



Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation

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Announcement

APFNet Steering Committee Launch Meeting

Wednesday 1 June 2011

Beijing, China

Background

Since the initiation of the Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation (APFNet) in 2008, rounds of consultations have been held to map out the governance structure of APFNet. Based on the Framework Document adopted by the three co-founders of APFNet (i.e. China, the U.S, and Australia), major stakeholders at the International Symposium on APFNet Development (held in August, 2009, in Jiujiang, China) had envisaged broad institutional arrangement for the Network, including the establishment of a Steering Committee.

In the following consultations in 2010 and early 2011, it has been agreed by the co-founders and other partners in the region to establish a Steering Committee as an advisory body of APFNet to provide technical support on the strategic development and operation modalities of APFNet. According to the consensus, the expected composition of the founding Steering Committee would be:

- Economies: China, the United States, Australia, Viet Nam, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand;
- International Organizations: FAO AP regional office, ITTO and TNC.

The composition reflects a balanced regional representation of economies of different forest trends and involves key international organizations with leading forestry expertise as well.

The Steering Committee will make recommendations to the development of APFNet on:

- The Strategic Plan;
- Membership development and partnership exploration;
- Annual work plans and budgets;
- Priority areas for APFNet engagement and project development; and
- The long-term financial mechanism.

Expected meeting outcomes

The meeting will:

- Formally launch the APFNet Steering Committee;
- Adopt the Rules of Procedure of the Steering Committee;
- Provide feedback on draft APFNet Charter; and
- Review to finalize the APFNet Strategic Plan 2011-2015.

Date and Venue

- Date: 1 June 2011, Wednesday, one day prior to the 2nd APFNet Focal Points Annual Meeting
- Venue: Xinhai Jinjiang Hotel (61 Jinbao Street, Dongcheng District, Beijing, China)

An optional one-day field trip around Beijing will be arranged on 3 June 2011.

Note: an information note will be issued for further details.

Major Agenda Items

The meeting will be facilitated by David Cassells, international consultant to APFNet.

Tentative meeting agenda items will include:

- Opening ceremony and formal launch of the Steering Committee;
- Official announcement of the first Chair of the Steering Committee;
- Adopt the meeting agenda;
- Adopt the Rules of Procedure for the Steering Committee;
- Provide feedback on the first draft of the APFNet Charter;
- Review the APFNet Strategic Plan 2011-2015;
- Meeting conclusion;
- Time and venue of the second meeting.

Working language English

Funding mechanism

APFNet will cover the reasonable expenses of one participant from each developing economy to attend the meeting, including a return economy class airfare to Beijing, transfers from the airport to the hotel and accommodation during the meeting, as well as a certain amount of per diem according to APFNet regulations.

For more information please contact:

Ms. CHEN Lin

APFNet Secretariat

E-mail: chen_lin@apfnet.cn

Tel: (0086) 10-84218108

or

Ms. LU Qian

APFNet Secretariat

E-mail: lu_qian@apfnet.cn

Fax: (0086) 10-84216958