



PAPUA NEW GUINEA FOREST AUTHORITY
NATIONAL FOREST SERVICE

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02nd December, 2013

United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)
UNFF Secretariat
One United Nations Plaza, DCI-1238-1260
New York, NY 10017


**SUBJECT: PAPUA NEW GUINEA'S VIEW ON INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENT
ON FOREST (IAF).**

We thank you for the invitation extended to the government of PNG to air its views on the International Arrangement on Forest (IAF) for consideration during the first AHEG1 meeting, which is scheduled in February 2014.

Considering the importance of the agenda, we submit our views in the format that you have provided. Attached is the completed form.

We thank UNFF Secretariat for its continued effort in enabling sustainable management of all types of forests.

Yours sincerely,



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KANAWI POURU
Managing Director

Country/Organization: Papua New Guinea - Papua New Guinea Forest Authority

Date of Submission: 30/11/13

**UNFF Intersessional Activities on the International Arrangement on Forests
Format for Soliciting Views and Proposals on the International Arrangement on Forests
United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat
July 2013**

1. According to the multi-year programme of work adopted in 2007, the overall theme of the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF11) in 2015 will be “Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward for the international arrangement on forests (IAF).” At this session, the Forum will review the effectiveness of the IAF and decide on its future.¹
2. In preparation for UNFF11 in 2015, the Forum has made a number of decisions during the last fourteen years.² Most recently, Member States through Resolution 10/2 of UNFF10 decided to undertake several intersessional activities to ensure UNFF11 has a strong basis to review the effectiveness of the IAF and make a decision on the future of the IAF.
3. One of the three components of the intersessional activities on the IAF, as outlined in Resolution 10/2 of UNFF10, is to solicit views from Member States and other relevant stakeholders on the IAF. Specifically, the Resolution invites countries, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, its member organizations, other relevant organizations, relevant regional and subregional forest-related mechanisms, institutions, instruments, organizations and processes, major groups and other stakeholders to submit views and proposals to the Forum’s Secretariat on the six key issues set out in paragraph 5 of the same resolution, and the full range of options on the future international arrangement on forests. The UNFF Secretariat should provide the compilation of these views and proposals to the first meeting of the ad hoc expert group (AHEG1) on the IAF³.
4. This format has been prepared by the Forum’s Secretariat to facilitate submission of the inputs on the IAF to AHEG1. The electronic version of this format is available at: (<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/docs/Views-on-IAF.doc>). Member States and other relevant stakeholders are invited to download this format and use it to submit their views and proposals in English. The explanation in each box should not exceed 150 words. Member States and other stakeholders are kindly requested to submit the original copy of the completed format in word processing software, with a scanned copy of the official letter from their respective organization/ministry/mission, via email to: unff@un.org, with copy to Mr. Hossein Moeini-Meybodi at: moeini-meybodi@un.org, and Ms. Thida Sam at: sam2@un.org. All inputs should be sent to the UNFF Secretariat by **30 October 2013**.

¹ Resolution 1 of UNFF7 and its annex (E/2007/42), please see:

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N07/349/31/PDF/N0734931.pdf?OpenElement>

² ECOSOC Resolutions 2000/35 and 2006/49, Resolution 1 of UNFF7 and its annex (E/2007/42) and Resolution 2 of UNFF10 and its annex (E/2013/42)

³ OP 5 and 6 of Resolution 2 of UNFF10 and paragraph 2 of its annex- Please see:

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N13/321/90/PDF/N1332190.pdf?OpenElement>

**Format for Soliciting Views and Proposals on the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF)
July 2013**

Ministry / Organization: Papua New Guinea Forest Authority

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Section A: Full range of options for the IAF

A.1 Please select (with X in front of the options below) and explain the preferred option for the future of the IAF:

- A legally binding instrument on all types of forests
- Strengthening of the current IAF
- Continuation of the current IAF
- Other options (please describe) -

Section B: Performance of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and its processes since 2000, and future options for UNFF

B.1 Please explain if you consider the current UNFF structure and its biennial sessions as sufficient to take necessary actions and to provide policy advice and guidance on all issues related to all types of forests and at all levels: No, We suggest that there should be special advisory group in all areas of forest related issues to give better advice on specific policy issues in specific areas on a international level for member states to re-align their respective country policies to the international policies.

B.2 Please describe the UNFF's performance and list its key achievements in implementing its principal functions, as stated in ECOSOC resolutions 2000/35 and 2006/49⁴: no comments

B.3 Please provide your view on the future options for the UNFF: Future UNFF should be build with capacity to efficiently carry out its mandated task to meeting its objectives. We also suggest that the current voluntary country report should be made mendatory by UNFF and member states should submit report to UNFF biannually for assessment and consider actions for each

⁴ Please see these documents at:

- http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/2000_35_E.pdf
- http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/iaf/2006_49_E.pdf

member states specific areas of improvement and enhancement in their forest programmes

B.4 Please describe the potential roles for UNFF in implementing the UN post-2015 development agenda and the SDGs: An effective future framework for the governance of our world's forests is not possible without substantial involvement from the private sector. Similar statements can increasingly be heard at conferences concerning climate change, sustainable development, and forests. Funding schemes like the Green Climate Fund or Reducing Emissions from Deforestation should be sourced to implement forest related programmes to achieve Strategic Development Goals(SDG)

B.5 Please describe the role and impact of Country-Led Initiatives and ad hoc expert groups in the work of the UNFF: No comments

B.6 Please indicate how effective you consider the engagement of major groups in the work of the UNFF and provide suggestions on their further engagement: The major UNFF groups members at least visit certain UNFF member states to see and learn for themselves through the assessments of each member states voluntary report and report back to UNFF for specific actions to be taken in each member states on forest related programmes.

B.7 Please explain the role and impact of the International Year of Forests and the International Day of Forests in promoting greater awareness and strengthening political and public commitment for forests: Activities undertaken during International year of Forest has sent a strong signal to wider community on the importance of forest,as such there is strong calls for enhancement of good forest law enforcement and governance for managing and utilizing forest with its products and services on SFM priciples

Section C: The Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (Forest Instrument) and the four Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs)

C.1 Please indicate progress in the implementation of the forest instrument:

- Adequate
- Inadequate
- Not sure

C.2 Please provide suggestions on how to improve progress:The Non-Legally binding intrument should be region or sub-region specific for easier implementation due to different socio-economic situations in the respective regions and sub-regions

C.3 Please indicate progress in achieving the GOFs:

| | Adequate | Inadequate | Not sure |
|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| GOF1: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| GOF2: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| GOF3: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| GOF4: | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

C.4 Please provide suggestions on how to improve progress:
Strengthening Partnerships and collaborations at the sub-regional level are therefore essential in ensuring that we make effective contributions resulting in positive impacts on the ground. One of the main strategies in this regard is to assist regional focal point for forests and trees, effectively coordinating with other donors, agencies, programmes and projects to avoid duplication of efforts and enhancing synergies, working towards deepening partnerships and collaborations. The Forests and Trees Team organizes and implements activities at both the national and regional levels in responding to the needs of the sub-region.

C.5 Please explain how implementation of the forest instrument has contributed to the implementation of forest-related international conventions, and vice versa: No comments

C.6 Please describe how the forest instrument and the GOFs can contribute to the post-2015 UN development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals: No comments

Section D: The Forum's Secretariat

D.1 Please indicate if you consider the structure, human and financial resources of the compact Secretariat of the UNFF adequate to fulfill its mandates:

Adequate
 Inadequate
 Not sure

Additional explanation: Funding has always been a constraint to UNFF. There should be closer collaborations with Major donors and countries to partner with for funding support to UNFF to function effectively

D.2 Please provide suggestion(s) on strengthening the Secretariat of the Forum to enable it to fulfill its functions more effectively: Same as D.1

D.3 Please provide suggestion(s) on how the Forum Secretariat's role, as a CPF member and as CPF secretariat, should be strengthened: Through collaborative partnership agreement so that each member is obliged to meet its obligation

Section E: CPF and CPF Member Organizations

E.1 Please explain the impacts and sufficiency of the programs and actions taken by CPF and CPF member organizations in implementing resolutions and supporting the work of UNFF since its inception: No comments

E.2 Please describe how the CPF and its member organizations can further contribute to the work of the UNFF, and how to ensure availability of necessary resources for its activities in support of the work of the Forum: No comments

Section F: Financing options and strategies

F.1 Please provide views on financing options and strategies, including the creation of a voluntary Global Forest Fund, to generate resources from all sources for sustainable management of all types of forests and trees outside forests: Major countries and donor partners should show and make commitments under specific agreements

F.2 Please suggest concrete steps that UNFF, CPF members and other organizations should undertake to develop forest financing options: International agreement with donor partners and countries so that the obliged obligations in funding commitments are met