

**Forests and Society
The Role of Research**

**XXI IUFRO WORLD CONGRESS
7 - 12 AUGUST 2000
Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia**

Resolutions (English)

RESOLUTIONS
of the
21st Congress International Union of Forestry Research Organizations

12 August 2000

	CONSIDERATIONS	RESOLUTIONS
<i>Role of forests and trees in human welfare</i>	<p>Recognizing the great contributions made by forests, trees, industries and the forestry profession to human environmental, economic and socio-cultural welfare,</p> <p>further recognizing the contributions to poverty alleviation, the stimulating of development and reversing environmental decline,</p> <p>further recognizing the importance of cultural diversity, and</p> <p>further recognizing that research is undertaken at different intensities depending on the geographical extent of a problem, the level at which it is approached, and the inter-relationships with other problems,</p>	<p>IUFRO should continue and expand its stimulation and support for research, and provide the knowledge necessary to achieve sustainable forest management within differing physical and social landscapes; it should seek to reconcile conflicting demands for wood and non-wood products, environmental services and social benefits; IUFRO should also seek appropriate knowledge, particularly from indigenous people..</p>
<i>Attention by policy-makers</i>	<p>Noting the increasing attention paid to forests by international and national agencies, international NGOs, commercial enterprises and academic institutions, and the need for reliable information by decision-makers in such organizations,</p>	<p>research should be increasingly directed towards forest policy-related issues in the major environmental and social conditions including urban, mountain and dry environments; IUFRO has a major role in enhancing the interface of science, policy and industry, aiming at better provision of all forest benefits, goods and services</p>
<i>Role in inter-governmental processes</i>	<p>Being aware of the place of forestry in the considerations of several inter-governmental processes, and of IUFRO's unique capacity to mobilize a broad range of individual and collective expertise,</p>	<p>IUFRO should strengthen its contributions to international debates and political processes, specifically those relating to:- genetic resources and biotechnology; biodiversity; sustainable forest management; climate change and carbon sequestration; soil; water; fire; deforestation, forest degradation and desertification. It should promote the transfer of socially acceptable, environmentally sound techniques.</p>
<i>Research and the impacts of forestry activities</i>	<p>Considering the public concern for the possible impacts of forestry activities on global and local environments, social welfare and biodiversity, and</p> <p>remembering that IUFRO's research traditionally focusses and progresses in major disciplines,</p>	<p>research should increase within single disciplines while simultaneously moving towards an inter-disciplinary, problem-solving approach; IUFRO should seek closer collaboration with other research organizations, while bringing its experience and networking powers to assist other research networks and consortia.</p>
<i>Information</i>	<p>Appreciating the research undertaken and the forest and forest products technologies developed, especially by IUFRO member institutions and individual scientists,</p> <p>realizing that much of this information is available in scattered sources and forms, and</p> <p>observing the rapid development and availability of information technologies,</p>	<p>existing information should be made available in accessible and appropriate forms for the wide range of users; forest research institutions should strive to divulge their research results; use of the IUFRO Net, and development of the Global Forest Information Service led by IUFRO, should be intensified and IUFRO research units should continue to disseminate statements of the current state of knowledge in their specific fields.</p>
<i>Research capacity</i>	<p>Believing that forest research capacity is low in countries with developing and emerging economies, and that women scientists are under-represented and insufficiently supported in forest research,</p>	<p>IUFRO should expand its collaboration with other organizations that seek to enhance biophysical and social research capacity in countries with developing and emerging economies; it should encourage the role of women and disadvantaged researchers in forest sciences.</p>