

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Greetings from Kuala Lumpur!

This year, 2012, is another milestone year for APAFRI. Once in three years, APAFRI must have its all-members General Assembly. As the last General Assembly was held in Kuala Lumpur in 2009, the next one, the sixth since its establishment in 1995, must be convened this year. The APAFRI Secretariat had, since mid last year, started to scout around for a willing member institution to host this coming General Assembly. Traditionally, the General Assembly would be held in association with a major regional event to attract the attendance of representatives from member institutions. As Kuala Lumpur has been the venue for the past two General Assemblies, the Secretariat would like to hold the next General Assembly in another Asian city.

Dr Xu Daping, the Director of Research Institute of Tropical Forestry (RITF), Chinese Academy of Forestry, who generously hosted the Asia and the Pacific Workshop – Multinational and Transboundary Conservation of Valuable and Endangered Forest Tree Species last December in Guangzhou, China, has again graciously consented to host this coming General Assembly. The APAFRI Executive Committee Members were informed about this, and none had voiced any objection. Further discussions with RITF had resulted in confirming the date for the next General Assembly – 31 August 2012 in Guangzhou, China.

The Secretariat has since early May, sent out the announcement and request member institutions to nominate official representatives to this General Assembly. A reminder was sent out in mid June. The announcement and all relevant documents had also been posted on APAFRI website. Members are strongly urged to attend this General Assembly. An important agenda of this General Assembly is to elect the Executive



Committee which would guide the Association for the next three years.

APAFRI has received several requests for support and contributions to events organized by member institutions. Traditionally APAFRI will contribute a very modest amount to be used to support the participation of staff from member institutions to an event organized by a member institution. This year, APAFRI has thus far agreed to provide support to the Indian Plywood Industries Research & Training Institute, Forest Research Institute Malaysia,

Gadjah Mada University Indonesia, Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, and University Putra Malaysia. Whenever possible too, APAFRI will also assist in promoting the events organized by member institutions by circulating the announcements to those on our rather long mailing list, as well as posting on our website.

APAFRI has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet) for closer collaboration. APAFRI has also secured funding from APFNet for a project on studying forest transition in a number of countries in the region. After a slow start, the project will have its first full-member meeting in July which hopefully would accelerate the progress of its various activities.

I would like to thank all agencies and member institutions that have contributed, in one way or another, supporting APAFRI during the past years. We look forward to receiving comments and suggestions to improve our service to the members, as well as the whole forestry fraternity in the region.

With best regards,

Abd Latif Mohmod
Chairman, APAFRI
June 2012

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

THE 6th APAFRI GENERAL ASSEMBLY

31 August 2012

Guangzhou, China

The once-in-three-year APAFRI General Assembly is due in 2012. This shall be the sixth since its establishment in 1995.

Article X and XI of the APAFRI Constitution provide guidelines for conducting the General Assembly:

ARTICLE X The General Assembly

General Assembly of the Association shall be represented by one delegate from each member institution.

The General Assembly shall meet once every three years after the close of the financial year but not later than the month of April on a date and at a time and place to be decided by the Executive Committee.

All decisions shall be taken by a simple majority vote. In the case of equality of votes, the Chairperson shall have a casting vote.

The quorum for the General Assembly shall be 33% of the membership.

If half an hour after the time appointed for the meeting of the General Assembly a quorum is not present, the members present shall have the power to proceed with the business of the day but they shall not have the power to alter the constitution of the Association or make decisions affecting the whole membership.

Notice of meeting together with an agenda, minutes of the previous General Assembly and an audited

account of the Association shall be forwarded to the members at least 30 days before the General Assembly.

An Extraordinary General Assembly may be convened whenever the Executive Committee deems it necessary or at the joint request in writing of not less than 1/5 of the members, stating the objects and reason for such a meeting.

Notice and agenda for an Extraordinary General Assembly shall be forwarded by the Executive Secretary to all members at least 15 days before the date fixed for the meeting.

The provisions regarding quorum and postponement of the triennial General Assembly shall also apply to an Extraordinary General Assembly but with the proviso that if no quorum is present after half an hour from the time appointed for the Extraordinary General Assembly requisitioned by the members, the meeting shall be cancelled, no Extraordinary General Assembly shall be requisitioned for the same purpose until after the lapse of at least six months from the date thereof.

ARTICLE XI Duties of the General Assembly

The General Assembly shall determine:

- The policy of the Association;
- Review and endorse the programme of work and budget prepared by the Executive Committee;
- Review progress;

- Exercise other powers conferred upon it by the constitution.
- Elect the Executive Committee and appoint auditors.



The Fifth APAFRI General Assembly was convened on 4 October 2009 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The next one, the Sixth General Assembly, thus should be held during the second-half of 2012. Traditionally, the General Assembly would be held in association with a major regional event to attract the attendance of representatives from member institutions. As Kuala Lumpur has been the venue for the past two General Assemblies, it is highly desirable that the next General Assembly be convened in another Asian city. The Secretariat had since mid last year, exploring the possibility of convening the next General Assembly in a city other than Kuala Lumpur.

It was quite a relief when Dr Xu Daping, Director of the Research Institute of Tropical Forestry, who is also a member of the current APAFRI Executive Committee, during an APAFRI workshop in December last year, offered to host this coming General Assembly in conjunction with RITF's 50th Anniversary.

The RITF offer was made known to all members of the Executive Committee, and when none had voiced any objection, the Secretariat had initiated discussions with RITF. It was then decided that the next General Assembly, the sixth since APAFRI's establishment, shall convene on 31 August 2012 in Guangzhou, China. Members are encouraged to stay on after the General Assembly, to participate in an International Symposium on Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests, 1-3 September 2012, Guangzhou, China, which is a part of RITF's Golden Jubilee (50th Anniversary) Celebration.

The Announcement with the relevant documents had been sent out to all members since early May, and a reminder was sent in mid June. All these were also posted on APAFRI website (<http://www.apafri.org/ga2012.html>). More information will be sent to all members nearer to the event.



This once-in-three-year General Assembly is the platform for all members to voice concern, as well as to exercise the rights to elect the Executive Committee, which would guide the Secretariat to provide the services that meet their needs for the next three years.

Current APAFRI Executive Committee:

Chair: Forest Research Institute Malaysia
Dr Abd Latif Mohmod

Vice-chair: Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education
Dr V K Bahuguna

Immediate Past Chair: Sri Lanka Forest Department
Mr K.P. Ariyadasa

Members:

- Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau
Dr Aida Lapis
- Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute (Japan)
Dr Isamu Okochi
- Research Institute of Tropical Forestry
Prof Dr Xu Daping
- Institute of Forestry and Environmental Services (Bangladesh)
Prof M Al Amin
- PNG Forest Research Institute
Prof Simon Saulei
- Forestry Research and Development Agency (Indonesia)
Mr Wisnu Prastowo

The composition and functions of the Executive Committee, as well as a number of other related information, are encapsulated in APAFRI's Constitution. A copy of this could be viewed at APAFRI's website.

In preparation for this event, the Secretariat has since early 2011 sent out reminders regarding updating the member institutions' profile and contact person details, as well as overdue annual membership fees. Two rounds of reminders were sent out since then; the last was in April this year. Members are reminded again here to check with the Secretariat on the status of their membership. The Secretariat would appreciate if all members can take appropriate actions and submit to the Secretariat the official nomination form nominating an official representative to this General Assembly. Your early response will greatly facilitate the smooth organizing of this important event.

(For more information, visit APAFRI website at <http://www.apafri.org/ga2012.html> or contact secretariat@apafri.org)



APAFRI signed MOU with APFNet for closer collaboration...



APAFRI recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet). Under this MOU, both parties are committed to collaborate and cooperate in activities of mutual interest, and also actively participate in each other's programmes and activities.

The establishment of APFNet was proposed by China and co-sponsored by Australia and the United States, and was endorsed by the 15th APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in September 2007 in Sydney, Australia. China and Australia provided initial funding to launch the Network and support activities of the Network in the early stages. Voluntary contributions from other donors, including corporate entities and international organizations, with the possibility of establishing a trust fund and seeking funding from APEC will be explored with further development of the Network.

Some economies in the Asia-Pacific region have accumulated abundant experiences and expertise in sustainable forest management and rehabilitation, while others are in urgent need of useful information and technical assistance to address deforestation and forest degradation. APFNet is thus established to facilitate the bridging of the gap and share experiences and expertise among economies in the Asia-Pacific region.

APFNet is an open regional organization promoting and improving sustainable forest management and

rehabilitation in the Asia-Pacific region. The Network would like to collaborate with all regional forest initiatives to promote and improve sustainable forest management and rehabilitation in the Asia-Pacific region through capacity-building, information-sharing, regional policy dialogues and pilot projects.

The Network will collaborate with all regional forest initiatives and processes to identify synergies, avoid duplication, identify opportunities and facilitate cooperation. The Network is intended to support the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and the implementation of the Non-legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests, including the Global Objectives on Forests. The Network will also complement the Australian Government's International Forest and Carbon Initiative, as well as the regional work of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the UN.

APFNet funded a project to study forest transition in selected countries in Asia Pacific proposed by APAFRI, with technical inputs from Renmin University China, Seoul National University and Kyoto University. The two-year project, involving at least eight countries in the region, to be executed by APAFRI, was approved and officially launched in November last year. Focal points have been identified to conduct case studies in China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia and the Philippines.



NEW PUBLICATION

Asia and the Pacific Workshop

Multinational and Transboundary Conservation of Valuable and Endangered Forest Tree Species

Extended Abstracts from the Workshop held in Guangzhou, China, 5–7 December 2011.

Editors: Sim Heok-Choh, Syuqiyah Abdul Hamid, Li Mei



INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF TROPICAL FORESTS

1–3 September 2012

Guangzhou, China

The Research Institute of Tropical Forestry (RITF), one of the branch institutes of Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF), would be celebrating its 50th Anniversary on 1 September 2012. As part of the celebration, RITF will organize an International Symposium on Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests, which shall provide a golden opportunity to exchange and share experiences and knowledge on cultivation, protection, utilization and sustainable management of tropical forests with scientists worldwide.

The main topics that the symposium shall cover are: cultivation and utilization of tropical forest species; biological diversity and conservation of tropical forests; ecosystem study of natural tropical forests; and genetic improvement and sustainable management of tropical tree plantations.

The symposium will be held at the Guangzhou Baiyun International Convention Centre (<http://www.gzbicc.com>), Guangzhou, China.

Two field trips will be organized:

Route 1:

Within Guangdong Province: Guangzhou – Zhaoqing – Guangzhou, visit fast-growing valuable tropical tree plantations. Leave Guangzhou at about 9:00 on 2 September, back to Guangzhou at about 16:30 on 3 September.

Route 2:

Between Guangdong and Hainan Provinces: Guangzhou – Sanya – Jianfengling – Sanya – Guangzhou, visit natural rain forests and ecosystem station. Leave Guangzhou at about 9:00 on 2 September, back to Guangzhou at about 18:00 on 3 September.

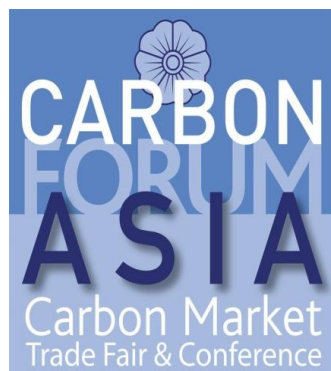
(For more information, contact Dr Li Mei (limei3043@126.com; limei3043@ritf.ac.cn))

7th CARBON FORUM ASIA

30–31 October 2012

Bangkok, Thailand

The 7th edition of Carbon Forum Asia (CFA) will be held from 30–31 October 2012 at the Centara Grand and Bangkok Convention Centre at Central World, Bangkok. The event is hosted by the Thailand Greenhouse Gas Management Organization, organized in partnership with the Asian Development Bank and supported by the Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau.



APA-FRI Members are invited to participate in the conference and trade fair.

Normal two-day entrance ticket is EUR 990, but APA-FRI Members will get

special discounts as shown in the table below:

Admission Fee: 2-day entrance ticket (Conference and Trade Fair)	
Developed Countries	
(Normal)	EUR 990
APA-FRI members	EUR 790
Developing Countries	
(Normal)	EUR 450
APA-FRI members	EUR 395

Registration form is available at CFA website (<http://www.carbonforumasia.com/>).



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FUTURE OF PANEL INDUSTRY – CHALLENGES AND KEY ISSUES

26–28 September 2012

Bangalore, India

The Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute (IPIRTI) has been involved in the development and growth of the plywood and panel industry in the country since its inception in 1962. The Institute is mandated for research and training on all aspects related to production of plywood and other panel products from wood and other lignocellulosic materials. IPIRTI and the industry jointly have contributed tremendously to the self-reliance of the wood panel industry with respect to technology, mechanization, equipment, and standardization of processes and products.

Technological innovation in recent years has proven to be the prime mover for the remarkable development of the panel industries all over the world. The challenges of the future are to make appropriate choices in shaping technological innovations to meet various global issues. Sharing of information related to raw material demand-supply gap, development of bio-adhesive and eco-friendly wood preservation techniques, energy saving and cost effective technologies, product standardization

and certification, are some of the important key issues for the future sustainable development of the industry.

To deliberate on the above mentioned issues, IPIRTI is pleased to organize an International Conference on “Future of Panel Industry-Challenges and Key Issues” scheduled to be held 26 –28 September 2012 in Bangalore, India, to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the Institute.

The Conference aims to gather up to 200 experts from the scientific, technical and industrial communities to encourage the exchange of knowledge and dissemination of information on the latest advances and future challenges in the field of plywood and panel industries. APAFRI has agreed to provide support to cover the participation of staff members from APAFRI member institutions.

(For more information, visit the websites at www.ipirti.gov.in/conference and www.bamboocomposites.com)

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE TO FOREST PESTS AND DISEASES IN THE TROPICS

8–10 October 2012

Yogyakarta, Indonesia

The IUFRO Working Party on Diseases and Pests of Tropical Forest Trees is organizing an International Conference to discuss the serious impacts to forest pests and diseases in the tropics induced by global climate change.

The conference will be held in Universitas Gadjah Mada Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 8–10 October 2012. The main objectives are to update the status of pests and diseases in the tropics, and also intensify communication, collaboration and linkage among the tropical countries. APAFRI is one of the sponsors of this conference.

Topics that will be discussed include;

- Forest Trees Pests and Diseases Biology and Epidemics
- Management of Pests and Diseases
- Emerging Pests and Diseases into New Areas
- Updating Information on the Occurrence of Pests and Diseases in the Planted Forest, Community Forest and Natural Ecosystem

The Conference will include field trip which will visit a *Falcataria moluccana* plantation at the community forest of Wonosobo district, and tour the Merapi Mountain.

(For more information, contact Dr. Sri Rahayu (tatarahayu@yahoo.com))



INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE (FORGRAD 2012)

22–27 October 2012

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

In the past few years, tropical rainforests have been diminishing rapidly from the earth surface. The forests have been cleared and fragmented for fanning, establishment of forest or agricultural plantation and settlements. The destruction that has been fuelled by rapid population growth and by extensive infrastructure projects; is a threat to our own quality of life and global climate while placing existence of species and valuable services provided by biological diversity in the horizon. Such human-made calamities pose one of the most important global challenges facing humankind worldwide.

As students of forestry, guardian of the forests, we are compelled to make great changes from these challenges. From that point of view, how do we change our materialistic society which has been based on mass production and consumption? The quality of life is always lived in harmony with nature, and we must now try to understand how to restore this way of life once again. This message is pertinent not only to specific region but

to all of us, inhabitants of the world. This is a real challenge to young foresters, scientists and nature lovers. Thus, it is important for us to review the causes of deteriorating environment, rapid destruction of the forests and to understand their roles and functions.

In addressing this issue, Forestry Graduate Student Association of the Faculty of Forestry, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) in collaboration with Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM) and Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institution (APAFRI) will be organizing an International Forestry Graduate Student Conference (FORGRAD 2012) from 22–27 October 2012.

Participants are welcomed to contribute papers to the FORGRAD2012. There will be both oral and poster presentations.

(Further details are available from UPM Website at: <http://www.forr.upm.edu.my>)

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRADITIONAL FOREST-RELATED KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURE FOR GREEN ECONOMY

5–8 November 2012

Yangling, China

The role of traditional forest-related knowledge (TFRK) and culture has been steadily gaining recognition in resolving environment and development issues. Ethnic groups and communities in the Asia-Pacific region have accumulated a wealth of practical experiences in local forest resource management and utilization. These experiences have been guiding local communities in a reasonable and orderly way of forest resource utilization, which brings numerous benefits contributing to poverty alleviation and sustainable livelihoods for the communities.

The impact of traditional forest-related knowledge and culture on the forest resources management, ecological conservation and sustainable development is no less than the modern scientific knowledge, and it is an important element in the formation and development of forestry science and technology. The development of modern forestry must begin with a foundation built from a fuller understanding of local traditional forest-related knowledge, and supplementing and complementing by

assimilating modern scientific achievements. Amalgamating traditional forest-related knowledge with modern sciences contributes to building a harmonious, prosperous and friendly eco-civilized society against the challenges from global climate change and globalization,

The main themes of the conference are:

- Documentation and protection of TFRK and culture
- Role of TFRK on nature resource sustainable management
- TFRK under the context of globalization and commercialization
- Ecological culture and rural community development
- Mainstreaming of TFRK
- Relationship between TFRK and resource sustainable utilization

(For more information, please contact: Prof. Liu Jinlong (liujinlong_jl@hotmail.com) or Mr. Luo Yaofeng (lyfcl@163.com))



UPCOMING EVENTS

Society of Wood Science and Technology 55th International Convention

Date : 27–31 August 2012
Venue : Beijing, China
Contact : SWST, P.O. Box 6155
Person : Monona, WI 53716-6155
Email : vicki@swst.org
Tel : (608) 577-1342
Fax : (608) 467-8979
Web : <http://www.swst.org/meetings/AM12/index.html>

International Training Workshop on Integrated Sustainable Development in Mountain Areas and Non-Timber-Forest-Products (NTFPs) Industrial and Commercial Development

Date : 3–23 September 2012
Venue : Zhejiang Province
Contact : Zhu Zhaohua,
Person : Jin Wei
Email : zhazhu@inbar.int ;
Wjin@inbar.int
Tel : 86-10-64706161 ext. 310
Fax : 86-10-64702166
Web : <http://www.inbar.int>

IUCN World Conservation Congress

Date : 6–15 September 2012
Venue : Jeju, South Korea

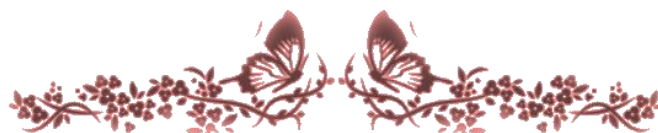
Contact : Congress Secretariat (General
Person : inquiries), IUCN , Rue Mauverney 28
1196 Gland , Switzerland
Tel : +41 22 999 0336
Email : +41 22 9990002
Web : <http://www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org>

International Greening Education Event

Date : 10–12 October 2012
Venue : Karlsruhe, Germany
Email : mail@etechgermany.com
Fax : 0049-721- 476 89 53
Web : <http://www.etechgermany.com/IGEE2012.pdf>

24th Session of the International Poplar Commission

Date : 30 October – 2 November 2012
Venue : Dehradun, India
Contact : Indian Council of Forestry Research
Person : and Education,
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun,
Uttarakhand, Pin 248006, India.
Email : IPC2012-India@icfre.org
adg_pf@icfre.org
Tel : +91 135 2754882
Fax : +91 135 2757775
Web : <http://ipc2012.icfre.gov.in>



The APAFRI Newsletter is compiled by the Secretariat. Your comments, articles and/or suggestions are gratefully received.

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- ❖ Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM)
- ❖ Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet)