

Second Session of the Assembly
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Agenda Item 2.1

A-02 (II-19S)

Proposed Recommendations from the International Workshop on Achievement and the Way Forward

1. The International Workshop on Achievement and the Way Forward was organized on 23 April 2019 to share the past experiences and achievements of AFoCO and explore on the way forward by the Strategic Plan. The Workshop was attended by the delegates and representatives of the Embassies of the member countries of AFoCO, as well as international organizations such as Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), Green Climate Fund (GCF), and relevant institutions and agencies in Korea.
2. The key proposed recommendations from the workshop are as follows.

Exploring regional actions and approaches

- a. There are areas of common interests among the international organizations in the region. AFoCO needs to explore regional actions or approaches with partners like Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), Green Climate Fund (GCF) among others to avoid duplication of activities and reduce transaction cost.

Converging different actors in forestry within each country

- b. Different institutions or agencies are dealing with international efforts related to forest sector or different sectors that are related to forestry. These actions are all converging at the community level. AFoCO as an inter-governmental organization in the region can provide a solid platform and channel to promote collaboration among different actors in forestry within the country. It could help AFoCO to be more responsive to the needs of the members in line with the countries national strategies in forestry.

Learning from experiences, multiplying best practices, and using available resources

- c. Capacity building is an important component of all activities. It should not only address learning past experiences, but it should address how to apply them to the current environment and needs effectively.
- d. It is important to recognize that there is no need to reinvent every time. There is a value in replicating good practices and sharing properly. Transforming proven technology policies into actions is the way how AFoCO can demonstrate its action-oriented approaches. For this, AFoCO is recommended to take the lead in stocktaking the good practices of each member countries and disseminating knowledges and experiences to other countries in need.
- e. AFoCO also needs to consider how to utilize the AFoCO RETC as a platform to communicate

with member countries and potential organizations so that the AFoCO can take a key role to make a connection among them.

Developing measurable outputs and outcome

- f. There are many great ideas for projects. It is also important how to link these great ideas and activities to measurable outputs and outcome by developing good criteria and indicators to see what happens in 5 years or 10 years.

Overcoming challenges of bureaucracy

- g. The countries in the Asian region are less active than other regions, considering there are a short time and a small number of funds available to deal with big problems. AFoCO needs to find ways to overcome the challenges of bureaucracy which cause delays in the implementation of projects. Concerning the domestic requirements of the member countries, the project manual is needed to be revised.

Keeping up with changing environment, needs, and technology

- h. The activities need to reflect the new and changing environment. The Secretariat needs to be aware of relevant new and emerging mechanisms and platforms that may be applicable in delivering the activities effectively.

- 3. The Assembly may wish to consider the recommendation from the workshop and provide further guidance on future activities.
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