

Ninth Session of the Assembly  
25-26 October 2023, Seoul, Republic of Korea

## Agenda Item 4

### **Update on Partner Countries and Partner Organization**

#### **I. Background**

1. In reference to Decision 41-V-21R on Promotion and Enhancement of Partnership, Partner Countries and Partner Organizations provided a new category of participation and engagement for AFoCO. The Sixth Session of the Assembly subsequently endorsed the Rules of Procedures for Partner Countries and Partner Organizations of the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization. The list of Partners endorsed by the foregoing sessions of the Assembly is in Annex-1.

#### **II. Update on the Intention received from new prospective Partner Organizations**

##### **International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)**

1. The International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) submitted the letter of intent on 21 August 2023. IUFRO is a non-profit global organization and the leading network for forest science cooperation with the mission to advance research excellence and knowledge sharing, and to foster the development of science-based solutions to forest-related challenges for the benefit of forests and people on all levels. It unites 15,000 researchers in over 125 countries. As such, IUFRO is well-positioned to collaborate with AFoCO on a range of issues of mutual concern and interest.

2. The potential areas of mutual benefits are:

- a. Forest and landscape restoration to contribute to livelihood improvement and the enhancement of ecological integrity;
- b. Forest and climate change for building resilient future landscapes;
- c. Innovation in the development and use of wood and non-wood products from forests.
- d. Mutual participation in an observer capacity in meetings of the AFoCO Assembly and the IUFRO Board;
- e. Provision of scientific expertise by IUFRO to AFoCO for project appraisal, design, implementation and evaluation;
- f. Collaboration in capacity development activities for junior researchers and forestry professionals;
- g. Sharing of information through AFoCO's and IUFRO's varied information channels and other mechanisms, and joint publications
- h. Seeking opportunities for institutional exchange and mutual learning.

### III. Points for consideration

1. In the review of the intention submitted, the Secretariat has taken due account of the Roles of Partners as provided in Rule 3 of the Decision 41-V-21R-ADD-1 Rules of Procedures for Partners Countries and Partner Organizations of AFoCO.
2. The Secretariat views that the IUFRO has complementary strengths to provide contributions or develop collaborative works with AFoCO. The IUFRO is a competent and credible organization that could support the vision of AFoCO and ensure compliance with the policies and relevant rules of AFoCO.
3. The Assembly may wish to:
  - Take note of the information; and
  - Consider and endorse IUFRO as a Partner Organization.

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*Queries on the content of the document may be addressed to:*

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## List of Partner Organizations

*as of 1 October 2023*

No	Partner Organizations
<b>International Organizations/Entities</b>	
1	CIFOR-ICRAF
2	Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)
3	International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)
4	Non-Timber Forest Products-Exchange Programme-Asia (NFTP-EP)
5	RECOFTC
6	World Food Programme (WFP)-Kyrgyzstan
<b>Government /Public Institution</b>	
7	Chamber of Forest Engineers of Turkiye
8	GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit)
9	Korea Arboreta and Garden Institute
10	Forest Aviation Headquarters of the Korea Forest Service
11	Korea Forest Welfare Institute (FOWI)
12	Korea Forestry Promotion Institute
13	Korea Foundation for International Healthcare (KOFIH)
14	Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)
15	Korea-Mekong Forest Cooperation Center (KM FCC)
16	Korea National Arboretum
17	National Institute of Forest Science (NIFOS)
18	Peace Forest Work
19	Ojeong Resilience Institute
<b>Private Sector</b>	
20	Dream Sharing Social Cooperative
21	SKForest
22	MUSTGAMES
23	Woori Financial Group
<b>Academia</b>	
24	Graduate School of International Agricultural Technology (GSIAT) of Seoul National University