MEGAflorestais
Wuyi Mountains, Fujian
People's Republic of China, 2010

# *Forest Governance in Transition*

## SYNOPSIS

*September 20th - 23rd 2010*
*Wuyi Mountain Villa*
*Wuyishan, Fujian Province, P.R. China*

| | |
|---|---|
| Hosted by: | State Forestry Administration, People's Republic of China<br>Fujian Forestry Department, Fujian Province, P.R. China |
| In cooperation with: | Rights and Resources Initiative |
| Co-chairs: | Sally Collins, former Associate Chief, U.S. Forest Service<br>Tasso Azevedo, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Environment, Brazil |
| Facilitator: | Andy White, Coordinator, Rights and Resources Initiative |

## Contents

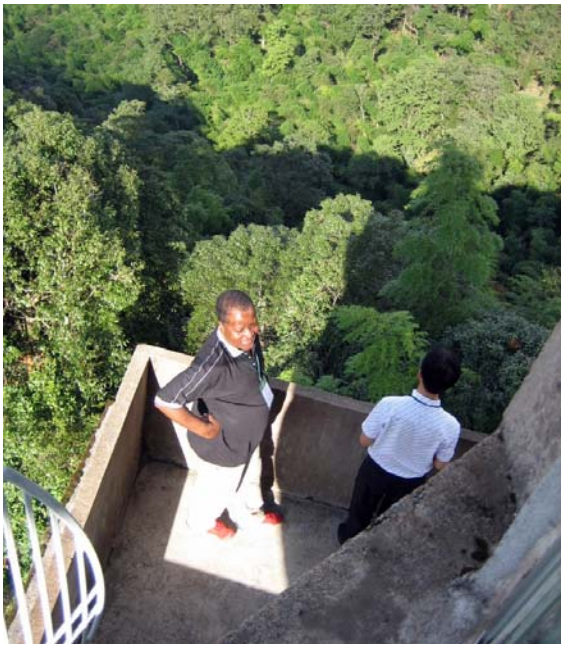
I. Executive summary
II. Background
III. Key themes and challenges discussed
IV. Recommendations for next steps

Annex 1: Agenda
Annex 2: List of participants
Annex 3: Summary of previous meetings

# I. Executive summary

MegaFlorestais 2010 was co-hosted by the Chinese State Forestry Administration and the Fujian Forestry Department, in cooperation with RRI. Delegates came from China, US, Canada, Brazil, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia, Mexico, and Cameroon. Russia, present at every other meeting, was unable to send a representative, due to a severe wildfire season.

Meeting in the beautiful Wuyi Mountains of Fujian, participants continued MegaFlorestais' focus on forest tenure systems, forestry regulations, and the changing roles of public forest agencies – issues that are particularly important today because of the increased attention being paid to forests in the global negotiations on climate change mitigation and adaptation. In addition, the meeting discussed transitions in the global forest industry, and how agencies are responding to ensure that their domestic industries continue to contribute to rural development, as well as the role of forest agencies in addressing climate change.



**On the lookout:** Denis and Zhongtian admire the view from the fire watchtower at Xianfengling in the reserve.

This year's discussions touched on a large number of critical topics for the forest sector:

- **Tenure, rights and public forest reform:** Lessons from China and other countries
- **REDD+ & climate change mitigation:** Status of negotiations and ways out of stalemate
- **Climate change adaptation and forest restoration:** Lessons from history, implications for REDD+
- **Growing competition for land:** What will it mean for people and the forest industry?
- **Regulating community and private/household forests:** A growing challenge
- **Changing markets for forest biomass and energy**
- **Strengthening forest agencies to work across government sectors**
- **Reshaping the global architecture for forestry**

Participants concluded that this forum continued to grow in its impacts and potential power to create change. The following key messages for forest agencies emerged from discussions:

- Be proactive, keep a long-term focus and broaden agency thinking beyond the forest sector
- Promote forest restoration and climate resiliency in climate change discussions
- Understand that, in most developing countries, addressing forest tenure reforms before enacting forest policy reforms will allow the latter to be more effective.
- Recognize that fair and secure tenure is prerequisite for serious improvements in forest governance.
- Promote models of conservation that recognize rights and create local economic opportunities while still achieving biodiversity goals.
- Share experiences between national forest agencies and continue to promote exchanges on strategic themes at different levels of agencies.

It was also agreed that MegaFlorestais should continue in 2011, hosted by Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia. The thematic focus will be on public forest tenure reform, REDD+ and economic development in forest areas.

## II. Background

MegaFlorestais[1] is an informal group of public forest agency leaders dedicated to advancing international dialogue and exchange on transitions in forest governance, forest industry, and the roles of public forest agencies. The group includes the heads of forestry agencies of the largest forest countries in the world, and provides the opportunity for these leaders to share their experiences and challenges in a frank, open and technical manner.[2] The process aims to foster stronger relationships between forest agencies, collectively strengthening their abilities to play leading roles in addressing forest governance and sustainable forestry issues.

The idea to create the group originated in a meeting in Beijing in September 2005 when the Rights and Resources Initiative co-organized a conference with the Chinese Center for Agriculture Policy. The purpose of that meeting was to share international experiences on public forest reform with the Chinese State Forest Administration and other decision-makers. Leaders from Brazil, China, the USA, and Mexico participated in this session and agreed to continue the collaboration by creating MegaFlorestais, and invited the Rights and Resources Initiative to facilitate and coordinate the organization of the meetings.

**A tropical forester in Celestial Emperor's court:** Juan Manuel, Luiz and Antônio visit the Forbidden City in Beijing.

The group is co-chaired by Sally Collins, former Associate Chief of the US Forest Service and former Director of the US Department of Agriculture Office of Environmental Markets, and Tasso Azevedo, former Director General of the Brazilian Forest Service and current senior advisor in Brazil's Ministry of Environment. The Rights and Resources Initiative continues to function as MegaFlorestais' secretariat.

## III. Key themes and challenges discussed

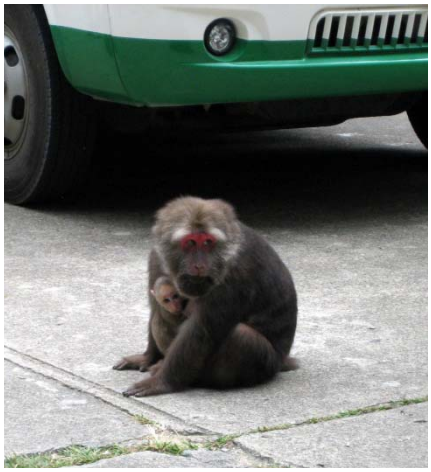
### 1. Tenure, rights and public forest reform: Lessons from China and other countries

– A discussion of "rationalizing" the public forest domain was added to the agenda due to strong interest by a number of participants. Arvind Khare of RRI gave a short synopsis of various rationales that underlie the different countries' approaches. He portrayed tenure as a reflection of political power at a particular time, and any reform thereof will be slow and gradual. Fundamentally, tenure reform is a social and political process, not simply an administrative or technical problem. View Arvind Khare's presentation.

[1] MegaFlorestais – a Portuguese phrase that translates to "those with the greatest forests."

[2] MegaFlorestais meetings encourage free and open conversation following the Chatham House Rule, which states: "When a meeting or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed."

- The large forested countries of the world are at vastly different stages in the reform of tenure, rights, and pubic ownership, ranging from near total central government ownership in most African nations to Brazil, China, Europe, Mexico and the U.S., where a majority of forested lands are under private or community ownership.
- Successful public land reforms require forest agencies to untangle a complex history of customary rights, public concessions, government laws, and forest administrative structures. Even countries that have completed the formal reforms continue to struggle with implementation issues.
- In many parts of the world, forest use and management regulations merit rethinking as well, in order to recognize customary rights and allow communities to draw benefit from local resources. Zoning, often a step toward regulating land use, should follow recognition of rights.



**Field trip favorite:** Mother & child stump-tailed macaques, two of over 2,000 that live in the Wuyishan Nature Reserve.

- There was consensus that no single type of ownership is optimal, and that at any given time a combination of ownership types would emerge.
- As demonstrated by tenure reform in China, clear and secure property rights are a prerequisite for conservation, investment and improved incomes from forestry— see resource person Xu Jintao's talk on China's tenure reform.
- During the site visit to the Wuyishan Nature Reserve, participants witnessed how conservation areas that recognize inhabitants' rights can support strong enterprises and job creation while achieving biodiversity goals.

**Lessons for Cameroon from the forest tenure reforms in Asia**

Following this year's MegaFlorestais, Secretary General Denis Koulagna of the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife of Cameroon and several other MegaFlorestais members participated in a conference on forest tenure reform in China and other Asian countries.

Distilling the tenure discussion at MegaFlorestais, Secretary General Koulagna provided the following succinct reflections on what can be learned from the forest tenure reforms in Asia:

- *Tenure reform must be done at the right time, when the interests of all stakeholders converge (political, economic, populations, research/technology)*
- *Tenure reform cannot happen without interest from the stakeholders. Without interest, there is no action; without action, there is no reform.*
- *Tenure reform is a long process, and we must be humble enough to monitor the process.*
- *Forest institutions around the world face the same challenges, albeit in varying degrees. Why is our progress on negotiating global forest issues so slow?*
- *Tenure reform must precede regulatory reforms that promote sustainable forest management. No sustainable forest management can occur without sound land tenure systems.*

This presentation and others from the Forest Tenure and Regulatory Reforms: Experiences, Lessons and Future Steps in Asia," organized by Rights and Resources Initiative, China State Forestry Administration and Peking University are available online here.

**2. REDD+ & climate change mitigation: Status of negotiations and ways out of stalemate**

- Expectations to benefit from REDD funding run high in many countries, but the mechanisms are complicated, private capital waiting for compliance markets to emerge, and worries exist about how money would be distributed: who would be the winners and losers?
- Consensus is that REDD+ with an emphasis on the "D+" (i.e. reforestation, restoration, conservation and sustainable forest management) could be positive, depending upon the design of these systems. Resource person Hosny El-Lakany demonstrated the case for including afforestation, reforestation and restoration of degraded lands as "a necessary complement to REDD" in addition to avoided deforestation. Click here for full presentation.
- There is some worry that the focus on national accounting of forest carbon stocks could recentralize control of forests, undermining decentralization efforts and community land rights claims.
- Some pointed out that in 1980s and 1990s, forests were being protected by a biodiversity agenda while today it is a climate agenda, and that in the future it is likely to be a water and watershed agenda,. This leads to a different kind of strategic positioning.
- Property rights are essential to REDD+ and are essentially a national issue, also international safeguards can ensure that customary and traditional rights of forest communities are protected.

**3. Climate change adaptation and forest restoration: Lessons from history, implications for REDD+**

- Many commented on how climate change is affecting their forests, and the critical relationships between catastrophic events like forest fires and floods and the price of wood, food and fuel.
- There is an opportunity to integrate climate initiatives into national forest programs, particularly around increasing climate resiliency of landscapes and forest-dependent communities. As with REDD, climate change adaptation could be a part of achieving the goals of carbon sequestration. Hosny El-Lakany presented a summary of this concept, available online here.

**Watch your step:** The experimental bamboo forest at Dazhulan had a bamboo density of 2,150/ha-- and a poisonous snake density of 1.5/$m^2$!

**4. Growing competition for land: What will it mean for people and the forest industry?**

- Resource person Don Roberts presented current issues in forest products markets, emphasizing the convergence of markets for food, fuel, feed and fiber. As markets for biofuel feedstocks increase, demand for land is pushing up prices for other commodities. This trend has increased large-scale acquisitions of farmland, especially in Africa. View Don Robert's presentation.
- Participants commented on impacts of mining, energy, and agriculture sectors on their forests.
- Rising economic pressures for land have become difficult for governments and communities to resist.
- Pressures for land feed into conversion of forestland for other uses.

**5. Regulating community and private/household forests: A growing challenge**

- MegaFlorestais members discussed what it takes to provide for sustainable forest management in community and household forests.
- Two key points were reinforced a) in many places the rules for managing forests are so expensive,

time-consuming, and difficult to understand that communities and households cannot easily fulfill them and b) for regulations to be effective, tenure rights must be clearly established.

- Many forest agencies do not have in place the infrastructure or budget to support extension and education to improve compliance with these rules.
- There is a pressing need to "rethink" and redesign forest regulatory frameworks in many countries to promote best practice and encourage stewardship.

**6. Changing markets for forest biomass and energy**

- The groups discussed what forests will be most valuable in the future, what will protect them, and what will provide income and jobs to communities.
- There is clearly a shift from traditional forest products infrastructure. To stay competitive, the forest products industry will need to diversify into biomass fuels, such as wood pellets and pyrolysis oil.
- Wood for energy and other products could translate to demand a new forest governance structure that brings energy production and agriculture together with forestry.

**7. Strengthening forest agencies to work across government sectors**

- Forestry leaders understood that long-term growth and economic vitality depend upon sustainable forest management.
- The call to *strengthen the forest agencies* vis-à-vis other public sectors stemmed from a real understanding of the diversity of that services that forests provide, not from a lament of the lack for recognition of forestry within central governments.
- Forest leaders around the world are looking for what markets and cross-sectoral frameworks can be established to accomplish this goal.

**Fantastic Fujian:** This rift valley stretches over 1000km from Shicheng, Jiangxi to Zhaoqing, Guangdong.

**8. Reshaping the global architecture for forestry**

- There is a dramatic increase in government debt as a response to the worst financial crisis in seventy years. Government austerity will have a 'hang-over' effect, with less money available to forest agencies and the forest sector, that could last ten years. Shifts in financial and commodity markets are producing major changes in the institutional frameworks and priorities of forest administration.
- Forces outside the forest sector are driving changes in the forest lands, such as food security concerns and demand for energy, ores and rare minerals. Financially, forests are not usually the economic 'winner'.
- What architecture for managing multiple demands on forestland will emerge, given the often conflicting policies and incentives of different public agencies? What would this imply for communities' rights to forests?
- The current international aid structure is clearly threatened in the economic downturn and governments will have less money to support this work.

## Recommendations for next steps

This year the group suggested several proactive approaches necessary to position forest agencies favorably in the changing global environment. Five of these were summarized at the conclusion of the meeting:

- **Be proactive and keep a long-term focus**. Reach out to other agencies and ministries, both nationally and internationally. Pass on the message that forest conservation, poverty alleviation, and deriving full benefits from forests are interdependent.
- **Broaden our thinking beyond the forest sector**. Look outside the forest. Real opportunities for improving forests and forestry exist, and we must work to create more. The "large scale industrial timber era" is over, but a new suite of products and services is unfolding: biofuels and other new markets could reinvigorate the forest sector, but also create strong pressures on forest lands.
- **Bring forest restoration and climate resiliency into the climate change discussions**. Restoring forests for the ecosystem services needed for people's wellbeing can not only sequester more carbon but can make forests healthier and better able to continue providing clean water and non-timber forest products. Restoration would also make them more resilient to catastrophic climate-created events. REDD can be positive, especially if augmented by a strong restoration agenda, could begin this conversation in Cancun and continue going forward.
- **Fair and secure tenure is prerequisite for effective forest governance, and forest tenure reform is a priority step in most developing countries**. Conservation and economic growth can be accomplished together without jeopardizing the traditional rights of people who live in the forest. We need to understand the multiple paths forward to seeing this outcome. Secure and equitable tenure is the key to assuring multiple objectives can be met.
- **There is a strong desire for technical assistance from one another,** to learn why some past efforts have worked and others have not. As secretariat of the network, RRI can encourage exchanges, workshops, and study tours to capitalize on each other's knowledge and skills.
- **Continue to hold MegaFlorestais meetings**, recognizing that the value of this forum lies in the candid environment and personal connections fostered. The strong support of China as the hosting country was also vital to the success of the meeting. There was strong support to hold the next annual meeting in Indonesia in October 2011.

**A night of many songs, more toasts (and much rain):** The group poses at a banquet hosted by the Fujian Department of Forestry.

## Annex 1: Agenda

# *Forest Governance in Transition*

## PROGRAMME

September 20th - 23rd 2010
*Wuyi Mountain Villa*
*Wuyishan, Fujian Province, P.R. China*

| | |
|---|---|
| *Hosted by:* | **State Forest Administration, P.R. China**<br>**Fujian Forestry Department** |
| *In cooperation with:* | **Rights & Resources Initiative** |
| *Co-chairs of MegaFlorestais:* | **Sally Collins, former Associate Chief, U.S. Forest Service**<br>**Tasso Azevedo, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Environment, Brazil** |
| *Facilitator of MegaFlorestais:* | **Andy White, Coordinator, Rights & Resources Initiative** |

| | **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH** |
|---|---|
| 8:00-9:00 | **BREAKFAST** |
| **SESSION 1** | **General Introduction & Orientation to Meeting** |
| *Chair* | *Qu Guilin, Director General, Department of International Cooperation, SFA* |
| 9:00-9:45 | • Welcome comments (5 minutes)<br>*Yin Hong, Deputy Administrator, State Forest Administration, P.R. China*<br>• Participant introductions (20 min)<br>• Introduction to MegaFlorestais: Past activities and outcomes (5 min)<br>*Sally Collins*<br>• Review of agenda, issues to be discussed and Chatham House rule (5 min)<br>*Andy White*<br>• Introduction to Wuyi Mountains and Fujian Province (10 min)<br>*Representative of Fujian Forestry Department* |

| | |
|---|---|
| **SESSION 2** | **Sharing News from Countries & Other Recent Meetings** |
| *Chair*<br><br>9:45-10:30 | *Sally Collins*<br><br>• One representative from each country will inform the meeting on:<br>- The 2-3 most important news items from their country regarding forest policy and markets in the last year<br>- What they see as the biggest 2-3 challenges or struggle for their agency in the coming year<br>(5 min each) |
| 10:30-10:45 | **TEA BREAK** |
| **SESSION 2** | *(continued)* |
| *Chair*<br><br>10:45-12:00 | *Sally Collins*<br><br>• Resource people will then provide their sense of 2-3 major news events/shifts in the last year and 2-3 most important issues/opportunities at the global level<br>- *Hosny El-Lakany, Adjunct Professor, Forest Resource Management Department, University of British Columbia*<br>- *Don Roberts, Vice Chairman, CIBC World Markets*<br>- *Xu Jintao, Professor of Natural Resource Economics, Peking University*<br>- *Arvind Khare, Rights and Resources Imitative*<br>(5 min each)<br><br>• Discussion of key issues, challenges and opportunities for forest agencies (30 min)<br>• Wrap-up to identify key themes and issues to discuss during the week (10 min) |
| 12:00-13:00 | **LUNCH** |
| **SESSION 3** | **Pressures on Global Forests: Opportunities or Cause for Concern?** |
| *Chair*<br><br>13:00-15:00 | *Boen Purnama, Secretary General, Ministry of Forestry, Indonesia*<br><br>• Convergence of the Markets for Food, Feed, Fuel and Fiber: Opportunities or Cause for Concern for Global Forests? – *Don Roberts*<br>• Discussion |
| 15:00-15:15 | **TEA BREAK** |
| **SESSION 4** | **Strengthening Tenure and Governance: Critical Steps to Deal with Emerging Challenges (Part 1)** |
| *Chair*<br><br>15:15-18:00 | *Denis Koulagna, Secretary General, Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife, Cameroon*<br><br>• Collective Forest Tenure Reform in China: Preliminary Evaluation – *Xu Jintao*<br>• Discussion |
| 19:30 | **RECEPTION PROVIDED BY THE CHINA STATE FOREST ADMINISTRATION** |

| | TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST |
|---|---|
| 8:00-9:00 | **BREAKFAST** |
| **FIELD TRIP** | *Hosted by Fujian Forestry Department* |
| | • Bamboo processing facility in Wuyishan<br>• Discussion on forest tenure reform with local Party Secretary in village of Zhoutou<br>• Wuyishan Nature Reserve<br>  o Suspension bridge<br>  o Forest fire monitoring station with view to rift valley<br>  o Experimental bamboo forest |
| 19:00 | **DINNER AT WUYI MOUNTAIN VILLA** |

| | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ST |
|---|---|
| 8:00-9:00 | **BREAKFAST** |
| **SESSION 5** | **Rationalizing the Public Forest Domain** |
| *Chair*<br><br>9:00-10:30 | *Andy White*<br><br>• Public Forest Reform: Rationales, Experiences, Questions – *Arvind Khare*<br>• Discussion |
| 10:30-10:45 | **TEA BREAK** |
| **SESSION 6** | **REDD+: Status of Negotiations, Realities of Implementation** |
| *Chair*<br><br>10:45-12:30 | *Denis Koulagna, Secretary General, Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife, Cameroon*<br><br>• Necessity and Potential of Afforestation, Forest Protection and Restoration – *Hosny El-Lakany*<br>• Discussion |
| 12:30-13:30 | **LUNCH** |
| **SESSION 7** | **Planning for & Facilitating Forest Adaptation to Climate Change: Cases & Emerging Issues** |
| *Chair*<br><br>13:30-15:00 | *Tom Rosser, Director General – Policy, Economics and Industry Branch, Canadian Forest Service, Natural Resources Canada*<br>• The Challenge of Land Management in an Era of Climate Change – *Leslie Weldon, Regional Forester, Northern Region, US Forest Service*<br>• Discussion |
| 15:00-15:15 | **TEA BREAK** |
| **SESSION 8** | **Strengthening Tenure and Governance: Critical Steps to Deal with Emerging Challenges (Part 2)** |
| *Chair*<br><br>15:15-17:00 | *Sébastien Malele Mbala, Director of Forest Inventory & Planning, Ministry of Environment, Conservation of Nature & Tourism, DRC*<br>• Towards Community Forestry in Brazil – *Luiz Joels, Director, Brazilian Forest Service*<br>• State of Play of Forest Policy Reforms in DRC – *Fredéric Djengo Bosulu, Ministry of Environment, Conservation of Nature & Tourism, DRC*<br>• Discussion |

| | |
|---|---|
| 18:30 | **BANQUET DINNER PROVIDED BY FUJIAN FORESTRY DEPARTMENT WITH KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE FUJIAN FORESTRY DEPARTMENT, FOLLOWED BY A PERFORMANCE OF THE OPERA "GRAND RED ROBE TEA IN YOUR IMAGINATION" CONCEIVED BY ZHANG YIMOU** |

| | **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD** |
|---|---|
| 8:00-9:00 | **BREAKFAST** |
| **SESSION 8** | **REDD+: Realities of Implementation** |
| *Chair* | *Sally Collins* |
| 9:00-10:30 | • Not Easy, Fast or Cheap: A Framework for Identifying the Real Cost of REDD+ – *Hosny El-Lakany*<br>• Discussion |
| 10:30-10:45 | **TEA BREAK** |
| **SESSION 9** | **What did we learn and what's next for MegaFlorestais?** |
| *Chair* | *Andy White* |
| 10:45-12:00 | • Assessment of MegaFlorestais<br>  o Review of "Global Issues in Governance," April 12-17, 2010 at Grey Towers, PA, U.S.<br>  o Identify new themes for next meeting<br>• Final wrap-up<br>• Selection of next host country<br>  o Date setting and initial planning<br>  o Choosing themes and issues: Anticipating next years' challenges |
| 12:00 | **BANQUET LUNCH PROVIDED BY WUYISHAN MUNICIPALITY AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE DEPUTY MAYOR OF NANPING** |

## Annex 2: List of participants

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **China** | | | | |
| Zhongtian | Zhang | Director of International Cooperation Division | State Forestry Administration, China<br>*国家林业局办公* | 地址：北京市东城区和平里东街 18 号<br>联系电话：010-84238625 84238303<br>邮政编码：100714<br>State Forestry Administration Office<br>No. 18 East Street, Hepingli, Dongcheng District, Beijing 100714 |
| Guilin | Qu | Director General, Department of International Cooperation | | |
| Hong Jun | Yin Xiao | Deputy Administrator Assistant | | |
| **Brazil** | | | | |
| Antonio Carlos | Hummel | Director General | Brazilian Forest Service<br>*Serviço Florestal Brasileiro* | SCEN, Trecho 2, Bl. H<br>70818-900 - Brasília - DF |
| Luiz Carlos De Miranda | Joels | Director | | |
| **Cameroon** | | | | |
| Denis | Koulagna Kotou | Secretary General | Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife<br>*Ministère des Forêts et de la Faune* | BP 12552<br>Yaounde |
| **Canada** | | | | |
| Tom | Rosser | Director General, Policy, Economics and Industry Branch | Canadian Forest Service, Natural Resources Canada<br>*Service Canadien des Forêts, Ressources Naturelles Canada* | National Capital Region<br>2934 Baseline Road<br>Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0E4 |
| **Democratic Republic of the Congo** | | | | |
| Prosper Situasendua | Ngetele | Community Forestry Focal Point | Ministry of Environment, Conservation of Nature & Tourism<br>*Ministère de l'Environnement, Conservation de la Nature et Tourisme* | Avenue Papa Ileo n° 15<br>BP 12 348 Gombe<br>Kinshasa |
| Frédéric | Djengo Bosulu | Director of Forest Management | | |
| Sebastien Malele | Mbala | Director of Forest Inventory & Planning | | |
| **Indonesia** | | | | |
| Boen Mochtar | Purnama | Secretary General | Ministry of Forestry<br>*Kementerian Kehutanan* | Gedung Manggala Wanabakti Blok I Lt. 3<br>Jalan Gatot Subroto - Senayan<br>Jakarta 10270 |
| Ahmad Fauzi | Masud | Senior Advisor to the Minister | | |
| Basoeki | Karyaatmadja | Director of Forest Land Use Planning | | |
| **Mexico** | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Juan Manuel | Torres-Rojo | Director General | National Forest Commission<br>*Comisión Nacional Forestal* | Periférico Poniente 5360<br>San Juan de Ocotán<br>Zapopan, Jalisco |
| **United States** | | | | |
| Leslie | Weldon | Regional Forester, Northern Region | U.S. Forest Service | 1099 14th Street, NW, Suite 5500W<br>Washington, D.C. 20005 |
| **Independent resource persons** | | | | |
| Don | Roberts | Vice Chairman of Renewable Energy & Clean Technology | CIBC World Markets | 222 Queen St, 2nd Floor<br>Ottawa, Ontario<br>Canada K1P 5V9 |
| Jintao | Xu | Professor of Natural Resource Economics | Peking University | Department of Environmental Sciences<br>Peking University<br>Beijing 100871, P. R. China |
| Hosny | El-Lakany | Adj. Professor, Forest Resource Management Department & Director, International Program | Faculty of Forestry, University of British Columbia, University of British Columbia | 2424 Main Mall<br>Vancouver, British Columbia<br>Canada |
| **Rights and Resources Initiative** | | | | |
| Sally | Collins | former Assistant Chief, USFS | MegaFlorestais Co-Chair, RRI Fellow | |
| Andy | White | Coordinator | Rights & Resources Initiative | |
| Arvind | Khare | Director of Finance & Policy | Rights & Resources Initiative | 1238 Wisconsin Ave. NW, Suite 204<br>Washington, D.C 20007 |
| Jeffrey | Hatcher | Global Program Manager | Rights & Resources Initiative | |
| Lucas | Bailey | Senior Associate | Rights & Resources Initiative | |

## Annex 3: Summary of previous meetings

The first formal meeting of MegaFlorestais was hosted in 2006 by the US Forest Service and held in Pennsylvania at Grey Towers, the historic estate of Gifford Pinchot, first Chief of the US Forest Service. The meeting brought together leaders from Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Russia and the United States. The meeting focused on four main themes:

- Transitions in forest tenure and administration
- The role of forest agencies in increasing forestry's contribution to poverty alleviation and community development
- Reforming regulations to contribute to national economic growth and enhance opportunities for small forest holders
- The challenge faced by forest agencies to provide political leadership in times of transition

MegaFlorestais 2007 was hosted by the Russian Federal Forest Agency in St. Petersburg, Russia, and was attended by senior forest agency delegates from Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, China, Finland, Indonesia, and the USA. Building on lessons learned from the previous MegaFlorestais meetings and the generous facilitation assistance provided by BC Ministry of Forests and Range, the three-day meeting was designed to maximize discussions amongst participants on the following topics:

- Understanding forest industry in the changing global marketplace
- Designing and implementing forest tenure reforms
- Designing rational and more equitable regulations
- Identifying initiatives to tackle climate change

The group convened again in Brazil in 2008. The one-week event began in Brasilia, and continued on a boat tour of the Amazon to Manaus, with a field trip to the forestry and milling operations of the Precious Woods-Amazonas near Itacoatiara. The 2008 sessions briefed participants on the state of the global forest sector and facilitated formal and informal discussions between participants. The primary themes discussed were:

- The relevance, impacts and connectivity of REDD and carbon finance
- The development of forest management plans for climate change adaptation
- The Brazilian experience with policy and regulation in forest governance

In 2009, the federal government of Canada co-hosted MegaFlorestais with the provincial government of British Columbia, bringing participants from Indonesia, Russia, Brazil, China, U.S. up to the mountains of Whistler, B.C. Canada's experience parallels many of the challenges faced by public forest agencies elsewhere, such as:

- Ensuring that domestic industries continue to contribute to rural development, in the face of a depressed global wood market
- Addressing impacts of climate change in national forests such as insects and fire and monitoring forest carbon dynamics
- Responding to forest rights claims, such as those from First Nations
- Reshaping forest tenure policy to support small-scale forest concessions
- Assessing roles of provincial versus federal forest authorities