

**CONVENTION ON  
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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE  
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL  
DIVERSITY

Sixth meeting

The Hague, 7-19 April 2002

Item 21 of the provisional agenda\*

**FOREST BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

*Addendum*

**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE WORKSHOP ON FORESTS AND BIOLOGICAL  
DIVERSITY HELD IN ACCRA, FROM 28 TO 30 JANUARY 2002**

*Note by the Executive Secretary*

1. A Workshop on Forests and Biological Diversity, organized jointly by the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), was held in Accra, Ghana from 28 to 30 January 2002. The purpose of the Workshop was:

(a) To share experiences and facilitate synergies between the proposed elements for an expanded work programme on forest biological diversity of the Convention on Biological Diversity, as contained in the annex to recommendation VII/6 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), and the multi-year programme of work and plan of action of the United Nations Forum on Forests; and

(b) To consider ways and means for integrating conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity into various national policies beyond the conservation and forest sectors.

2. The Workshop was hosted by the Government of Ghana, with financial support from the Government of the Netherlands. It was attended by 43 experts, from Argentina, China, Costa Rica, Denmark, Estonia, European Community, Finland, Ghana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Jamaica, Japan, Madagascar, Malaysia, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Netherlands, United States; two representatives of indigenous communities; representatives of member bodies of the Collaborative

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Partnership on Forests (CPF), including the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), the World Bank, and the International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO); the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) and Greenpeace International. One of the co-chairs of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Forest Biological Diversity and two members of the SBSTTA Bureau also participated in the Workshop.

3. The Workshop recognized that forest biodiversity conservation and sustainable use is an integral and essential part of sustainable forest management, and that current efforts to achieve biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in forests are inadequate while forest biodiversity is being lost. Both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests have important and complementary roles to address this problem. The Workshop emphasized that collaboration between the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity can strengthen their ability to support and guide immediate and effective action by governments and other bodies. Such collaboration will also facilitate the integration of forest biodiversity considerations in national development programmes, which will be vital for effective implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

4. The Workshop identified a common basis for collaboration and some immediate actions that would greatly increase collaboration between the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Convention on Biological Diversity and members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests. A proposal for collaboration is presented in the report of the Workshop, which will be made available to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its sixth meeting as an information document (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/INF/7).

5. The Workshop recommended, *inter alia*, that:

(a) The Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests approve the basis for effective collaboration between them, as set out in the report of the Workshop ;

(b) The United Nations Forum on Forests and the Convention on Biological Diversity launch collaboration on forests and biodiversity by developing collaborative actions targeting particularly the following topics:

- (i) Further development and integration of the concepts of ecosystem approach and sustainable forest management,
- (ii) Cross-sectoral impacts on forest biological diversity,
- (iii) Protected forest areas, and
- (iv) Facilitating integration at the national level, especially national forest programmes and national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

6. Suggested details of these collaborative topics are presented in the report of the Workshop.

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