

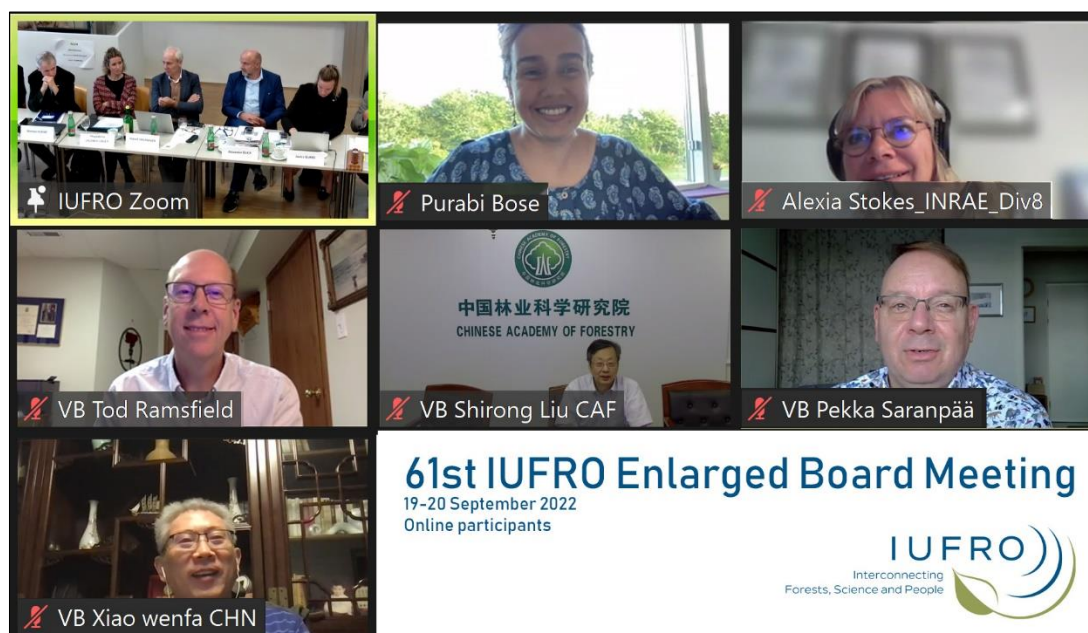
**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE
61st IUFRO ENLARGED BOARD MEETING**

19-20 September 2022

21 October 2022



In-person participants of the IUFRO Enlarged Board Meeting in front of the Wilhelm Exner House of BOKU.



Part of the virtual participants of the IUFRO Enlarged Board Meeting.

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The IUFRO Enlarged Board (EB) met from 19-20 September 2022 in Vienna, Austria in a hybrid format. In-person participants gathered at the premises of the host of the meeting, the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU). Virtual participants connected via the video-conferencing tool 'Zoom'. The hybrid meeting was chaired by IUFRO President John Parrotta. The list of participants can be found in Annex I.

The Management Committee met in a hybrid format on two times (11-12 April 2022 and 18 September 2022) prior to the EB meeting.

1. Opening of the 61st IUFRO Enlarged Board Meeting and Welcome Remarks

John Parrotta (IUFRO President and Chair of the meeting) welcomed the members of the IUFRO Enlarged Board, invited participants and observers, and opened the hybrid meeting.

J. Parrotta invited IUFRO Headquarters Host Country Representative Maria Patek (Director-General, Forestry and Sustainability, Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, BML) to provide welcome remarks. She noted that in 1972, 50 years ago, IUFRO had decided to establish a permanent Secretariat and accepted the offer by the Austrian Government to host it. A corresponding agreement between representatives of the Government of Austria and IUFRO had been signed in 1973 and since then the Secretariat, now IUFRO Headquarters, has been located in Vienna. Therefore, it was very fitting to hold both the Enlarged Board Meeting and the All-IUFRO Conference "Forests in a Volatile World – Global Collaboration to Sustain Forests and Their Societal Benefits" here in Vienna this year. M. Patek also reflected on the role of IUFRO and forest research in responding to the various challenges from local to global levels. She highlighted joint efforts by BML, IUFRO and FAO aimed at the creation of a Global Wood Policy Platform for scaling-up wood-based pathways on a global scale. She also noted that the BML decided to support science communication in IUFRO HQ by funding one additional full-time position, as part of the IUFRO host country agreement. She ended by reiterating Austria's continued commitment to IUFRO and wished everyone a successful week of meetings. The Chair thanked M. Patek for her kind remarks and the Ministry's continued support.

J. Parrotta then invited the Rector of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU) Eva Shulev-Steindl to provide her welcoming remarks on behalf of the host of the Enlarged Board Meeting. She welcomed the participants to BOKU and noted that the university celebrates its 150th anniversary this year. BOKU has currently around 11.000 students, close to 3.000 employees and works with hundreds of partners. She noted that there is a lot of innovative power at BOKU – for example the university had received recently a founder's award from the Government of Austria for a breakthrough in a CO₂ project, where yeast fungi feed on CO₂ and is then converted into biomass. This can remarkably contribute to combating climate change. She also reiterated the importance of the upcoming All-IUFRO conference where BOKU is actively involved through the organization of the excursion programme. Lastly, she wished participants a great meeting and an enjoyable formal evening reception, to be hosted by BOKU on the 2nd meeting day. J. Parrotta thanked the Rector for her remarks.

The Chair then gave the floor to one of the President's Nominees Hubert Hasenauer from BOKU. He recalled the discussions in early spring when it became clear that the planned Enlarged Board Meeting and an international conference cannot be held in the Russian Federation. He was happy that these events could be swiftly adapted and moved to Vienna, for which he also facilitated great support.

J. Parrotta thanked the Rector and H. Hasenauer for hosting the meeting in BOKU, including the evening reception.

J. Parrotta communicated regrets from a voting member of the Board, the President's Nominee for Russia Olga Shaitarova.

Alexander Buck (IUFRO Executive Director) provided information about the organizational housekeeping, conduct and technicalities of the hybrid meeting.

2. Adoption of the agenda and call for additions

Documents:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 2.1 Revised draft Agenda (IUFRO HQ)*
- *EB 9/2022 Doc 2.2 Revised annotated draft Agenda (IUFRO HQ)*

J. Parrotta called for any changes or additions to the agenda. Since there were no proposals for changes or additions, the Chair proposed the following motion:

MOTION 1:

- To adopt the agenda of the 61st IUFRO Enlarged Board Meeting;

Seconded by Cecil Konijnendijk van den Bosch.

The motion was carried unanimously.

3. Approval of draft minutes of the 60th IUFRO Enlarged Board Meeting in September 2021, and pending actions

Documents:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 3.1 Draft Minutes of the 60th IUFRO Enlarged Board Meeting (IUFRO HQ)*
- *EB 9/2022 Doc 3.2 Implementation of Actions of the 60th IUFRO Enlarged Board Meeting (HQ)*

The Chair invited the Board to approve the minutes of the virtual 60th Enlarged Board Meeting, held on 22-24 September 2021. The Chair proposed the following motion:

MOTION 2:

- To approve the Minutes of the virtual 60th IUFRO Enlarged Board Meeting;

Seconded by Cecil Konijnendijk van den Bosch.

The motion was carried unanimously.

A. Buck informed the Board that from the 14 actions adopted at the virtual 60th EBM, 11 actions had been fully implemented as agreed, one action has become obsolete and 2 actions would be addressed in the course of this meeting (i.e., Action 3 regarding the website and Action 13 regarding the bids for the IUFRO World Congress 2029). The Enlarged Board took note of the status of implementation of the actions of the 60th EBM.

4. Reports by IUFRO President and Executive Director

Documents:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 4.1 Report of the President (J. Parrotta)*
- *EB 9/2022 Doc 4.2 Report of the Executive Director (A. Buck)*

Both written reports to the Board were considered as read and only special highlights were provided by the presenters.

IUFRO President John Parrotta noted that he had a very busy time since the last Board Meeting. It was challenging, but overall good time as he had the pleasure to work closely with IUFRO HQ and many Board Members. He pointed out the IUFRO World Day 2021 as a highlight of past activities. He also noted the sad news of the passing of Past President Jeff Burley. Responding to a question about collaboration with officeholders in Russia, he noted that the scientific cooperation is intended to continue and the scientific contacts will be maintained. However, formal contacts with Russian state institutions continue to be suspended.

IUFRO Executive Director Alexander Buck clarified that his report had to be considered as a report of the entire IUFRO HQ. He noted that IUFRO HQ currently consists of 16 permanent staff from 9 countries (Austria, Canada, Costa Rica, Estonia, Germany, Nepal, Romania, Spain and South Africa), plus a Senior Scientist coordinating the WFSE project from Finland. He informed the Board that Carola Egger, the IUFRO World Day Project Manager, continues to be employed in IUFRO in the newly created position of “IUFRO Information Resources Manager”, supporting the development and management of digital information resources and the re-designing of IUFRO’s website system. He then also introduced José Bolaños, a citizen of Costa Rica currently residing in Germany, who was selected for the new full-time position of “Communications Manager”, funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management. A. Buck highlighted the strong effort made by the IUFRO HQ team to organize the hybrid All-IUFRO Conference on a very short notice together with the Chair and members of the Conference Scientific Committee. He thanked the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU), the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, BML, the Korean National Institute of Forest Science (NiFoS), the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Eva Mayr-Stihl Stiftung for supporting the conference. Looking to the future, IUFRO HQ has also worked closely with the President, CSC Chair and COC Chair and his team in preparing for the World Congress 2024.

A. Buck informed the Board about IUFRO membership developments since the last Board Meeting. 12 new Member Organizations and 16 Associate Members had joined IUFRO, 8 Member Organizations and 9 Associate Members withdrew their membership. He clarified that the withdrawals can be attributed mainly to member organizations having been merged with other organizations or closed entirely, or due to reduced budgets. It was also noted that whenever a member organization communicates its intention to withdraw its membership, IUFRO HQ contacts the focal person in order to better understand reasons for the withdrawal and explore whether it is possible to uphold the membership. In case there are IUFRO officeholders at these organizations, IUFRO HQ also contacts these officeholders.

The Chair proposed the following motion:

MOTION 3:

- To approve the list of new members of IUFRO (Member Organizations and Associate Members);

Seconded by Daniela Kleinschmit.

The motion was carried unanimously.

5. Strategic partnerships, international cooperation and IUFRO in international processes

Alexander Buck, on behalf of IUFRO HQ, provided an update of recent developments regarding partnerships since the last Board Meeting. He noted that IUFRO cooperates with partners in various formats. As an example of participating in the meetings and activities of inter-governmental processes, active and visible participation in the 15th World Forestry Congress of FAO (May 2022 in Seoul, Korea) was mentioned. Continued engagement in international partnerships such as the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, CPF was noted.

A. Buck then highlighted three activities:

- a) Continued collaboration with Mondi in the frame of the IUFRO-Mondi science-business-platform, including the 1st Think Tank Meeting (October 2021) and a larger Stakeholder Workshop (June 2022) that involved IUFRO officeholders, other scientists and industry representatives. The 2nd Think Tank Meeting in November is under preparation.
- b) In November 2021 IUFRO co-organized with the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) a Workshop on Forest Landscape Restoration as part of the MoU established in 2020. The workshop convened 75 experts from all regions of India and overseas.
- c) A week before the EBM, IUFRO submitted to the Austrian Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management a comprehensive proposal for a new three-year project regarding the creation of a Global Wood Policy Platform in collaboration with the FAO, IUFRO Division 5 and partner organizations in Austria and Finland.

He clarified that, as participants may have noticed, the previously very comprehensive report on international cooperation and partners is no longer part of the background documentation for this meeting. Instead, IUFRO HQ has developed partner pages on IUFRO website, where each partner has its own page and will soon include an overview of recent activities/projects with IUFRO. IUFRO HQ is working on populating this section with detailed information.

In response to a question about the perspectives and scope of the Mondi partnership, it was clarified that the current focus was on understanding climate change impacts on forests and the forest-based industry in Central Europe, but the scope would be expanded in the future in terms of both topics and regions. A suggestion was made to think about alternative tree species beyond spruce as well as to learn from wood source and availability forecasts in view of a global fibre resource strategy.

Statements by Partners:

The Chair invited remarks by representatives of partner organizations attending the meeting.

International Forestry Students' Association, IFSA: J. Parrotta congratulated Agustin Rosello Hinrichs (Chile) on his very recent election as the new President of IFSA. Due to time differences between Austria and Chile, A. Rosello could not join in-person, but had provided a pre-recorded video message. He noted that IUFRO was one of the most important partners for IFSA. He looked forward to new joint projects between IFSA and IUFRO and communicated IFSA's readiness to be engaged actively the IUFRO World Congress 2024. On behalf of IFSA, he thanked Mónica Gabay for representing IUFRO in the annual International Forestry Students' Symposium (IFSS) that was held this year in Chile.

M. Gabay added that it was a pleasure to attend the IFSS and learn about the work of IFSA on their future strategy. IFSA was seen as future of IUFRO, in terms new officeholders. J. Parrotta thanked M. Gabay for representing IUFRO in the IFSS in Chile.

Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation, APFNet: J. Parrotta invited Mei Yuan to deliver a statement on behalf of APFNet. She highlighted a few recent APFNet activities and looked forward to more collaboration with IUFRO.

In the discussion, the contributions by the IUFRO-led Global Forest Expert Panels programme (GFEP) to international processes such as the Rio conventions were highlighted.

The Chair concluded this item by noting that a few other partners had been invited who were unavailable for this agenda item.

6. Strategic issues

Document:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 6.1 Networking in the post pandemic ‘new normal’ era (IUFRO HQ)*

Implementing IUFRO Strategy Action Plan 2020-2024, including proposal on revised reporting modalities

IUFRO Operations Manager Andre Purret gave an overview of the status of implementing the Strategy Action Plan. He noted that the last time IUFRO units were asked to report on the Action Plan was prior to the EBM in 2021. The information collected was widely and actively used, e.g. in developing the IUFRO Annual Report 2021 in its new format. He noted that due to challenges in reporting pointed out by the units, IUFRO HQ would seek to simplify the filtered Strategy Action Plans. For that purpose, both Divisions and Task Forces would be invited to provide comments and concrete suggestions for changes following this meeting. IUFRO HQ would then update the filtered Action Plans and circulate it to all Divisions, Task Forces and SPPs with the request to report on the implementation of the relevant actions also in year 2022.

Based on the discussions and agreement by the IUFRO Management Committee, it was suggested continuing the annual reporting but changing the timing of reporting. To be consistent with the calendar (and financial) year, units would be asked to report annually following the Action Plan by the end of each year, starting in 2022. It was clarified that IUFRO HQ would not request any additional written reports from units annually, except the Strategy Action Plan.

In response to a question about how IUFRO was monitoring these actions, including the progress being made (or not), it was pointed out that units had so far reported only once (in 2021) so that trends cannot yet be analysed. The suggested phase of collecting feedback from the units should yield more accurate and relevant filtered Action Plans, overcoming the challenges in earlier reporting. It was also suggested using online tools for reporting (e.g. online form, using website etc.). Additional benefit would be if units could see the reports/reported Actions of other units.

Action 1:

- *IUFRO HQ to collect comments and suggestions for changes from Divisions and Task Forces regarding the filtered Strategy Action Plans by the end of October 2022, and revise the filtered action plans accordingly;*

Action 2:

- *IUFRO HQ to improve the reporting on the Strategy Action Plan by setting up an online form/tool for collecting input from IUFRO units;*

Networking in the post pandemic ‘new normal’ era

J. Parrotta invited IUFRO Information Resources Manager Carola Egger to present the summary of the brainstorming workshop of the IUFRO Management Committee held in April 2022, including future opportunities and next steps that could be taken.

C. Egger noted that new forms of communication and engagement, including online conferences and workshops, have emerged during the pandemic. It was unlikely that the world will return to the ‘old normal’ once the pandemic has ended, but instead be replaced by a ‘new normal’ characterized by a mix of fully digital, hybrid and physical forms of interaction. This new normal poses challenges to IUFRO network but also provides opportunities in terms of diversity and inclusivity. Ideas that emerged from the MC workshop included (i) further guidance and information resources on digital networking and communication; (ii) trainings on networking skills and exchange of best practices, (iii) virtual orientations for new officeholders, and (iv) Division-internal support.

The EBM discussed how IUFRO can utilize new technologies and innovative tools (e.g., platforms, tools) to enhance networking on several levels and achieve institutional goals. In the discussion, numerous benefits as well as many technical and other limitations of virtual and hybrid formats were identified, and resource implications were pointed out. It was noted in the discussion that virtual and hybrid meetings will never replace physical meetings completely but work well for certain purposes. Also, combined formats, e.g., virtual meetings followed by in-person meetings with the same participants, should be considered. Large hybrid meetings tend to be challenging even if the technology is in place and require significant additional resources. Opportunities for digital networking between meetings have yet to receive sufficient attention. Overall, the very rich discussion led to the conclusion that experiences should be collected from IUFRO officeholders and meeting organizers and analysed in a systematic manner as a basis for more concrete guidance to the IUFRO Network.

The following actions were suggested by the Chair:

Action 3:

- *IUFRO HQ, in collaboration with the Vice-President for Divisions, to set up an analysis involving IUFRO meeting organizers to learn about experiences during the COVID-19 years regarding the hosting of meetings, including participation and use of various formats and tools;*

Action 4:

- *Based on the results of the analysis, IUFRO HQ in collaboration with the Vice-President for Divisions, to revise the guidelines document to support officeholders in setting up and conducting virtual, hybrid and in-person events in the future, including suggestions on how to make IUFRO meetings more environmentally friendly;*

With reference to limited accessibility of commercial meeting platforms by member organizations in economically disadvantaged countries, it was considered whether IUFRO HQ could provide licenses and access to online meeting platforms and tools within the limits of IUFRO HQ resources. In this context it was pointed out that the real cost and work was to provide guidance and trainings on how to run the meetings/webinars, plus costs (including time) related to managing and administration of the meeting. Participants noted that information and guidance on other platforms/tools, including alternative open-source options, would be much welcomed. It was added that some regions prefer to hold their meetings in Zoom and Teams, and reluctant to change to new, open-source platform.

Action 5:

- *IUFRO HQ to explore options for providing licenses to main online meeting tools/platforms such as Zoom, and to additionally suggest open-source tools/platforms that could be used by IUFRO officeholders;*

Participants noted that the quality of virtual and hybrid meetings also depends on certain communication and technological skills. Therefore, the network could benefit from guidance and training on networking/communication skills and technology, i.e., setting up, managing, and running virtual/hybrid meetings. Whereas technical manuals and tutorials are freely available online, trainings on running a

smooth, socially inclusive meeting and tips on managing both virtual and physical audiences could be valuable. Another suggestion was to use/create a knowledge-transfer platform, coordinated by someone else than IUFRO HQ, that works both ways – also members/officeholders could inform IUFRO about their experiences.

Action 6:

- *IUFRO HQ to encourage interested officeholders to develop virtual orientation for fellow officeholders, including trainings, on how to run a smooth and inclusive hybrid meeting;*

The Board also considered possible formats and resource-implications for large meetings such as the IUFRO World Congress 2024. Overall, hybrid and virtual components of the Congress were considered important. It was suggested discussing the format (hybrid/virtual/in-person) and related programme-elements of the World Congress 2024 at the next meeting of the Management Committee. A point was made that unlike attending scientists, the non-scientific stakeholders may only be able to join in-person for a short time period, and thus the hybrid format would be welcomed.

Action 7:

- *To include to agenda of the next Management Committee meeting a discussion on the format (hybrid/virtual/in-person) and related programme-elements of the World Congress 2024;*

Participants also discussed potential implications of the ‘new-normal’ for the future of IUFRO as a network. Integrating participants in all types and formats of meetings was seen crucial. An emphasis on only online meetings will have a different, unknown impact on the network. It was also added that young generation needs to be attracted to IUFRO, but their views on travelling, ways of working etc. needs to be studied at first. Participants also raised the issue of environmental ethics. It was pointed out by IUFRO HQ that the number of in-person participants should not no longer be the sole measure of success. Reference was made to the policy document of IUFRO HQ on measures to reduce the carbon footprint of its operations.

Action 8:

- *IUFRO HQ to share the "Reducing the Carbon Footprint of IUFRO-HQ Operations" - A Policy Guideline for Activities by IUFRO-Staff based at HQ in Vienna, Austria within the network.*
<https://www.iufro.org/fileadmin/material/discover/iufro-hq-reducing-carbon-footprint.pdf>

7. Revision of IUFRO Statutes and Internal Regulations

Document:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 7.1 Proposal for changes to the IUFRO Statutes and Internal Regulations (HQ)*

IUFRO Operations Manager Andre Purret provided overview of the proposed changes to IUFRO's Statutes and Internal Regulations, noting that since the last revisions in September 2021, the following additional items have merged that require changes:

- Nomination process for Division Co-Coordination;
- Membership fee updated rates (*reflecting adjustment of fees due to high inflation that was approved by the Board via electronic ballot vote in early 2022*);
- Sentence required by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance (Finanzamt);
- Removal of text about IUFRO officeholders serving IUFRO in their personal capacity;
- Eligibility of members to be selected for awards; selection procedure for Best Poster Awards;
- Change to the responsibilities of the Vice-President for Task Forces.

The proposed changes had been endorsed by the Management Committee. All the changes in the Statutes require a formal approval by the International Council, based on Board's recommendation. The changes in the Internal Regulations, require Board approval only.

Participants discussed the removal of text about serving in personal capacity and clarified the intention of describing in detail the nomination process of Division Co-Coordination.

The Chair proposed the following motion:

MOTION 4:

- Approve proposed changes to the Internal Regulations and make a recommendation to the International Council regarding the proposal for changes in the Statutes;

Seconded by Jens Peter Skovsgaard.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Action 9:

- *IUFRO HQ with guidance from President, to prepare electronic ballot vote for representatives of the IUFRO International Council, asking for approval of the proposed changes in the Statutes;*

Action 10:

- *IUFRO HQ to circulate the revised IUFRO Internal Regulations, approved by the Board in 2022, to the IUFRO International Council for information;*

8. IUFRO Divisions

Documents:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 8.1 Report of the Vice-President for Divisions (D. Kleinschmit)*
- *EB 9/2022 Doc 8.2 Compilation of proposed changes to the structure/units and officeholders (IUFRO HQ)*

Introduction by the IUFRO Vice-President for Divisions

Daniela Kleinschmit, the IUFRO Vice-President for Divisions noted that since the last Board Meeting, the Division Coordinators had continued discussions in several virtual meetings. Items discussed included the implementation of the Strategy Action Plan, guidelines for dual coordination of Divisions and difficulties with ensuring the diversity of future Co-Coordination. She pointed out the successful IFSA-IUFRO Summer School 2022 with the topic “Forest Policy for an EU-fit Ukraine” and communicated that the four winners from Ukraine would join the All-IUFRO conference, plus additional students whose travel was supported. She invited Enlarged Board members to join the various mentoring events taking place during the conference.

Report on the pre-Board meetings of Division Coordinators

Woodam Chung, Coordinator of IUFRO Division 3 and the representative of Divisions in the IUFRO Management Committee, provided highlights of the discussions from the virtual meetings of Division Coordinators. He stressed the importance of regular meetings of Division Coordinator and noted that some meetings had also involved Deputy Coordinators. At the last virtual meeting, held prior to the EBM on 14 September 2022, the topics under discussion included a) updates on Division Co-Coordinator nominations; b) reporting on the Strategy Action Plan, where progress has been made and feedback has been requested from Divisions; c) formats of input to the next Annual Reports; d)

collaboration between Divisions and Task Forces; and d) the next Board Meeting in India, about which concrete details were requested.

Action 11:

- *IUFRO HQ to share the draft Annual Report 2022 with Division Coordinators for their feedback;*

Activity highlights by Division Coordinators

Based on the agreement by the MC at its meeting in April 2022, the Division Coordinators were asked to present 1-2 highlights (1 slide) per Division. Highlights from their presentations:

- *Division 1 (Jens Peter Skovsgaard)* – successful online All-Division 1 Conference that will be repeated annually; cooperation with other Divisions and Task Forces could be intensified; “new normal” challenges such as travel costs and people skills; future directions include adaptive, interactive and close-to-nature silviculture, and silviculture at forest and landscape level.
- *Division 2 (Santiago C. González-Martínez)* – 10 conferences and other meetings with other Divisions, including two cross-Divisional meetings with Division 7; revamping of inactive units such as WP 2.02.23; creation of the WP 2.04.06 Award; highlight has been the nomination of the IUFRO Distinguished Service Award (DSA) to Ladislav Paule.
- *Division 3 (Woodam Chung)* – intra-Divisional dual coordination nomination procedure: nomination by 15.09, e-voting by 15.10; New Division 3 communication group with coordinator and deputies; 3 newsletters since October 2021; Division 3 social media account; hybrid COFE-FORMEC-IUFRO 2022 conference (4-7.10, Corvallis); 2nd Division 3 Doctoral Student Conference; emerging research topics include smart forestry (incl. robotics), sustainable forest operations and forest operations for forest landscape restoration.
- *Division 4 (Donald Hodges)* – disruption in Division Newsletter due to personnel change, but re-starting soon; worked on increasing gender and geographic diversity to attract younger and female scientists; active Division in terms of meetings, recently also more in-person meetings; webinar series has been very successful; considered Division-wide meeting in Vienna.
- *Division 5 (Pekka Saranpää)* – active in events such as IUFRO World Day 2021, World Wood Day 2022 and the 4th IUFRO Forest Products Culture Colloquium; planning of the All-Division 5 conference (4-8 June 2023, Cairns, Australia); challenge to find active unit coordinators and Division Co-Coordinators for the next term; overall geographical balance is good, but the gender balance needs improvement.
- *Division 6 (Cecil Konijnendijk van den Bosch)* – series of online webinars (5 in total so far); newsletter – with assistance of volunteer communication intern; session on One Health at the Vienna conference; events with heavy Division 6 involvement, e.g., EFUF in Belgrade and MMV in Latvia; strong Division 6 involvement in GFEP on Forests for Human Health (chaired by Division Coordinator); involvement in Task Forces (e.g. on gender equality); change in Division Coordinator as of September – Purabi Bose.
- *Division 7 (Rebecca Ganley on behalf of Tod Ramsfield)* – Three series of Forest Health webinars on YouTube; All Division 7 conference (6 - 9.09.2022 in Lisbon, Portugal; Hartig – Patterson Award for excellence in forest pathology research to Mike Wingfield and Brenda Wingfield, George Varley Award for excellence in forest entomology research to Manuela Branco, Forest Health Achievement award to Ecki Brockerhoff; new communications officer, Twitter and Facebook accounts; Future plans: increased mentoring opportunities by

incorporating early career researchers into officeholder positions; provision of easier access to hybrid meetings.

- *Division 8 (Sandra Luque)* – change of paradigms and shift towards more holistic approaches: efforts to engage stakeholders and policy-makers more effectively, building up synergies with initiatives (e.g., Restoration 20x20), associations (INTECOL), frameworks (IPBES, IPCC); work across the Health-Food-Water-Biodiversity-Climate nexus: exchange with Task Force on Forests and Water, also involved with forest and health assessment; webinar series; unit 4 working on climate had a very high-impact paper; one project funded by the EU; Facebook groups; wish for the new Division website.
- *Division 9 (Mónica Gabay)* – various interactions with academia, multilateral organizations and processes (UNFF, EFI, CBD, IPBES, Montreal Process); good geographical scope and diversity; various channels for communication and media and presence via various formats; selected emerging/hot topics (also for World Congress): bioeconomies, traditional forest knowledge, multiple values of forest and roles of forest stakeholders; multilateralism and other new governance perspectives etc.; invitation to the 8th Latin American Forest congress in March 2023 – good opportunity to showcase IUFRO in Latin America.

D. Kleinschmit and the meeting Chair thanked all Division Coordinators for their active engagement and leadership in IUFRO Divisions. In the discussion the need to increase cross-Divisional collaboration was noted. By way of example, it was mentioned that Division 5 covers not only wood-based products but also non-timber forest products with thematic linkages to other Divisions. It was noted that the topics of wood products and wood engineering have become more important globally, creating both options and challenges. In this context, the project proposal submitted by IUFRO to BML regarding the creation of a Global Wood Policy Platform was mentioned as a good example that creates opportunities for cross-Divisional collaboration. Moreover, the importance of inter-divisional cooperation beyond IUFRO, e.g., to policy arena, was stressed.

A question came up regarding the possibility of recognizing Divisional communication groups in IUFRO's structure (e.g., as a unit), given that such groups would not pursue strictly scientific tasks. HQ clarified that it would be possible in principle to add related provisions in the Statutes and International Regulations. Additionally, it was discussed if the communication officer positions could be also recognized within the units/Division. It was suggested having these positions as integral part of Division leadership. It was agreed to continue the discussion at the level of Division Coordinators.

Action 12:

- *Until the next Board Meeting, Division Coordinators to develop a proposal for recognizing Divisional communication groups and officers within IUFRO's structure;*

Changes in IUFRO Structure of Divisions and officeholders

D. Kleinschmit informed the Board that changes in structure and officeholders since the 60th EBM have been compiled into background document Doc 6.2. She highlighted that among the items requiring Board approval is the change in the Coordinator of Division 6 – Social Aspects of Forests and Forestry. Current Coordinator Cecil Konijnendijk van den Bosch is stepping down and Purabi Bose from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU (6.00.00 Deputy Coordinator, 6.08.01 Coordinator) has been nominated to take up this role.

A question was raised about the description of new units and why it has been missing from the background document on structure changes. IUFRO HQ clarified that indeed the current version

includes only list of changes, and that the new unit description would be included again next time. It was also confirmed that changes to Research Group Deputy Coordinators do not need Board approval.

The Chair proposed the following motion:

MOTION 5:

- To approve changes in the IUFRO structure and/or officeholders as reflected in Doc. 8.2;

Seconded by Woodam Chung and Donald Hodges.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Cecil Konijnendijk addressed the Enlarged Board with his farewell remarks. He noted that it was a personal decision and he is also partly leaving the academia. He will continue to support the work of Division 6 as one of the Deputy Coordinators. He was thankful for the good spirit and innovations within IUFRO. J. Parrotta expressed his appreciation to him for his dedicated and successful service to IUFRO.

Purabi Bose, who joined virtually, thanked Cecil for his commitment and support. She looked forward to the work ahead and thanked the IUFRO President and Executive Director for their continuous support to her.

9. IUFRO Task Forces

Documents:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 9.1 Report of the Vice-President for Divisions (S. Liu)*
- *EB 9/2022 Doc 9.2 Development and evaluation procedure for Task Force proposals (S. Liu)*
- *EB 9/2022 Doc 9.3 New Task Force on Precision Pest Management – full proposal (J. Allison)*
- *EB 9/2022 Doc 9.4 Summary of received comments - New Task Force proposal review (S. Liu)*

Introduction by the IUFRO Vice-President for Task Forces

Shirong Liu, the IUFRO Vice-President for Task Forces gave a presentation on the activities of the Task Forces since the last Board Meeting. The mandates of eight (8) Task Forces (TF) were approved until 2024. All of them have been successfully carrying out their planned work in virtual and other forms. One new TF application has been submitted and, based on the review of the Board, requires Board approval. He noted that one virtual meeting of the TF Coordinators took place on March 4, 2022, where several suggestions were made by the coordinators regarding mapping of expertise, communication and outreach, publication of outputs, as well as resource mobilization. Among the highlights of work of TFs, involvement in IUFRO World Day 2021, organization of and participation in international events, cross-cutting cooperation (with other TFs, Divisions, HQ and also beyond IUFRO), and various scientific syntheses were mentioned.

Activity highlights by Task Force Coordinators

Based on the agreement by the MC at its meeting in April 2022, also Task Force Coordinators were asked to present 1-2 highlights (1 slide) per TF. Highlights from their presentations:

- *Joint IUFRO-IFSA TF on Forest Education (Annie Biju, IFSA) – JTF participation in the XV World Forestry Congress, plus organization of two workshops on Social Forest Entrepreneurship and Fellowship Application and Proposal writing; upcoming activities include Best Practices competition 2023, workshop on building a successful Scholarship Application and project for a scientific article.*
- *TF Monitoring Global Tree Mortality Patterns and Trends (Henrik Hartmann) –successful*

webinar series (10 talks, more than 2000 registrations, 162 new YouTube channel subscribers); published database on tree mortality events; interdisciplinary conference sessions in Lisbon (All-Division 7 conf.) and Vienna (All-IUFRO conf.); online data survey with 200 contributors; manuscript to be submitted in fall 2022; three peer-reviewed publications; work in the policy interface (ForRISK: pan – European forest risk knowledge mechanism, TF Coordinator as observer in FOREST EUROPE).

- *TF Forest and Water Interactions in a Changing Environment (Adam Wei)* – 39 TF members in all continents; sessions at IUFRO World Day 2021; publication of 9 global reviews in FEM special issue on forest practices and water protection; developing a paper on emerging topics on forest and water; 6th IUFRO International Conference on Forests and Water (Beijing, China 2023; and international workshop on forest restoration and hydrological functions (Perth, Australia 2022/2023).
- *TF Gender Equality in Forestry (Gun Lidestav)* – plenary session at the All-IUFRO conference tackles gender as a cross-cutting issue as stimulates wider discussions amongst IUFRO members, based on recent gender-related research results in forestry; survey among officeholders and conference participants; continued discussions on the gender (un-)equality issue within IUFRO and activities in support of the IUFRO Strategy; database of gender experts on the IUFRO website.
- *TF Transforming Forest Landscape for Future Climates and Human Well-being (Andreas Bolte)* – session “Forest Degradation and Restoration” at the All-IUFRO conference (15 flash-talks and 8 posters), jointly organized with TF Monitoring of Global Tree Mortality; new joint webinar with EU Horizon project SUPERB on Forest Landscape Restoration (Global and European Perspective), from November 2022, in collaboration with EFI, Bonn.

Other TF Coordinators were not present in the meeting and could not present highlights from their Task Forces. S. Liu and the meeting Chair thanked Task Force Coordinators for their active engagement and leadership in IUFRO Task Forces. Task Force Coordinators were encouraged to submit proposals for sub-plenary sessions at the IUFRO World Congress 2024.

The Board discussed next steps regarding the recommendations for a gender equality action plan being prepared by the Task Force on Gender Equality in Forestry. The Task Force was invited by the Chair to present its recommendations for the IUFRO network at the next Board Meeting in India.

Action 13:

- *IUFRO Task Force on Gender Equality in Forestry to present their recommendations for IUFRO Network at the next Board Meeting in India;*

In the further discussions, the missing link in communication between Divisions and TFs was mentioned. Both groups have their separate meetings, but do not involve each other. There are many opportunities for joint collaboration, e.g., organizing interdisciplinary sessions at conferences, like was done in the Division 7 conference in Lisbon, and a number of sessions could be jointly proposed also for the World Congress 2024. It was added that the week in Vienna is most suitable for these discussions between the Divisions and Task Forces.

Action 14:

- *Divisions and Task Forces to discuss about submitting joint session proposal for the World Congress 2024;*

Procedure and timeline for inviting TF proposals for the next Board term

S. Liu presented the suggested procedure and timeline for inviting new Task Force proposals. The procedure, endorsed by the IUFRO Management Committee, requires the submission of a 1-2 page concept note, followed by review of Board members and TF coordinators, leading to a request for full TF proposals. The full proposals will then be reviewed by the Board. Based on the review comments and suggestions, the full proposals might need to be revised, followed by approval of the new Task Forces by the Board. The call for new TFs will be opened in September 2023, with the approval of the new TFs planned for May 2024.

In the discussions, it was noted that the procedure follows the example from the past. A question was asked whether the existing Task Forces need to also follow the same practice. In response, it was clarified that the procedure was the same for all applications, but in the case of existing Task Forces, the subject and focus needs to be revised as the TFs should ideally end their work by the end of each Board term (max 5 years).

Proposal received for new Task Force

S. Liu communicated that the Board review of the proposed new Task Force on Precision Pest Management has been finalized. S. Liu thanked the Board members and TF coordinators for their review comments and suggestions, noting that the applicant of the new TF, Jeremy Allison, has not yet had the time to respond in writing to Board's comments on the full proposal. Thus, the final formal step of the process was yet to be taken. The IUFRO Management Committee had discussed this and suggests to first receive the response document from the applicant, including revised final proposal (if required), and then the Board can vote via electronic ballot vote on the establishment of this new Task Force.

Action 15:

- *Vice-President for Task Forces to ask proponent of the new Task Force on Precision Pest Management to respond in writing to Board's comments and, if needed, revise the full proposal. Subsequently, IUFRO HQ to set up an electronic Board ballot vote for approval of the new Task Force;*

10. Special Programmes, Projects and IUFRO-led Initiatives

Documents:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 10.1 Compilation of reports by Coordinators of Special Programmes, Projects and IUFRO-led Initiatives (M. Kleine/Coordinators of SPDC, Directors' Forum, WFSE, GFEP)*

IUFRO Deputy Executive Director and Coordinator of IUFRO-SPDC Michael Kleine introduced the agenda item and provided remarks on the overall activities by IUFRO Special Programmes, Projects and Initiatives.

The Coordinators of IUFRO Special Programmes, Projects and IUFRO-led Initiatives (SPPs) – were invited to present 1-2 highlights (1 slide) each. Highlights from their presentations:

- *IUFRO Directors' Forum, DF (Peter Mayer)* – active participation and organization of sessions in the IUFRO World Day 2021; session about effective research communication at the All-IUFRO Conference.

Responding to a question about the plans for the World Congress 2024, P. Mayer noted that the Congress is a major event for DF and the development a sub-plenary session is ongoing.

- *IUFRO Special Project on World Forests, Society And Environment, IUFRO-WFSE (Pia Katila)* – WFSE should be defined rather as an open global network of scientists and experts than as a special project; development of comprehensive publication "Restoring forests for

sustainable development – policies, practices, impacts and ways forward” involving 72 scientists and experts globally, to be published as open access book by Oxford University Press; white paper on forest landscape restoration for climate, nature and people presented at GLF Climate: Forests, Food, Finance in 2021; three events organized focussing on FLR at GLF Climate 2021, UNFCCC COP26 in 2021 and XV World Forestry Congress in 2022; hybrid event at the IUFRO World Day.

Responding to a question about how WFSE is collaborating with other IUFRO units, P. Katila clarified that cooperation is generally between individual scientists and that several scientists, especially from Divisions, were actively involved in the latest publication as authors. M. Kleine added that WFSE and SPDC collaborated on FLR in cases of Ghana and India, where local scientists were involved.

- *Global Forest Expert Panels programme, GFEP (Christoph Wildburger)* – Launch of a new global report “Forests, Climate, Biodiversity and People: Assessing a Decade Of REDD+” and accompanying Policy Brief at the XV World Forestry Congress in May 2022, including related communication and outreach activities (e.g., press releases, GLF Climate and GLF Live, GIZ seminar, Spanish Policy Brief); publication based on the REDD+ stakeholder consultation in Asia and Latin America, involving 189 stakeholders in 12 countries, and its outreach plans; expanded Policy Brief on Forests and Poverty in Africa translations into different languages; continued work in GFEP assessment on Forests and Human Health, including session in the All-IUFRO Conference and a Panel Meeting in Vienna.

Responding to a question about the topics of the future GFEP assessments, C. Wildburger noted that a consultation process will start soon. He clarified that also a new topic for the update of a previous assessment needs to be chosen soon and could be on e.g., governance. It was added that, in addition to involving IUFRO scientists, the GFEP is successfully reaching out also to non-IUFRO scientists and thus advances greatly the cross-disciplinary cooperation.

- *IUFRO Special Programme for Development of Capacities, IUFRO-SPDC (Michael Kleine)* – 32 persons supported through the Scientist Assistance Programme (SAP) and 3 short scientific visits (SSV); training workshops with 40 people in both South Asia and Ethiopia; two thematic networking projects - one with scientists from Malawi/Sri Lanka/Central Asia and the other with scientists from Malawi and Guatemala (GLFx); session on FLR in the All-IUFRO Conference.

A general comment was made that opportunities for collaboration between SPPs and Divisions should be considered more systematically so that available expertise of Divisional units and officeholders can be utilized even more fully in responding to information requirements articulated by partners.

Action 16:

- *Special Programmes, Projects and IUFRO-led Initiatives to consider participating in the meetings of Division Coordinators to ensure information exchange and linkages;*

The Chair thanked M. Kleine, the Coordinators of Special Programmes, Projects and IUFRO-led Initiatives, and their teams for their work and efforts.

11. IUFRO Board and HQ

Document:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 11.1 Compilation of updated Terms of Reference for EB members (IUFRO HQ)*
- *EB 9/2022 Doc 11.2 Guidance for IUFRO officeholders (IUFRO HQ)*

IUFRO Operations Manager Andre Purret presented an overview of the updated Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Enlarged Board Members. The background of these updates was the need to be consistent with the recently approved IUFRO Statutes and Internal Regulations as they are cross-referenced in these ToRs. This includes the positions of the President, Vice-Presidents, Division Co-Coordination and Deputy Division Coordinators, Task Force Coordinators, President's Nominees and International Council representatives. Once approved, these will be uploaded to IUFRO's website and communicated within the Network.

The Chair proposed the following motion:

MOTION 6:

- Approve updated Terms of Reference of IUFRO Enlarged Board members;

Seconded by Donald Hodges.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Action 17:

- *IUFRO HQ to upload the updated Terms of Reference of IUFRO Enlarged Board members on the IUFRO website and circulate a related announcement to the Network;*

Guidance to IUFRO officeholders

J. Parrotta informed the Board that the IUFRO Management Committee with support by HQ has prepared a guidance document for IUFRO officeholders outlining the basic values and principles of IUFRO ("Promoting the IUFRO spirit"). The document serves as a reminder to all officeholders about IUFRO's vision, mission, core values and the principle of Freedom and Responsibility of Science of the International Science Council (ISC). All items guide the work in IUFRO and are included in IUFRO Statutes and Internal Regulations.

The Enlarged Board took note of the information presented by the President. It was suggested that the document be brought to the attention of all IUFRO officeholders and that it should also become part of the orientation package for new officeholders.

Action 18:

- *The President, with support from IUFRO HQ, to circulate the guidance for officeholders document within the Network, including via IUFRO News. Additionally, the document should become part of the orientation package for new officeholders;*

Information to the IUFRO Board: Distribution of tasks at IUFRO HQ

IUFRO Executive Director Alexander Buck presented an overview of the distribution of tasks by IUFRO HQ staff. The Enlarged Board took note of the information provided by A. Buck.

12. Welcome Day 2 and brief recap Day 1

The Chair provided a brief summary of the discussion items and main decisions made on the Day 1.

13. IUFRO President's Nominees (PNs)

Document:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 13.1 Compilation of written reports by President's Nominees (PNs)*

The President introduced this agenda item and the roles of the President's Nominees. He invited all President's Nominees to highlight a few key points from their written reports.

- *President's Nominee advising on resource mobilization (Hubert Hasenauer)* – activities carried out in three pillars: supported the organization of the EBM and All-IUFRO Conference in Vienna, including the excursion; served in various committees; strong impact on forestry issues coming from outside the sector – communication by scientists seen as key element; carbon research and certification system being developed.
- *President's Nominee for liaison with Latin America (Erich Gomes Schaitza)* – represented IUFRO in the session of the FAO Regional Forestry Commission in Latin America; with the team of Y. Oliveira, P. Mattos and K. Pichelli – circulated IUFRO communications by social media (LinkedIn and Facebook) and e-mail; organized database of contacts of people interested in receiving IUFRO-event related messages (list of 4.000 addresses) and a database for forest directors in L-America; in partnership with USDA Forest Service promoted an event on Forest Fires at IUFRO World Day 2021; started to prepare a conference entitled "Sustainable Management, the Role of Forests, Agroforestry and Agriculture", to be held in Curitiba, Brazil, in early October 2023 with direct links to the work of Divisions 1, 2, 4, 8 and 9.
- *President's Nominee for liaison with Asia (Kugbo Shim)* – supported communication between IUFRO HQ and NiFoS; activities at the XV World Forest Congress (May 2022, Seoul, Republic of Korea) – highlights include the Seoul Forest Declaration and the Ministerial Forum on Sustainable Wood where the Ministerial Call on Sustainable Wood was announced; reported on celebrations of the 100th anniversary of NiFoS.
- *President's Nominee for liaison with Africa (Wubalem Tadesse Wondifraw)* – literature review and book chapter preparation on *Pinus patula* in Africa; supported Kenya Forestry Research Institute, KEFRI in bidding for the host of the World Congress 2029; FLR training for Ethiopian experts and researchers; awareness creation about IUFRO, dissemination of IUFRO News, papers and announcements.
- *President's Nominee for liaison with China (Wenfa Xiao)* – promoted IUFRO activities and cooperation in China; support in agroforestry partnership activities such as with FTA on science and technology; discussion on contributions to the World Congress 2024; promoted call for IUFRO awards among IUFRO members in China; promoted exchange with young scientists, including capacity development; looked forward to further cooperation between China and IUFRO.

The Chair thanked the President's Nominees for their work and contributions. He noted that one of the President's Nominee, Elena Paoletti will present her reports under different agenda items (Honours and Awards Committee, Congress Scientific Committee).

On behalf of IUFRO HQ Host Country representative M. Patek, Magdalena Lackner-Unger thanked K. Shim and his colleagues for hosting and supporting the Sustainable Wood event at the XV World Forestry Congress, paving the way to a new joint project on wood policy. A. Buck thanked K. Shim for the bilateral collaboration.

In the discussions, it was noted that the way in which forest-related challenges are perceived by the public does not sufficiently reflect regional differences, as was e.g., reflected by the discussions in Europe about forest loss. There are regional circumstances, as well as different dimensions related to land use competition and management that could be communicated more efficiently by the scientists to the decision-makers.

Regarding the situation in Latin America, the need was pointed out to raise awareness about the value of natural forests in the region against a trend of internationally traded forest products increasingly being sourced from planted forests. Moreover, there was a need for improving common understanding of key terms and definitions, such as sustainable forest management or strict conservation, across different regions.

Degradation and deforestation were pointed out as major challenges in Africa. It was noted that the drivers behind these are the real issue that should be kept in mind. It was suggested considering workshops with policymakers in Africa, where forest scientists can present what is happening, drivers behind etc. It was added that forest science alone cannot solve the problems and communication has to go beyond forest sector.

When discussing the involvement of more African scientists in IUFRO, it was noted that local challenges and dynamics need to be taken into account. Efforts of individual scientists to get involved in IUFRO need to be supported by broader efforts at the institutional level of member organizations and the forestry administration in a given country.

The GFEP assessment on Forests and Poverty, including the African Policy Brief, and the update study on REDD+, plus the stakeholder report were highlighted as example of successful involvement of African scientists and stakeholders.

It was concluded that the topic is very important and that a high-level workshop, with focus on international science informing local policies, with participation of political actors in Africa is desirable. Additional suggestions included connecting the research and deforestation-free trade initiatives in European Union to the workshop, and working with IUFRO members in Africa.

Action 19:

- *IUFRO HQ, with the help of Board Members, to consider options for holding a high-level science-meets-policy workshop with political actors in Africa during the next Board term.*

Commenting on what can IUFRO offer to scientists around the world, it was noted that the aim should not only be to collect new members but also communicate with them, and the communication should go beyond the high-level only. IUFRO could promote success stories and make the change in these regions possible, including via informing the public and local stakeholders.

14. Honours and Awards Committee (HAC)

Document:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 14.1 Report of the Chair of the Honours and Awards Committee (HAC Chair)*

The Chair of the IUFRO Honours and Awards Committee (HAC) Elena Paoletti provided an update on the developments in the HAC and its activities since the last Board Meeting. She highlighted that the call for nominations for awards to be presented at the World Congress 2024 was launched (deadline 15 May 2023) and invited all Board Members, especially Division Coordinators, to circulate the call for nominations widely. She noted that nominations can be submitted via an online form, and thanked IUFRO HQ for its support. She added that there is now the possibility to mention in the nomination form for Scientific Achievement Awards (SAA) the relevance of the nomination to a specific Division.

She informed the Board about the developments regarding the Distinguished Service Awards (DSA). At the last EBM two new awards were approved. Due to Covid-19 it was not possible to present these awards in-person. DSA to K. Suzuki was handed over locally in Japan in spring 2022 and L. Paule's

awards will be presented at the All-IUFRO Conference. She communicated that two additional DSA nominations have been received, to recognize long-term and high value service by individuals to IUFRO. E. Mikkola coordinated the Global Forest Information Service (GFIS) for 15 years and R. Pruessler coordinated SilvaVoc terminology service and was then a long-standing member of IUFRO HQ. The HAC had evaluated both nominations very positively and recommends to the Board to approve these DSAs. If approved, the awards can be handed over in the closing ceremony of the All-IUFRO Conference in Vienna. She ended by noting that the HAC will hold its next, hybrid meeting in Vienna shortly.

The Chair thanked E. Paoletti for her work and proposed the following motion:

MOTION 7:

- Based on the recommendation by the Honours and Awards Committee, award Eero Mikkola from Finland and Renate Prüller from Austria with the Distinguished Service Award (DSA);

Seconded by Mike Wingfield.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Action 20:

- *The President and the CSC Chair to present the DSA awards to the nominated candidates during the closing ceremony of the All-IUFRO Conference in Vienna;*

A question was raised about the nomination procedure. It was noted that the SAA and ODRA can be nominated by an IUFRO member organization or individual member. The IUFRO Student Award for Excellence in Forest Science (ISA) and the BPA nominations are open to anyone. It was added that HAC made efforts to ensure gender equity also in the awards, but it is not easy to get this information.

In the discussion, it was noted that some Divisions present inter-Divisional awards and that perhaps there could be links between these awards and the HAC. It was clarified that any unit can create these types of recognitions/awards, these can be set up easily and the benefit is great, especially for the young scientists. The HAC will discuss the possible links to their work.

Another comment was made about the Outstanding Doctoral Research Award, ODRA that is currently given out only at each World Congress. As this award depends on when a person handed in their PhD thesis, it was suggested changing the frequency of presenting these awards. These awards could be given out at smaller events, but still recognized at the World Congresses. An additional suggestion was to consider presenting IUFRO awards also to also groups, teams or institutes, in addition to the individuals. This could also increase the visibility of IUFRO.

Action 21:

- *The Honours and Awards Committee (HAC) to consider presenting Outstanding Doctoral Research Award (ODRA) more frequently than every five years;*

Action 22:

- *The Honours and Awards Committee (HAC) to discuss the feasibility of presenting IUFRO awards also to groups, teams or institutes, in addition to individuals.*

15. Nominating Committee (NC)

The Chair of the Nominating Committee, IUFRO's Immediate Past President Mike Wingfield informed the Board about the ongoing nominating process, including the timeline. He highlighted that further guidance on nominating Division Co-coordinators was sent to all members and officeholders in July

2022. These guidelines were prepared jointly by the current Division Coordinators with guidance by the Vice-President for Divisions. The deadline for nominations is 31 October 2022. IUFRO HQ will check the received nominations for their completeness and forwards them to the Nomination Committee (NC). The NC will evaluate them and makes a recommendation to the IUFRO Board, followed by Board's vote at the 62nd Board Meeting in India (27-28 March 2023). As was agreed earlier, the President's Nominees will not be part of this nomination process and will be selected by the President-elect.

Responding to the request from the Board members, IUFRO HQ described the documents required for nominating the Division Co-Coordiators. The new recommended, but not mandatory documents were discussed between the Division Coordinators and include:

- a) statement as to how the dual co-coordinator candidates will enhance equity, diversity and inclusion for the Division, and should also outline previous involvement of both co-coordinator candidates in Division activities, and in their scientific field(s);
- b) a joint statement from the dual co-coordinator candidates outlining actions that they have taken in IUFRO or other organizations to increase participation by underrepresented groups, and their vision for enhancing equity, diversity and inclusion within their Division; and
- c) an identity statement from each of the dual co-coordinator candidates and/or a joint statement from the two candidates of the dual co-coordinator team, with the intent to determine the extent to which each dual co-coordinator candidate team under consideration will enhance participation of underrepresented groups in Division leadership roles and on the voting Board.

It was noted that these statements are a major step forward and the same procedure should be in the future followed for the other positions, such as the Vice-Presidents and the President.

Action 23:

- *IUFRO HQ to circulate the reminder for the call for nominations for voting members of the IUFRO Board 2024-2029;*

Furthermore, the coordination and synergies between the co-coordination team was discussed. It is understood that the two Co-Coordiators are expected to work well together and agree beforehand on the issues to be taken up at the Board Meetings. Regarding the travelling to Board Meetings, it was noted that ideally both Co-Coordiators would attend the meetings, but in case that was not possible, one could attend and vote on behalf of both based on prior consultations. Additionally, there are budget implications, since IUFRO HQ cannot support the attendance of too many Board Members from its regular budget. It was also noted that this new structure is an experiment that can be evaluated in the middle of the next Board term. Regarding the participation of Deputy Division Coordinators, it was suggested holding the first meeting in the new term as in-person Enlarged Board Meeting. In any other EB meeting, the Deputy Division Coordinators could join in virtually. In general, the future (Enlarged) Board Meetings will likely all be hybrid.

Responding to a question whether the co-coordination can take effect already before the World Congress 2024, it was noted that the formal appointment starts only at the Congress, but the conversations about the future between current and incoming Division leaders can and should start before. It was suggested to develop letters to the incoming co-coordinators after the International Council has approved the incoming Board Members (tentatively August 2023).

Action 24:

- *Once approved by the International Council, the IUFRO President to send out personal letters to the incoming Voting Board Members 2024-2029;*

A comment was made that some officeholders in Divisions were surprised in the past to learn that they

had served already two terms and should step down. It would be thus desirable to remind officeholders whose period is ending in 2024 in advance.

Action 25:

- *IUFRO HQ to compile a list of officeholders by Divisions whose term will end with the IUFRO World Congress 2024, and provide this to all Division Coordinators. Subsequently, the Division Coordinators to remind those officeholders that their term is ending;*

16. IUFRO Communications

Documents:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 16.1 Report on communication activities (IUFRO HQ)*

Summary of activities since the 60th Enlarged Board Meeting

With reference to the Strategic Communications Plan 2020-2024, Gerda Wolfrum (Coordinator PR & Communication) pointed out that the effectiveness and impact of IUFRO's communication activities depends significantly on the support by the Enlarged Board members and their support in passing information down to all levels. She introduced José Bolaños, the new "Communications Manager" in IUFRO HQ. She continued by highlighting the process of the website redesign, social media work and building media presence in the German-speaking region. IUFRO had hired an Austria-based agency who might also contact the Board Members for interview purposes. She then highlighted media work related to international events such as the IUFRO World Day 2021, International Day of Forest 2021, and launch of GFEP a Decade of REDD+ publication. She also noted some changes such as the discontinuation of Spotlight series, development of a podcast series and the newly formatted and designed IUFRO Annual Report.

Brigitte Burger (Web Management and Social Media, Network Communication) gave an overview of the social media activities. She noted that IUFRO has had Twitter account since 2009, Facebook page since 2014 and Instagram since 2017. She noted that the content for the social media posts comes from the events and updates/news of units, from IUFRO's partners, but also from other forest-related news. Many units and partners have their own social media presence and IUFRO HQ is sharing and redistributing the news and campaigns. She highlighted the various webinar series as a major milestone. All units were reminded to continuously share their news and social media posts with IUFRO HQ. Increased social media presence, also in terms of visuals, is expected in the future with the help of Jose. In general, the number of all subscribers and followers to IUFRO social media channels are increasing.

Responding to a question about the structure of the planned podcast series, it was noted that more information can be shared at the next Board Meeting, and that the details will depend largely on the input by Divisions and Task Forces. Another question was asked about whether the numbers of followers and subscribers also counts the channels of units. It was clarified that the numbers reported to the Board annually have so far been restricted to IUFRO HQ numbers only. It was suggested to also count the followers for units, but the units should then regularly provide this information to IUFRO HQ. It was added that IUFRO HQ follows the Divisional pages in social media (including handles) and the posts that are being share widely will have generate more impact. EBM members were reminded to tag IUFRO in their social media activities.

Action 26:

- *Divisions and Task Forces to inform IUFRO HQ regularly about the number of their social media followers and subscribers;*

A question was asked about whether Divisions and other units should maintain and develop their separate communication pages or whether this could be done centrally by IUFRO HQ. It was clarified that units should keep their social media channels and IUFRO HQ can share the content from these. It was added that IUFRO HQ relies heavily on officeholders to multiply the messages and pass them on locally to member organizations, governments, and stakeholders. On the topic of potentially also using non-western channels, it was noted that this is currently being done to some extent in collaboration with local partners within the limits of available resources. For example, IUFRO HQ has been working with the Chinese Academy of Forestry in distributing information within China. It was added that IUFRO HQ welcomes more photos that can be used in social media.

Update on Information Systems Redesign, including website

Carola Egger (IUFRO Information Resources Manager) started by explaining the reasons behind the website redesign: offering a more sophisticated resources centre; attracting more interest in IUFRO; provide more visibility to units; showcase IUFRO activities and events; provide space for online collaboration; and provide more possibilities to participate and contribute content. She noted that the project objectives are to a) restructure IUFRO's website to support a dynamic data structure system that is easily adaptable and flexible; b) improve the look and feel of the IUFRO website, attractive design for the user, and make it easy to navigate; and c) put in place an advanced search engine, so that information and resources can be found easily and quickly.

C. Egger then explained the difference between a static and dynamic website. The dynamic webpage pulls information from the databases in the back-end. In this way future redesigns can be done much more easily as they only concern the style and design of the front-end pages while links and connections to the database remain in place. She also presented the updated project timeline noting that the launch is planned for the second half of 2023. On finances and budget, she noted that IUFRO HQ has worked intensively on building internal skills for planning and redesign and that activities in 2022 have been implemented based on in-house expertise and experiences using available and newly mobilized project funding. She added that most of the external costs will occur in 2023 and that IUFRO HQ will undertake efforts to cover expenses in 2023 through existing resources and donor funding. The overall aim is to have a sophisticated product, but at a lower cost level than initially anticipated. She presented examples of how some of the pages would look like.

Brigitte Burger (Web Management and Social Media, Network Communication) presented the proposed Division webpages and content submission forms. She stressed the importance of inputs by IUFRO units and officeholders for the new concept to work well. Information will be uploaded in the new website by Unit officeholders or their designated focal persons through submission forms. In addition, also member organizations will have a login area and be given the possibility to upload information. Tutorials and manuals will be available to guide officeholders and members. Concerning the control of the content being uploaded, B. Burger clarified that submitted content will be checked by IUFRO HQ before being posted, similar to the current procedure with unit mailing lists. A fair use policy might be needed in the future to prevent abuse of the website for self-promotion of individual scientists.

It was commented in the discussion that the timeline is ambitious and would constitute quite a strain on human resources at HQ. HQ clarified that it has made a modest investment of donor funds into contracting external experts to assist with the information system redevelopment. The next steps will be to finalize a detailed technical document for the new website and to invite tenders from companies for programming and graphic design. In all scenarios, the new website is expected to be functional well before the World Congress 2024.

Responding to a question about the maintaining of and linking the legacy information, it was noted that units will be soon asked to review existing content and all items that should be kept will be transferred to the new website.

The Enlarged Board took note of the report by IUFRO HQ and the Chair thanked all presenters.

17. IUFRO World Congress 2024

Documents:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 17.1 Report of the Chair of the Congress Organizing Committee (COC Chair)*
- *EB 9/2022 Doc 17.2 Report of the Chair of the Congress Scientific Committee (CSC Chair)*

Report by the Chair of the Congress Organizing Committee, COC

The Chair invited Björn Hånell, the Senior Advisor in the Congress Organizing Committee (COC) of the IUFRO World Congress 2024 to inform the Board about the Congress arrangements and preparatory activities on behalf of the Congress Secretariat. Among the highlights from the written report of the COC Chair Fredrik Ingemarson, B. Hånell noted the successes from the International Day of Forests 2022 and the XV World Forestry Congress. He added that the human resources at the Congress Secretariat are increasing and that the work of the COC is in line with the management plan. The platform for the session proposals has been set up and proposals are coming in. The COC is hoping for a great congress with strong media coverage and satisfactory experience for the delegates. The Congress Scientific Committee (CSC) is preparing a programme in line with the SDGs and IUFRO's scientific structure. He added that the representatives of COC, CSC and IUFRO will meet soon to discuss the final structure of the congress, including the number of session slots. He listed the upcoming key international events, including the meeting of IUFRO, CSC and COC in Uppsala (January 2023). He concluded his report by presenting the final logotype and design for the World Congress 2024 endorsed by the MC in its April meeting.

In the discussions, the importance of being as inclusive as possible by setting up different support schemes for scholarships etc. was noted. It was also suggested making the congress as carbon-neutral as possible, e.g., by setting up a list of recommended partner organizations (including airlines) that are carbon neutral and transparent about how the money for the carbon offsetting is used, setting aside a portion of the registration fee for carbon offsetting, having no congress bags and printing only on demand.

Report by the Chair of the Congress Scientific Committee, CSC

J. Parrotta invited Elena Paoletti, the Chair of Congress Scientific Committee (CSC) of the IUFRO World Congress 2024 to report on the developments regarding the CSC and the scientific planning of the Congress. She noted that the call for session proposals is online (deadline 13 October 2022), and invited high-level, diverse and interdisciplinary proposals. She noted that it is not yet clear how many slots for scientific sessions there can be, but in case there are fewer slots than expected, the plan is to aim for a higher quality of sessions. All proposals will be evaluated in the CSC by the representatives from each Division starting November 2022. Session proponents will be notified by mid-January 2023 about the results of the evaluation by the CSC. She added that the congress themes are available on the congress website. The CSC also interacted with the COC and the Professional Congress Organizer (PCO) regarding the set-up of the software for collecting proposals. Jointly with the COC and IUFRO HQ, the five (5) scientific keynote speakers were also selected and will be formally invited by IUFRO HQ. When discussing the selection of the 5 non-scientific keynote speakers, the overall gender balance

(50/50) will be followed. She also noted that the Strategic Concept for the congress, including the division of tasks between the CSC, COC and IUFRO HQ, was jointly developed. E. Paoletti thanked the CSC members and IUFRO HQ for all the work done so far.

In the discussions, it was noted that the administrative meetings of IUFRO units should ideally not be overlapping with scientific sessions. Moreover, the importance of providing sufficient networking opportunities during the Congress was pointed out in the discussion.

The Board also discussed opportunities and challenges regarding possible virtual or hybrid participation in the Congress. While such options should be carefully considered, it was emphasized by the CSC and the COC that the overall aim was to have a large in-person meeting in Stockholm and that virtual options had not yet been considered when sending out the call for session proposals. In general, a clear policy on types of participation needs to be developed and communicated.

As regards student involvement, IFSA President A. Rosello noted that IFSA is very interested in being more engaged before and during the Congress and that the new Head of IUFRO Sub-Commission, M. Jovanovic, will join the HAC and CSC.

Responding to questions about the criteria for evaluation of session proposals, it was clarified that the primary criterion is scientific quality, followed by the relevance to the Congress themes, diversity and collaboration with other units. A panel of experts composed of 2-3 CSC representatives from each Division (and some invited members such as IFSA) will check the quality. It was clarified that the session organizers will select the relevant abstracts for their sessions, once the call for abstracts is closed.

18. IUFRO World Congress 2029

The Chair invited IUFRO Operations Manager Andre Purret to present an overview of the bidding process up to now. A. Purret highlighted that the deadline for bids was 15 April 2022, and that by the deadline three (3) bids were submitted from: 1) Edmonton, Canada; 2) Nairobi, Kenya; and 3) Bangkok, Thailand. IUFRO HQ checked the compliance of bids with formal requirements and criteria as set out in the Bidding Rules and Call for Bids and concluded that all three bids should proceed to the review by the IUFRO Management Committee. In the review, the MC members evaluated the following components of the bid against the agreed criteria: host country; host city; Congress venue; possibilities for virtual and/or hybrid participation; finances; and in-Congress and post-Congress tours.

IUFRO President J. Parrotta, as Chair of the MC, informed the Board that based on the evaluation by the MC, the bids from Edmonton, Canada and Nairobi, Kenya were shortlisted for the next steps in the bidding process.

A. Purret informed the Board about the timeline and next steps in the bidding process. The immediate next step is to inform all bidders about the status of their proposals and to do the site visits to Canada and Kenya by the end of 2022. The MC will discuss the site visit reports in January, and invites the bidders to update their bids, if desired so. By the end of February, the updated bids will be made available to the Board Members. The recommendation by the Board on the host of the 2029 World Congress will be voted at the 62nd Board Meeting in India (27-28 March 2023), following the presentations of and discussion on the bids. The International Council (IC) is expected to vote on the host of the Congress 2029, following the Board's recommendation, by the end of July 2023.

The information provided by IUFRO HQ and the President was noted. It was added that the first ever IUFRO Congress in Africa could be a real milestone, but it is ultimately the decision of the Board and International Council.

Action 27:

- *IUFRO HQ to inform the bidders for the host of the XXVII IUFRO World Congress 2029 of the status of their proposals by 30.09.2022. The shortlisted (up to three) bidding countries to be invited to present the detailed documents and a slide/video presentation on the venue and facts relevant to the Congress 2029 to the IUFRO Board at its 62nd meeting in 2023 in India;*

Action 28:

- *MC and IUFRO HQ representatives to visit the sites of the invited bidding countries by 31 December 2022, and prepare a written report about the results of the site visits;*

Action 29:

- *Latest by 27 January 2023, the MC to discuss the results of the site visits and invite the short-listed bidders to update their bids, if desired so, with the deadline of 28 February 2022;*

Action 30:

- *IUFRO HQ to make the results of the site visits, updated bids and unilaterally signed agreements available to the Board prior to its 62nd Board Meeting in spring 2023;*

Action 31:

- *The shortlisted best bids to present to the Board at its 62nd meeting in 2023 in India. After the presentations by bidding countries, the Board to discuss the merits of the bids within the context of the criteria for selection contained in the bidding rules and thereafter to vote for the best candidate to be recommended to the IUFRO International Council for final decision. Board members from countries submitting bids should recuse themselves from the process;*

19. IUFRO Finances and Fundraising

Documents:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 19.1 IUFRO Annual Account 2021 (IUFRO HQ)*
- *EB 9/2022 Doc 19.2 Status of Budget 2022 and Budget Proposal 2023 (IUFRO HQ)*

Astrid Toppel (IUFRO Finances and Administration) presented an overview of the financial figures of the audited Annual Account 2021, including the trends of financial income and expenditure over the past 5 years. An electronic version of the complete audit report (PDF) can be provided by HQ on request. She clarified that the profit made in 2021 will balance out losses of the past few years in line with IUFRO's legal nature of a non-profit organization.

A question was asked about the activities in the IUFRO-Mondi partnership and what is expected by Mondi in return for their funding. IUFRO HQ clarified that the partnership constitutes a science-business platform for the private sector and scientific community and follows clear partnership policy guidelines, and that the most important guiding principles have been agreed on and include independence and transparency, and the results from the partnership (summaries of events and consultations) remain in the public domain.

The Chair proposed the following motion:

MOTION 8:

- *Based on the recommendation by the MC, to approve the income and expenditures of the Union in 2021 and release the President and Executive Director of legal obligations deriving from financial issues and the annual account 2021;*

Seconded by Pekka Saranpää.

The motion was carried unanimously.

A. Toppel continued with presenting the budget status 2022 (up to July 2022) and the budget proposal for 2023. She noted that the expenditures in 2022 are on track. On the income side some contributions by two donors had not yet been received by the end of July, but were expected to be received before the end of the fiscal year. She also presented the investment portfolio and its distribution. For the 2023 budget figures, she noted that 4% inflation rate on expenditures was included.

In the discussions it was further clarified that IUFRO HQ in principle follows the salary increases of the public sector in Austria, and that has so far been around 2% annually. Responding to a comment about probable higher costs for travelling in the future, IUFRO HQ travels will need to be planned more selectively. Regarding the high amount of the International Science Council (ISC) fee, it was explained that the fee is based on the incoming membership fee amounts of the 31 organizations and unions in the ISC. Since IUFRO has many members and the incoming fees add up, we have to also pay a high fee.

The Board took note of the status of the budget 2022 and the Chair proposed the following motion:

MOTION 9:

- Based on the recommendation by the MC, to approve the budget proposal for 2023;

Seconded by Pekka Saranpää, Daniela Kleinschmit, Sandra Luque and Mónica Gabay.

The motion was carried unanimously.

A. Buck communicated that additional information about detailed fundraising activities by IUFRO HQ can be found in the report of the Executive Director (Doc 4.2). He thanked all IUFRO's funding partners for their continued support. He added that the resource mobilization might become more challenging in coming years due to increasing political and economic challenges, and further diversification of donors could help to reduce the risks. In this context, he asked Board Members to support IUFRO in identifying potential new funding sources, such as foundations etc. The biggest hurdle is to get access to these donors and this is time-consuming, thus Board Members with established contacts could serve as door openers. The IFSA President noted that also IFSA would be very grateful for identifying sources of funding for collaborative activities between IFSA and IUFRO.

While EU funding programmes for research were identified as a potential funding source for IUFRO, it was noted that accessing EU funds is very complex and competitive and requires detailed knowledge of related institutions and procedures. Responding to a question about whether IUFRO could provide support letters for funding proposals to European Union, or facilitate access by member organizations to bigger funding sources, it was noted that IUFRO HQ does not provide support letters for project submission by individual member organizations or groups of members. The reason is that other member organizations might apply for the same funding sources, and one member cannot be favored by IUFRO over another, and it would not be a fair competition.

IUFRO HQ informed the Board that as the All-IUFRO Conference was organized on a very short notice, the number of in-person participants is a bit lower than expected and that might result in a small deficit. Thus, the MC has agreed that up to 8.000 EUR from the Strategic Fund can be used, in case needed.

20. Major IUFRO meetings and other events

Documents:

- *EB 9/2022 Doc 20.1 Updated schedule of IUFRO Board, MC and other meetings (HQ)*

The Chair informed the Board about the updated schedule of IUFRO Board and MC Meetings and other events until 2024. It was noted that a meeting of the Management Committee in Ghana will take place

in the 2nd part of September 2023. The 62nd Board Meeting in India (27-28 March 2023) will be organized back-to-back with the international conference on Resilient Landscapes, reducing the carbon footprint of these events. The conference will be planned jointly with IUFRO member Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE). It was clarified that as it is a Board Meeting, the Enlarged Board Members who are not in the Board could possibly join in virtually if the technical systems allow. It was requested that all Voting Board members consider joining in-person as many important decisions will be taken in this meeting. In case in-person participation is not possible, one could designate representative (e.g., Division Deputy Coordinator) to attend. As a fallback option, IUFRO HQ will consider an online tool for secure voting for the Voting Board Members attending virtually. Additionally, it was noted that the Ministry of Internal Affairs in India has asked IUFRO, through ICFRE, to provide the details of the foreign participants who are going to take part in the Board Meeting and International conference. Therefore, IUFRO HQ will send an electronic form/survey to all Board Members after the meeting with the request to provide this personal information and to give HQ permission (in accordance with GDPR) to pass on this information to ICFRE. It was also encouraged that Board Members already apply for Indian visa (e.g., a tourist visa).

Action 32:

- *IUFRO HQ to set up an online form for collecting personal data and consent from Board Members prior to the next Board Meeting in March 2023 in India;*

The Chair of the Conference Scientific Committee, CSC of the All-IUFRO Conference, and Coordinator of Division 4, Donald Hodges was invited to provide a brief update about on the conference. D. Hodges highlighted the title of the conference “Forests in a Volatile World – Global Collaboration to Sustain Forests and Their Societal Benefits” and gave an overview of the conference structure. He noted that there are no concurrent sessions, and all seven plenary sessions have different formats aimed at generating ideas on how to address posed challenges, identify research priorities and establish sustainable collaborations. In addition, there are keynote presentations by F. Kraxner (IIASA) and D. Kleinschmit (University of Freiburg) who is also IUFRO’s Vice-President, poster sessions, mentoring sessions, business meetings and the excursion. Hodges closed by highlighting that in total, more than 400 abstracts were submitted, there are around 95 presentations, 170 registered in-person participants and almost 600 registered virtual participants from 90 countries. He thanked the members of the CSC, including the session moderators, and the IUFRO HQ staff for their great support.

H. Hasenauer gave an overview of the excursion plans. The first stop is Kaiserbrunn, a forested watershed from where the drinking water for Vienna comes from. The second stop is the black pine forest in Steinfeld.

The Chair thanked D. Hodges and H. Hasenauer for their efforts.

21. Other items and evaluation of the meeting

The Chair invited participants to bring any other items to the attention of the Enlarged Board. Participants thanked BOKU for the hospitality and venue. The hybrid set up of the meeting was praised as it worked very well for the virtual participants. A. Buck explained that IUFRO HQ welcomes any feedback from the participants.

22. Closure of the meeting

The IUFRO President as Chair of the meeting thanked the Enlarged Board Members, invited participants and IUFRO HQ staff for their active contributions and support to the meeting behind the scenes.

Annex I: List of participants in alphabetical order

IUFRO Enlarged Board:

Annie Biju – Co-Coordinator, Joint IUFRO-IFSA Task Force on *Forest Education*
Andreas Bolte – Coordinator, Task Force on *Transforming Forest Landscapes for Future Climates and Human Well-Being*
Purabi Bose – Deputy Coordinator, Division 6 – Social Aspects of Forests and Forestry (*virtual*)
Alexander Buck – IUFRO Executive Director
Woodam Chung – Coordinator, Division 3 – Forest Operations Engineering and Management
Mercy Afua Adutwumwaa Derkyi – Deputy Coordinator, Division 9 – Forest Policy and Economics
Mónica Gabay – Coordinator, Division 9 – Forest Policy and Economics
Rebecca Ganley – Deputy Coordinator, Division 7 – Forest Health
Santiago C. González-Martínez – Coordinator, Division 2 – Physiology and Genetics
Henrik Hartmann – Coordinator, Task Force on *Monitoring Global Tree Mortality Patterns and Trends*
Hubert Hasenauer – President’s Nominee advising on resource mobilization
Agustin Rosello Hinrichs – President, International Forestry Students’ Association (IFSA)
Donald Hodges – Coordinator, Division 4 – Forest Assessment, Modelling and Management
Pia Katila – Coordinator, Special Project on World Forests, Society and Environment (WFSE) (*virtual*)
Maartje Johanna Klapwijk – Deputy Coordinator, Division 7 – Forest Health (*virtual*)
Michael Kleine – IUFRO Deputy Executive Director; Coordinator, IUFRO Special Programme for Development of Capacities (SPDC)
Daniela Kleinschmit – IUFRO Vice-President Divisions
Cecil C. Konijnendijk van den Bosch – Coordinator, Division 6 – Social Aspects of Forests and Forestry
Magdalena Lackner-Unger – (representing M. Patek) IUFRO Headquarters host country representative
Gun Lidestav – Coordinator, Task Force on *Gender Equality in Forestry*
Jinlong Liu – Deputy Coordinator, Division 9 – Forest Policy and Economics (*virtual*)
Shirong Liu – IUFRO Vice-President Task Forces, Special Programmes, Projects and IUFRO-led Initiatives (*virtual*)
Sandra S. Luque – Coordinator, Division 8 – Forest Environment
Peter Mayer – Coordinator, IUFRO Special Programme Directors’ Forum
Elena Paoletti – Chair, Congress Scientific Committee (CSC), IUFRO World Congress 2024; Chair, Honours and Awards Committee (HAC); Deputy Coordinator, Division 8 – Forest Environment
Pil Sun Park – Deputy Coordinator, Division 1 – Silviculture
John A. Parrotta – IUFRO President
Maria Patek – IUFRO Headquarters host country representative
Tod Ramsfield – Coordinator, Division 7 – Forest Health (*virtual*)
Pekka Saranpää – Coordinator, Division 5 – Forest Products (*virtual*)
Erich Gomes Schaitza – President’s Nominee for liaison with Latin America
Kugbo Shim – President’s Nominee for liaison with Asia
Jens Peter Skovsgaard – Coordinator, Division 1 – Silviculture
Alexia Stokes – Deputy Coordinator, Division 8 – Forest Environment (*virtual*)
Marjana Westergren – Deputy Coordinator, Division 2 – Physiology and Genetics
Christoph Wildburger – Coordinator, Global Forest Expert Panels (GFEP) Programme
Michael J. Wingfield – IUFRO Immediate Past President
Wubalem Tadesse Wondifraw – President’s Nominee for liaison with Africa
Wenfa Xiao – President’s Nominee for liaison with China (*virtual*)

Invited participants:

Björn Hånell – Congress Organizing Committee (COC), IUFRO World Congress 2024

Yuan Mei – APFNet representative

Eva Shulev-Steindl – Rector of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU)

IUFRO Headquarters:

José Bolaños – Communications Manager

Brigitte Burger – Web Management and Social Media, Network Communication

Janice Burns – Thematic Networking Manager and IUFRO-SPDC Deputy Coordinator

Daniel Böhnke – Project Manager/IUFRO-Mondi Partnership Manager

Dikshya Devkota – Project Manager, Global Forest Experts Panels (GFEP) Programme

Carola Egger – Information Resources Manager

Ioana Grecu – IUFRO-SPDC Project Administrator

Nelson Grima – Project Manager, Global Forest Experts Panels (GFEP) Programme

Andre Purret – Operations Manager

Eva Schimpf – Membership Services, Project Management and Translation Services

Judith Stöger-Goiser – Finances and Controlling

Astrid Tippel – Finances and Administration

Gerda Wolfrum – Coordinator, PR and Communication, Publications and Translation