

- The need to hold a series of similar meetings between the first and second meeting of the AHEG.

Decision: The Bureau took note of the report of this informal meeting among regional processes, regional development banks and the UNFFS.

2- Update on the work of the Facilitative Process

The Secretariat presented the Bureau with an update on progress made in the Facilitative Process that was kick-started in October 2009 with the launching of a project to identify gaps, obstacles and opportunities in forest financing in Small Island Developing States and Low Forest Cover Countries. The Secretariat provided information, especially with regard to the seven country case-studies selected for this project. Out of the eleven papers that constitute the output of the first component of this project, eight are currently in the form of first drafts with the remaining three expected before 20 July. Final versions will be ready ahead of the first meeting of the AHEG in September 2010.

Decision: The Bureau took note of the progress report and emphasized the need to maintain a cross-sectoral approach to addressing forest financing, particularly in both these categories of countries. The Bureau also considered presentation of the preliminary results of these studies at the AHEG-1 would be extremely helpful for the consideration of the experts.

3- Preparations for the Ninth Session of the UN Forum on Forests

i. Documentations and the expected outcomes

The Bureau received a progress report on the preparations, including documentation, for the UNFF9. Preparations are advanced on both organizational matters and documentation for UNFF 9. A draft containing a preliminary organization of work for the period 24th January – 4 February, 2011 was presented to the Bureau for their consideration. Twenty five documents are planned for the session of which nine are expected from the Major Groups. Member States, CPF members and Major groups have been invited by the Secretariat to provide their input for the preparation of the Secretary General reports. In response to the inquiry from the Bureau on the status of the preparation of the Mid-Term Review, the secretariat informed the Bureau that there is far too little input from Member States so far due to various reasons including lack of resources. A questionnaire has been sent out to get regional and sub-regional inputs, particularly on enhancing the reporting on progress made on implementation of the NLBI on all types of forests (Mid-term Review) and the achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests. A similar questionnaire will be sent soon to the Member States on this matter. Input has also been requested from Member States, CPF members and Major Groups in respect to their planned activities for the IYF. The Secretariat invited the Bureau to bring this important issue to the attention of their respective constituencies, to mobilize support and sufficient resources for this review.

The Bureau was then presented with an update on the work of

some other technical matters. The Bureau also agreed that a ministerial declaration by the High Level Segment should be an outcome of UNFF9.

ii.

work carried out for almost 2 decades by several forest related international and regional fora.

Decisions: The Bureau agreed to inform their groups of the developments on the issue of sustainable use and to respond to the CBD notification before 15 July 2010 with concrete recommendations aimed at revising the draft terms of reference. The Bureau also affirmed the importance of ensuring that the convening of any such AHTEG on forests and non-timber forest products would be in collaboration with the FAO, the UNFF Secretariat and other CPF members.

On a separate point, the Bureau members recognized the need for UNFF focal points to be actively involved in forest discussions at COP 10, especially the discussion on sustainable use, which is currently bracketed in the text.

iv. Upcoming CLIs in 2010

The Workshop on Forest governance, decentralization and REDD in Latin America, a Country Led Initiative by the Governments of Switzerland and Mexico in support of the work of UNFF will be held from 31 August to 3 September 2010 in Oaxaca, Mexico. The Secretariat informed members that the Bureau members were invited to the event, provided them with a copy of the invitation letter, and requested to be copied should the Bureau members contact the organizers of the Workshop regarding travel support and logistics, so that their request can be followed up.

v. Major Groups Initiative

The UNFFS briefed the Bureau on the preparations for the first UNFF Major Groups-Led Initiative (MGI) “Applying Sustainable Forest Management to Poverty Reduction: Strengthening the Multi-Stakeholder Approach within the UNFF”, to be held from 26-30 July 2010, in Accra-Ghana. The MGI aims at supporting the UNFF process by enhancing meaningful participation of Major Groups in the policy forum and building momentum towards implementation of the NLBI on all types of forests and the GOF. The Bureau received an update on the progress made since the MGI preparatory meeting in December 2009 supported by the Secretariat, including the programme, the preparation of case-studies, the launch of MGI website (www.mgi-forests.org), as well as the support so far received from donors and from the host-country government.

Decision: The Bureau took note that the MGI was under-funded. The Bureau further requested the Secretariat to finalize guidelines for CLI/OLIs in support of UNFF to ensure their more effective contributions to the work of the Forum, to be considered during its ninth session.

vi. MDG Summit and Rio+20

The High Level Plenary Meeting (HLPM) of the General Assembly will be convened in 20 to 22 September 2010 in New York to review the progress towards the achievement of

need to have the logo launched at the earliest date possible to enable member States to