
International Union of Forestry Research Organisations (IUFRO) XIXth World Congress

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More than 2300 delegates from about 80 countries attended the XIXth IUFRO World Congress. The Congress venue, the Palais des Congr s provided excellent facilities and ample space for the delegates who attended more than 70 keynote addresses and business and technical sessions during the five days of the Congress.

As the New Zealand representative on the International Council of IUFRO, I attended the International Council meetings. Each IUFRO member country was represented by one official representative. The major outcomes of the International Council meetings were:

- Recognition that Spanish would be added to the official languages recognised by IUFRO (German, French and English are the other official IUFRO languages);
- Election of Dr Salleh Mohd. Nor from Malaysia as the new President of IUFRO. Dr Salleh replaced Dr Robert Buckman, USA;
- Election of two new Vice Presidents of IUFRO – Dr Jeffrey Burley, United Kingdom and Dr James Cayford, Canada;
- Appointment of 24 new Divisional Co-ordinators and Deputy Co-ordinators for the six divisions of IUFRO;
- Appointment of nine new regional representatives for the IUFRO Executive Board. Marcia Lambert, Australia, will represent the Western Pacific region which includes New Zealand.

West Coast company (Continued)

form the New Zealand Forestry Corporation into a shell company from December 1.

All the Corporation's remaining activities would be conducted through its two subsidiary companies.

Mr Prebble said the decision would have only a minor effect on the Government's target for revenue from asset sales.

The Government and the company would continue to explore options for the orderly disposal of the Crown's forest interests in the West Coast.

- The XIXth World IUFRO Congress Declaration which included the following recommendations:

Recommendations

Governments, international development agencies and forestry research organisations are encouraged to **foster international co-operation and co-ordination of research programme needs identified in the Tropical Forestry Action Plan**. Accordingly, IUFRO should strengthen linkages for the Special Programme for Developing Countries (SPDC) with other international organisations, especially the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), the International Council for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF) and the International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO). Though programmes of SPDC should take closely into account the work of these and other organisations, the SPDC's method of operation should be proactive and emphasise its comparative advantages.

IUFRO, recognising the implications of air pollution and of global climate change, should **encourage initiation, expansion and redirection of basic and applied research concerning the role of forests**. Forestry research organisations in both temperate and tropical countries, as well as in the Mediterranean region, should strengthen or initiate programmes studying the effects of air pollution on forest ecosystems and expand research on the relationships of global climate change to trees and forests. IUFRO's special task force on air pollution should expand its scope accordingly. It recommends a vigorous programme of monitoring forest ecosystems for the long term, using standardised proven methods. As a worldwide, non-governmental organisation, IUFRO must play a leading role in helping to implement an international, integrated approach. In addition, studies of socio-economic implications and policy options need to be considered.

IUFRO urges that the **building, strengthening and maintaining of institutions** for forestry research, education of new scientists and the continuing education of present scientists receive urgent

attention. Development of future forest scientists and an increased capacity to conduct research, especially in developing countries, is crucial. IUFRO's special role in nurturing and extending the efforts of forest scientists through activities of its divisions and the SPDC will be encouraged and expanded.

The international forest science community is obligated to **inform others of scientific findings and their implications** for forest practice as well as to inform public opinion in the debate on forestry issues, globally and locally. Existing and new scientific findings must be made available in more effective ways, especially within the developing countries and between scientists of developing countries. IUFRO's divisions, programmes and task forces have a particular role in addressing the need. IUFRO encourages forestry scientists to participate in and support the decision process in forestry issues.

To achieve these essential objectives, **funding for forestry research must be expanded substantially**. Governments, international agencies, donors and others supporting research programmes are encouraged to take a long-term view of the growing global concerns about the sustainability of forests in meeting the environmental, economic and social needs of people. To do so will result in a strengthened commitment and support for forest sciences. Although the need exists at all levels, particularly crucial are forestry research programmes for developing countries.

Pharmaceutical giant enters New Zealand forestry market

The research facilities of British pharmaceutical giant Wellcome have been applied through Wellcome New Zealand to the development of timber preservatives. After four years the first of a series of timber treatment products has been produced – Lignen AS, an antisapstain treatment.

The antisapstain process prevents fungal growth which leads very quickly