

**United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)
Bureau of the Eighth Session (UNFF8 Bureau)**

Minutes of the Fourth meeting

10 September (8:00 – 10:00 PM) and 12 September (9:00 – 10:00 AM) during the
Suriname CLI meeting, 8-12 September 2008

Paramaribo, Suriname

4. Other matters

The Bureau was updated on the status of the staffing in the Secretariat. No news on the appointment of the new Director was available at the time of the meeting. The Bureau was informed that a Junior Professional Officer (JPO) from Finland was expected to join the Secretariat soon and the recruitment process for the P4 post redeployed from within DESA started.

The Bureau agreed that another meeting would be beneficial before the AHEG meeting in November. It is suggested that a meeting be held on Sunday, 9 November in Vienna. In addition, the members would communicate to the Secretariat on a possible date to have a brief tele-conference in mid-October to take stock of the preparations for AHEG meeting. The Secretariat would propose a possible date after receiving these communications.

Summary of discussions between the Bureau members and the co-organizers of the CLI (12 September 2008, 5 PM)

- The Bureau thanked the co-organizers for the successful and highly relevant CLI in support of the UNFF.
- All agreed that the CLI had sensitized the countries on the challenges ahead at the AHEG and UNFF8. The information provided and interactive discussions held at the CLI would definitely facilitate the Expert Group meeting's work in developing proposals on a voluntary global financial mechanism/portfolio approach/forest financing framework. It was noted that the availability of the CLI report to the participants of AHEG in advance of the meeting would be highly desirable and the CLI sponsors indicated this would be the case.
- The UNFF Secretariat informed the co-organizers about the documents prepared for the AHEG (Agenda, Note by the Secretariat, studies of FAO and AGF consultant on the mapping exercise).
- The Secretariat also advised the co-organizers on the process to submit the CLI report to the Secretary-General for its inclusion as an official document of UNFF8.
- The Bureau and Secretariat suggested the co-organizers to give consideration as to how best to present the CLI outcome at the AHEG.
- In response to the request by delegates in New York during the briefing of 28 August on CLI, the CLI co-organizers would soon arrange a briefing in New York to brief the 2nd Committee members of the General Assembly on the outcome of the CLI. This would be coordinated by the Permanent Mission of Suriname.
- The co-organizers expressed their appreciation to the support received from the Bureau and the Secretariat for the CLI.