (run jointly with the Institute of Chartered Foresters in November 2002) on "*The World Summit: what does it mean for forestry*" discussing outcomes and implications for forestry of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). The second was a tour in the Scottish Borders in May 2003 which included a visit to woodlands at Bowhill that belong to our former President, The Duke of Buccleuch.

Plans for 2004 include a tour based in Oxfordshire (likely dates 20/21 May) and a seminar examining the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF).

This will be combined with the CFA AGM 2004.

from DAVID HENDERSON-HOWAT

Around the World

17th Commonwealth Forestry Conference

Sri Lanka 28 February – 5 March 2005

The first announcement has been released and the first invitation to present a paper.

The theme "*Forestry contribution to poverty reduction*" and the sub themes

- Ensuring the supply security of forest goods and services
- Building good governance in the forestry sector
- The role of forestry in improving people's lives
- Ensuring stakeholder participation at all levels

Venue – Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall, Colombo.

Registration by 15 November 2004 – Registration fee US\$ 300.

Email: forlib@sltnet.lk

WFSE the executive summary

At a seminar organised by the United Nations University "*World Forests, Society and Environment – Executive Summary*", edited by Philip Wardle, was launched by Prof. Hans van Ginkel, Rector, UNU and Prof. Risto Seppälä, President, IUFRO. The Executive

Summary reviews the 1200 pages by 149 scientists from six continents published in the three volumes of World Forests book series by Kluwer Academic Publishers. www.unu.edu/env/forests/WFSEexecutive-summary.pdf

The UNU promotion through a press release highlighted ideas presented in the Executive Summary. The following extract:—"Under-pricing stumpage fees creates incentives for continued deforestation and forest degradation. Socialistic forestry in countries like Russia, Brazil, Canada, Indonesia and Malaysia has not been able to facilitate economically, ecologically and socially sustainable forest management." – gained a lively reaction in Canada.

Minister of Natural Resources Herb Dhaliwal said he doesn't agree with the study's conclusions. "I reject any notion that we have a poor record. We have a very good record and we'll continue to strive to improve it". He said that Canada is a world leader in forest management, and has been improving management practices for more than a decade. (CBC)

"I think public ownership in Canada has resulted in world-class environmental standards and forestry practices that have to withstand the highest level of public scrutiny," said Avrim Lazar, president and CEO of the Forest Products Association of Canada, adding "forestry companies don't just buy wood from public forests. You also buy responsibility for forest stewardship." (CanWest News Service)

from TERRY COLLINS, UNU



Sound bites from WFC

The following short excerpts are taken from the daily reports on the congress, September 21 to 28, prepared by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD).

www.iisd.callinkages/sdlwfc12/

Jagmohan Maini, former head of the UNFF Secretariat, stated that: forests are not wood factories; forest-rich and forest-poor regions face different realities; causes of deforestation lie outside the forest sector; solutions to deforestation and forest degradation are cross-sectoral; and forest benefits extend beyond forests.

Duncan Poore reported that it is uncertain to what extent tropical forests are being sustainably managed. Looking to the future, he foresaw an increase in the number of tropical tree plantations and conservation, but an uncertain future for timber production unless its value is increased.

David Kaimowitz, Center for International Forest Research, observed that forests are not prioritised on the global political agenda, due to declining media attention, a sense of failure concerning conservation efforts, and a lack of understanding of how forests help to address other priority issues, such as poverty eradication, health and war. Stressing the importance of forests for the poor, he called for incorporating forest issues in national poverty reduction strategies, and for markets that work better for forest-dependent communities. People should be compensated for their conservation efforts. He recommended adapting the landscape approach to conservation.

Henson Moore, International Council of Forest and Paper Associations, stressed the industry's commitment to sustainable forest management (SFM). Acknowledging the growing role of public-private partnerships, he highlighted the role of governments in creating framework conditions for sustainable forestry. Sustainable forest-related commercial activities must become an important part of the solution to forest problems.

Neil Byron, Productivity Commission Australia, said the world's forests suffer from deforestation, degradation and declining political support. The remedies include SFM, plantations, biodiversity conservation, socio-economic changes, public participation, and an integrated landscape approach. Noting past failures, Byron called for broad policies, new institutional arrangements, protection of biodiversity and aesthetic values, environmentally conscious consumption and good governance.

Hosny El-Lakany, FAO, emphasized the need for increased cooperation and coordination among international processes and agencies, and said that giving forests a higher profile on the international agenda will require sustained commitment at the highest political level.

WFC Side Events

Indigenous Peoples' Forest Forum

The Co-Chairs of the Indigenous Peoples' Forest Forum, Harry Bombay, National Aboriginal Forestry Association, Antonio Jacanamijoy, Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and Lucien Wabanonik, Assembly of First Nations of Labrador and Quebec, presented the Wendake Action Plan, which requests nation states, international organizations and multilateral agencies to recognize and guarantee indigenous peoples' right to self-determination. They called for recognition of indigenous rights in forest policy, rights to resources and their equitable distribution; free prior informed consent and traditional forest-related knowledge and cultural rights; and for the development of economic instruments and trade agreements capital investment and technology to support their meaningful participation.

Youth Forum

David Beauchamp on behalf of the Youth Forum, stressed that youth have energy but need support from others to tackle social and economic inequities between decision makers and forest users; overcome ignorance about the state of forests; and address unsustainable consumption of forest products. The Forum's proposed actions, included educational measures such as funding for school programmes and international exchanges and providing education and educational materials on SFM.

Forests and people in Small Island Developing States

At the session arranged by CFA, Mette Loyche Wilkie, FAO Forestry Department, said the main threats to forests in small island developing states are deforestation and degradation. Forests are crucial for wood products, food security, water, soil conservation and improvement, coastal protection, biodiversity and eco-tourism. Constraints to SFM include: limited land area; vulnerability to environmental disasters; a lack of resources; the extinction of endemic species; limited options for diversifying economic forest activities; and a lack of integrated management. There are opportunities for SFM such as intensified

wood production in natural forests, plantations, product diversification and conserving genetic resources. She called for better information on forest resources, rehabilitation of degraded watersheds, enhanced coastal protection, effective conservation of biodiversity and better marketing of wood.

Angela Cropper, Cropper Foundation, stressed the interconnection between forests and people. She examined how small island developing states had implemented the Barbados Programme of Action. They could be the testing ground for SFM initiatives; fostering collaboration among them, promoting capacity building and assessing interactions between people and ecosystems.



Angela Cropper, Prof. Jeff Burley – Chairman
and Mette Loyche Wilkie

A world of forest practitioners

At the WFC side event organised by the Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institut forestier du Canada (CIF/IFC), panellists discussed global forest partnerships. Thomas Geary, International Society of Tropical Foresters, discussed the organization's mission of protecting, managing, and rationally using the world's tropical and subtropical forests.

Dick van der Zel, Southern African Institute of Forestry, stressed the need for greater volunteerism and financial resources to support forestry work. Alan Pottinger, Commonwealth Forestry Association, indicated that CFA provides forest information and facilitates networking for its members, and continues to focus on education and training. Jason Jabbour, International Forestry Students Association, discussed capacity building and institutional frameworks, and noted that youth are valuable partners today, not merely tomorrow's leaders.

Michael Goergen, Society of American Foresters, discussed SAF's role in providing: current information on forestry through publications; leadership support; advice to political leaders and the press; and certification tests to ensure greater credibility

of foresters. Shen Gui, Chinese Society of Forestry, called for improved world forestry development, guaranteed global ecological safety, and increased educational exchanges and international cooperation.

ITTC 35

The International Tropical Timber Council held its thirty-fifth session in Yokohama, Japan 3 — 8 November 2003. Bin Che Freezailah retired from the position of chairman at the end of this session. Jan McAlpine (US) and Alhassan Attah (Ghana) were elected Chair and Vice-Chair of ITTC-36.

In his closing statement, retiring Chair, Bin Che Freezailah expressed hope and optimism for the future of the ITTO. He underlined ITTO's successes, implementing SFM and establishing C&I among others, but there is still considerable work to be done, noting issues of tropical deforestation, certification of tropical forests, poverty, and trade barriers. Freezailah emphasized the needs to balance the rights and responsibilities of consumer and producer country members, to improve the flow of contributions, and for countries to work together to address illegal logging and trade issues.

Yati Bun, Foundation for People and Community Development, on behalf of the Civil Society Advisory Group, underscored the group's aim to provide an opportunity for local voices and experiences to be heard and to encourage the Council to take steps to better reflect the interests and aspirations of civil society. He outlined two key shifts in the tropical forest landscape since the 1994 agreement: a significant transfer in forest ownership to indigenous and other communities; and a shift in trade and finance to community-controlled ecosystem services and non-timber forest products.

Anselme Enerunga, Minister of the Environment, Nature Conservation, Water and Forests, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), outlined the great extent of natural forests in his country, but forestry sector makes only a minor contribution to the economy. The DRC is committed to improving its forestry sector and significant reforms in forest governance are underway to secure: equitable land distribution based on development, conservation and forestry objectives, tax reforms; and revision of existing forestry contracts, with a moratorium on new forest concessions until reforms are completed. The DRC plans to increase forest-protected areas to 15% of the total national area.

from IISD



Lindulovskya Larches, the oldest planted around 1735 in the Reign of Peter the Great.

EFI 10 years on

The European Forest Institute held its 10th Annual Conference *Forest Research Crossing Borders* in Joensuu, Finland and St Petersburg, Russia from 28 August – 2 September, 2003.

The meeting marked the successful conclusion of the first stage of seeking international status for the European Forest Institute. Thirteen European countries have signed the Convention on EFI since 28 August 2003. The new international status of EFI, endorsed by the European governments, will start a new era in pan-European research cooperation by bringing international forest research closer to the national agendas.

The basis of the Convention is to maintain the old organisational structure of EFI. In this way European research organisations and other similar bodies can have EFI membership and thus have an impact on its activities.

from EFI



Presentation to EFI by Prof Georgi Redko, St Petersburg Technical Academy.



Heinrich Schmutzenhofer retires

IUFRO Appoints New Executive Secretary

Dr. Peter Mayer has been appointed IUFRO Executive Secretary, on the retirement of Dipl.-Ing. Heinrich Schmutzenhofer, who has served in that position for the last 16 years. Peter, an Austrian citizen aged 35, holds a Ph. D. degree in forestry from the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU) in Vienna, and a post-graduate diploma in political sciences from the Institute of Advanced Studies in Vienna. Since 1998 he has been heading the Liaison Unit of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe.



Peter Mayer to IUFRO

International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) is the global network for forest science cooperation. It is a scientific, non-profit, non-governmental and non-political body founded in 1892 and unites more than 15,000 member scientists in about 700 Member Organizations in over 100 countries. The mission of IUFRO is to promote coordination and international cooperation in scientific studies embracing the whole field of research related to forests and trees.

from IUFRO

Africa Forest Law Enforcement

The Africa Forest Law Enforcement and Governance Ministerial Declaration targeted at combating illegal logging, associated illegal trade, and corruption in the forest sector was committed to by acclamation on October 16, 2003 by 39 countries in Yaoundé, Cameroon.

In African countries, estimated losses in revenue due to poor regulation of timber production are for example – in Cameroon, \$5.3 million; in Congo Brazzaville, \$4.2 million; in Gabon, \$10.1 million; and in Ghana, \$37.5 million per year.

The AFLEG Declaration confirms:

- Governmental commitment and will to eliminate illegal logging, illegal trade and corruption in the forest sector;
- Shared responsibility and cooperation between stakeholders to address these issues – this will include action and partnerships from producer and consumer governmental programs, donor programs, civil society, and the private sector;
- A Program of Action.

"With this Declaration, participating countries are able to step up efforts at the national level and bilateral and multilateral cooperation in handling offences and contraventions to forestry laws, indispensable for sustainable forest management, fair profit sharing, and poverty alleviation to be achieved. Minister Tanyi Mbianyor Clarkson Oben, Minister of Environment and Forestry, Cameroon.

"AFLEG represents an opportunity for our countries to exchange best practice to combat illegal logging and illegal trade in the forest sector. COMIFAC supports exploring financing mechanisms such as carbon credits and directing funds from debt-reduction programs towards forest conservation." Minister Henri Djombo, Minister of Forest Economics and Environment for the Republic of Congo, and President of COMIFAC.

"Forest law enforcement and governance are the foundation upon which all real forest conservation must rest. Governments must have the will and capacity to administer and manage their forests and ensure that forest concessionaires respect the law. The United States Government has committed to assisting the governments of Africa to achieve these objectives." Jeffrey Burnam, U.S. Department of State.

"This AFLEG Declaration is a pact, between Africa and donors, between governments and the people they govern, between sellers and buyers of timber products, between companies and their

shareholders and their customers to do more in partnership. It is saying in one voice that illegal activities in forests can no longer be tolerated." Odin Knudsen, Senior Advisor for Sustainable Development, World Bank.

www.afleg-minef.org and www.worldbank/forests/afleg

from THE WORLD BANK

Nepal Australia Community Resource Management

Australia has assisted the natural resources sector in Nepal, one of the poorest countries in the region, since 1962. Australian assistance through Project Activities, Training and Small Activities Schemes, had been targeted at the rural poor; much of it delivered through forestry projects. Project phases progressed from the rehabilitation of degraded forest areas, through establishment of new plantations to aspects of community-based participatory management.

Early assistance provided support to the Department of Forests to develop forest resources in the Kathmandu valley and to ameliorate the degradation of surrounding hills. Subsequent phases placed more emphasis on pioneering work in community forestry and building links between communities and forest conservation. The fifth phase, the Community Resource Management Project – aimed at developing the capacity of local institutions and assisting communities in assessing their own needs and utilizing common resources in a sustainable way.

The sixth phase, Nepal Australia Community Resource Management & Livelihoods Project (NACRMLP), commenced from February 2003 with the goals 'to improve sustainable rural livelihoods in Nepal' and 'to reduce rural poverty by developing and institutionalizing equitable and sustainable community based natural resource management systems'.

The Project will be implemented over six years. The first two years will continue work in Sindhu Palchok (Sindhu) and Kabhre Palanchok (Kabhre) Districts and in consultation with His Majesty's Government of Nepal, a decision will be made about the location and direction of additional project work. Options include additional middle hill districts, new Terai or Churia districts or more intensive work in the upper slopes of several districts

The project has 5 components:

1. Institutionalising sustainable natural resource management systems that are socially, environmentally and economically viable;
2. Income generation and equity within rural communities'

forest users through an action learning approach which addresses the priority concerns of the poor and marginalized;

3. Sustainable resource management through flexible community-based approaches;
4. Upper slopes community-based resource management to reduce environmental degradation and improve livelihoods in the upper slopes;

5. To manage project resources efficiently and effectively.

This phase of Australian support to Nepal will refine existing methodologies for sustainable resource management, institutionalise these approaches nationally, and provide significant broad-scale environmental and social benefits through further support to community forestry development. www.nacrmplp.com.np
from ROSHAN THAPA, NACRMLP

Special Feature — Forest Landscape Restoration

A Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration

In March 2003, at FAO's Committee on Forests, the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration was officially launched. The overall goal of this partnership is to contribute to building assets and improving prospects for people and nature through restored forest landscapes. Activities include:

1. the exchange of information on where and how forest landscape restoration could be undertaken or reinforced
2. analysis of how forest landscape restoration contributes to the implementation of existing international and regional laws and agreements
3. presentation of case studies, regional international workshops and the development and promotion of a forest landscape restoration investment portfolio.

The founding members of this partnership are IUCN, WWF and the UK Forestry Commission; additional members include: CIFOR, ITTO, UNEP-WCMC, the government of Kenya, the UNFF and CBD Secretariats and CARE International.

At the UNFF inter-sessional in New Zealand in March the director of WWF's Forest programme, Dr Chris Elliott presented WWF's Vision for planted forests.

WWF will work with governments, private companies, financial institutions and civil society organisations to improve plantations by:

- Advocating effective targeting of public funds towards the restoration of multi-functional forest landscapes and away from commercial production-based activities
- Lobbying against socially or environmentally damaging plantations
- Promoting landscape-scale conservation to balance trade-offs between intensive wood production and other forest goods and services.
- Identifying a common vision for the future of plantations via the establishment of an independent, multi-stakeholder plantations commission

from LAFARGE and WWF, FLR Newsletter July 2003

Forest landscape restoration

In a session organised by IUCN and WWF at the World Forestry Congress in Quebec, David Bills, UK Forestry Commission, explained that the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) will provide a framework for sharing experiences, complement the UK's actions on illegal logging, and contribute to the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Various organizations involved in the partnership outlined their support for FLR. Eva Müller, International Tropical Timber Organization presented ITTO's work on the Guidelines for Restoration, Management, and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Forests, which incorporate a landscape approach. Jim

Carie, FAO, commended the partnership's interdisciplinary approach to FLR and noted an upcoming publication of relevant case studies. Pekka Pattosaari, UNFF, expressed his support for FLR as a critical component of SFM.

from IISD

Plantations Under the Spotlight

More than 80 people from a wide range of organisations and groupings attended the symposium: *Timber Plantations: Impacts, Future Visions and Global Trends*, held in Nelspruit on the 13th November. Hosted by GEASPHERE and TIMBERWATCH, the programme included speakers representing the full spectrum of interests in relation to timber plantations.

The main speaker, Prof Braam van Wyk of the University of Pretoria, focussed on the way plantations damage or destroy species rich grasslands. This was complemented by a later presentation on how plantations damage forests. Social and ethical concerns were highlighted by George Dor of Jubilee 2000. More specific social issues were raised by Nhlanhla Msweli from Swaziland. A powerful delivery from Human Rights Attorney Richard Spoor exposed the ways that environmental and social costs are externalised by corporations, with the implication that the plantation industry would not be financially viable if they were held accountable for all the costs of negative effects resulting from timber plantation and processing activities.

Maria Rydland of the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation spoke about the way demand for wood products in the developed world has driven the expansion of plantations in South America, Asia and Africa. The practice of certifying plantations as "sustainably managed forests" was also highlighted.

Timber industry representative Mike Edwards presented the views of Forestry South Africa (FSA). The industry was seeking to expand plantations by up to 250 000 hectares over the next 23 years, but this would be subject to the restraints of water and land availability. Linda Mossop, Chief Director Forestry at DWAF stated that her department supported the aims of the industry. George Dor considered it was not fair for government to take sides in the debate.

The proceedings are available on www.geasphere.co.za, e-mail: info@geasphere.co.za or info@timberwatch.org.za

from PHILIP OWEN, GEASPHERE

Conifers face the axe

Much of the landscape is to be radically altered over the next 100 years as the Forestry Commission fells tens of millions of conifer trees to stimulate the growth of ash, beech, oak, hazel, field maple and other native broadleaved species. The hundred year programme to "persecute the conifer" is expected to make British woodland lighter, more accessible and attractive and to stimulate recreation and conservation.

from JOHN VIDAL, THE GUARDIAN, 22.11.2003

International meetings of forestry interest

February 2004

4 Feb. *Annual Conference, International Society of Tropical Foresters.* Washington, D.C. Contact: Dr. Les Whitmore, President, ISTF, 5400 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD20814 USA. Fax: +1-301-897-3690; istf.Bethesda@verizon.net, www.istf-bethesda.org

18–20 Feb. *17th Annual Conference of the Society of Tropical Ecology — Biodiversity and dynamics in tropical ecosystems.* University of Bayreuth, Germany. www.bitoeck.uni-bayreuth.de/ltgoel

March 2004

4 March. *Quality hardwoods — what future.* Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, UK. www.rase.org.uk/conferences.

29 March–1 April. *Human Dimensions of Family and Farm Forestry International Symposium.* Pullman, Washington, USA. IUFRO. familyforestry@wsu.edu; www.familyforestrysymposium.wsu.edu/

31 March. *17th Annual Global Forest Industry Conference.* Vancouver, B.C., Canada. Angie Dosanjh, Pricewaterhouse Coopers; angie.dosanjh@ca.pwc.com

April 2004

12–14 April. *Management of Tropical Dry Forest Woodlands and Savannas: Assessment, Silviculture, Scenarios.* Brasilia, Brazil. IUFRO. Contact: Professor Dr José Imaña Encinas, Tel 55-61-2736026; Fax 55-61-3470631; iufro@unb.br

14–16 April. *Rauli, The Richness of Temperate Forests: Silviculture, Genetics and Industry.* Valdivia, Chile. IUFRO. www.infor.cl/webinfor/PW_SimposioIUFRO2004/SIMPOSIO/espanol/marc_espanol.htm

21–23 April. *3rd International Symposium on Sustainable Management of Forest Resources — SIMFOR 2004.* Pinar del Rio, Cuba. Contact: C. Fernando Hernandez Martinez; Fax: 82-77-9353; fhernandez@af.upr.edu.cu

21–24 April. *FOREXPO 2004, The European Forestry and Forest Management Trade Fair.* Mimizan, France. Contact: Fax: 33-5-56-81-78-98; info@forexpo.fr; www.forexpo.fr

May 2004

3–14 May. *UNFF 4th Session, Geneva Switzerland, Email: unff@un.org; www.un.org/esa/forests.htm*

22–23 May. *International Conference on Economics of Sustainable Forest Management (IUFRO),* Toronto, Canada. Contact: Hans Jöbstl, Fax: 43-1-476544429; joebstl@mail.boku.ac.at

23–27 May 2004. *The Urban Woods – to be used by everyone.* Stockholm, Sweden. Contact: Johanna From, johanna.from@svsmd.svo.se; www.svo.se/urbanwoods

June 2004

7 June – 2 July. *1st World Congress of Agroforestry 2004. Working Together for Sustainable Land-use Systems.* Orlando, Florida, USA. See: <http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/wca>.

26–29 June. *Forest Genetics and Climate Change.* Vernon, B.C. Canada. Contact: Alvin Yanchuk; Fax: +1-250-387-0046; Alvin.yanchuk@gems4.gov.bc.ca

July 2004

20–23 July. *36th Session of the International Tropical Timber Council.* Switzerland. Contact: Collins Ahadome; Fax: 81-45-223-1111; itto@itto.or.jp; www.itto.or.jp

August 2004

15–20 August. *Forest Diversity and Resistance to Native and Exotic Pest Insects.* IUFRO 7.03.07. Hammer Springs, New Zealand. Contact: Andrew Liebhold, Fax 1-304-285 1505; aliebhold@fs.fed.us; <http://iufro.boku.ac.at/iufro/>

16–22 August. *11th International Conference on Root and Butt Rots (IUFRO),* Poznan-Bialowieza, Poland. Contact: Malgorzata Manka, Fax: 4861-848-77-11; mmanka@owl.au.poznan.pl

23–29 August. *Social Roles of Forests for Urban Populations (IUFRO).* Hokkaido, Japan. See <http://iufro.boku.ac.at/iufro/>

September 2004

1–2 September. *Forest IT 2004 in the Mobile Environment — Congress and Exhibition.* Jyväskylä and Jämsänkoski, Finland. www.forestit.net/

3–7 September: *The EFI Annual Conference and Scientific Seminar,* Bangor, UK. Contact: Anu Ruusila; anu.ruusila@efi.fi.

12–16 September. *Regenerating Mountain Forests — prerequisite for sustainable management.* Kloster Seon, Bavaria, Germany. (IUFRO). www.forst.tu-muenchen.de/iufro2004.html.

27–30 September. *The economics and management of high productivity plantations.* University of Santiago de Compostela, Lugo, Spain. Contact: Dr Juan Gabriel Alvarez, Tel + 34 982 252303. Email: algonjg@lugo.usc.es

February 2005

28 February – 5 March 2005. *17th Commonwealth Forestry Conference.* Colombo, Sri Lanka. Contact: Libby Jones; Fax: 44-0-131-314-6137; libby.jones@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

August 2005

8–13 Aug. XXII IUFRO World Congress, Brisbane, Australia. Contact: Russell J. Haines, Queensland Forestry Research Institute; Fax: 61-7-389-69714; Email: hainesr@qfril.se2.dpi.gld.gov.au.

The web sites of EFI, ETRN, CIFOR and Gyde Lund's Forest Information Update, are acknowledged as sources.

from NELL BAKER

Education

Tropical Agriculture Award Fund

The Tropical Agriculture Award Fund (TAAF) is a charity set up by the Tropical Agriculture Association (TAA) of the UK in 1989 in order to raise funds to assist young graduates and diplomates in agriculture, forestry and related fields to gain appropriate experience and training in the tropics. Applicants have to be British nationals under the age of thirty years. They normally find their own projects with a minimum period overseas of 6 months. Funding has come from a variety of sources including the TAA with a membership of more than one thousand, organisations such as the Tim Jarman Fund and the Gatsby Foundation.

108 awards have been made to date averaging just under £1,000, for projects in some 40 countries. The committee carefully consider each application and are particularly concerned that the project will be, wherever possible, of some benefit to the local community. To date eleven applicants have been graduates in forestry and a further four had specific agro forestry qualifications. Some of this number had undertaken MSc. courses.

After completion of their TAAF projects, career development has taken various paths, some studying for postgraduate degrees and, particularly, in the case of forestry, the MSc course at Oxford. Others took employment with NGOs on overseas programmes and at least two have been working with the Forestry Commission in the UK. A number of ex awardees have also gained employment with government and parastatal organisations such as DFID and CDC, and with various consultancy companies.

from BASIL HOARE, Deputy Chair TAAF

People in parks

Spring Conference: April 2 – 3, 2004, Yale, USA

“Human Inhabited Protected Areas” are a reality of the conservation landscape. Protected area managers and policy-makers acknowledge that areas of high conservation value are already a home and subsistence base for local communities, and are attempting to incorporate these communities in conservation planning. The challenge that remains is how to achieve conservation in these areas.

Major efforts to integrate communities within protected areas have been underway for the last decade; protected areas that incorporate local community participation may also prove highly instructive for identifying the effective elements to conservation.

The Yale Chapter of the International Society of Tropical Foresters will convene all sides of the debate to identify constructive lessons in the effort to create Human-Inhabited Protected Areas of lasting conservation value. We hope the conference will stimulate debate on a range of topics, including:

- What policy elements make for conservation in Human- Inhabited Protected Areas
- How and when do local people conserve nature?
- How do differing values amongst stakeholders affect reserve viability? How can conflicts between state and communities be transformed?
- How can humans and wildlife co-exist in protected areas?
- Can communities achieve meaningful quality of life improvements in a conservation-driven regulatory context?
- How should property rights be allocated between the state and communities, and among communities?
- Are there some conservation objectives that cannot be achieved?
- What constitutes success and how is it measured?

Submission of abstracts is invited to Yale ISTF Conference, Tropical Resource Institute,
Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, 210 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511
www.yale.edu/istf/; Email: istf@yale.edu

from JANETTE FORTE

Special Feature — Australian Forest Fires

In less than a decade there have been three serious fire seasons in the Australian state of New South Wales. In January 1994 there had been four fire related deaths, hundreds of thousands of hectares of protected areas were burnt and fingers of fire crept into the city of Sydney.

On Christmas Day in 2001 with temperatures well over thirty degrees, worse still very low humidities of less than 15% and worst of all winds from the west from the dry interior of the desert continent, fires burnt nearly 700 000 ha, with 115 houses and many other buildings destroyed. Fortunately there were no serious injuries or fatalities.

The summer of 2002/03 saw it all again. This time with the people of the national capital, Canberra, suffering awfully as over 500 homes and other buildings were burnt, ignited by flying embers thrown by 70 km/hr winds and over 3,000,000 hectares of protected areas and other lands burnt.

While the fires burnt and fire suppression strategies were developed to contain them the familiar debates began to rage. Across the Internet, among civil society and politicians and in the media National and Provincial political leaders and heads of agencies were asked pointed questions. Everyone senses that there are key questions but there seem to be few people, if anyone, who knows what they might be or how to frame them, there is a sense that something is not quite right and that someone is not making that clear. Tragically the debate tends to polarise along conventional environmental or political “battle lines” and the underlying factors in the January 1994 fires, the Black Christmas Fires of 2001 and these most recent fires are blurred, buried or lost in a flurry of repeated rhetoric and age-old antagonisms. History again goes unlearned.

The subjects seem to frame up the key areas – the statistics of fires over time, the science and ecology of fires, the responsibilities

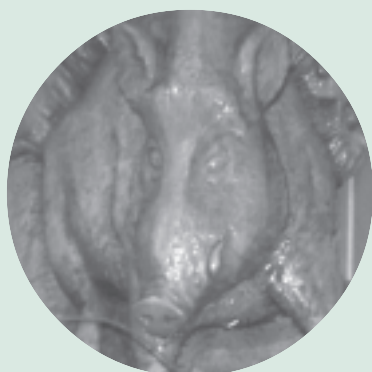
of individual homeowners in fire prone areas, local government’s role, public land managers and how land use planning should knit it all together into a coherent whole. There are indications of the difficulty of a system that attempts to consider landscape scale needs with respect to “bushfires” and management of natural and human assets and at the same time incorporate smaller scale concerns of the protection of particular environmental elements (species or habitats) and homes and other built assets. In many years and most fire seasons the uneasy relationship between scale, scope, management ethos and political processes goes un-noticed. However, fires are not an “IF” they are a “WHEN” and the time has come three times in ten years.

Informatively the approach taken by IUCN/WWF in Project FireFight South East Asia is one of addressing the underlying causes of fires, an approach being mirrored by the Global Fire Partnership of those two international conservation organisations and The Nature Conservancy. The legal, economic and community factors that create the conditions for damaging fires to start and persist are analysed and carefully considered to define the questions and synthesise possible answers. This approach is being extended to the Mediterranean, West Africa and South America. One key need is to understand the nature of fire in each place.

The key underlying issue in the Australian context seems to be one of PREVENTION “housekeeping” and the conditions essential to its effective implementation – who is responsible to do what, when will they do it, how will the vision be framed and the pressures balanced? The underlying cause for fires of this scale would seem to potentially include the difficulty of getting politicians, agencies, interest groups and the civil society to mesh together and work consistently on solutions at varying scales and timeframes – that construct begins to look a lot like some parts of South East Asia.

from PETER MOORE, Australia

Seasons Greetings & Best Wishes for 2004



The International Forestry Review 5(4) December 2003

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