

## **CEN Forest Caucus Review of Activities for 2004**

---

**Caucus Coordinator:** Chantal Bois

**National Council Representative:** Cliff Wallis, Friends of Oldman River

**Caucus Chair:** Rachel Plotkin, Sierra Club of Canada

### **Steering Committee (elected until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2004):**

- Allyson Brady, Saskatchewan Environmental Society
- Cliff Wallis, Friends Of The Oldman River
- Chris Henschel, Wildlands League
- Gary Schneider, Environmental Coalition of PEI
- Sara Peloquin, Boreal Forest Network/ Taiga rescue
- Colin R. Campbell, BC Environmental Network Forest Caucus
- James Lucas, Ecotrust Canada, BC

### **Activities of the Forest Caucus:**

- **Follow up from the World Forestry Congress (WFC)**

In 2004, the Forest Caucus produced a special newsletter issue on the World Forestry Congress this year, with 17 articles written by youth and ENGOs from diverse organizations across Canada. The newsletter may be viewed at: [http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/caucuses/forest/newsletters/wfc\\_newsletter/index.html](http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/caucuses/forest/newsletters/wfc_newsletter/index.html).

- **Convention on Biodiversity (CBD)**

The Forest Caucus sent Andrea Lockwood from Canadian Nature Federation as ENGO representative to the 7<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the CBD, held February 9<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>, 2004, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Find the ENGO report for the CBD COP7 at:

[http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/consultations/consultations\\_in\\_progress/delegate\\_reports/04\\_04\\_cop7\\_engo\\_report.pdf](http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/consultations/consultations_in_progress/delegate_reports/04_04_cop7_engo_report.pdf)

- **United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)**

#### Meeting with UNFF Secretariat

This is one of the most active files this year. Members of the CEN Forest Caucus met on February 4, 2004 with Mr. Pekka Patosaari, Coordinator and Head, Secretariat of the UNFF, during his visit in Ottawa.

Mr. Patosaari is hoping to increase Canadian ENGO participation at the UNFFs and especially at the multi-stakeholder dialogue.

During this meeting the CEN Forest Caucus presented to Mr. Patosaari two documents:

- "Walking the Talk: A priority analysis of Canadian actions in implementing Intergovernmental Panel on Forests and Intergovernmental Forum on Forests proposals for action, with strategic priorities for further work" produced January 2002. See this document at: [http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/caucuses/forest/docs/unff\\_1.htm](http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/caucuses/forest/docs/unff_1.htm) and see its appendix at: [http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/caucuses/forest/docs/unff\\_2.htm](http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/caucuses/forest/docs/unff_2.htm)
- Canada's National Forest Strategy.

Mr. Patosaarie was impressed by the ENGO contribution to national policy as evident in the paper and the National Forest Strategy document. He suggested that a document, such as "Walking the Talk" be officially presented at the UNFF multi-stakeholder process. He encouraged Canadian ENGOs to take more of a leadership role related to forest issue at the international level.

He also proposed that the CEN Forest Caucus coordinate the development of a partnership program between Canadian ENGOs and developing countries in order to share forest practices knowledge, or to compare either action plans or actual projects that fulfill UNFF international commitments. One way of doing this, he suggested, would be to evaluate how commitments made under the new National Forest Strategy are meeting or not meeting UNFF objectives, and comparing national level policy or practices with those of another country. Mr. Patosaari offered to help to find funding for this type of a project if Canadian ENGOs are interested. We are still discussing possibilities with Mr. Patosaarie.

#### Preparation for UNFF 4

Forest Caucus members gave input on Canada's report for UNFF 4 and participated at a preparatory conference called organized by the Canadian Forest Service of Natural Resources Canada in April. UNFF 4 was held in Geneva from May 3 to 14. Boris Romaguer from Sierra Club du Canada was the ENGO representative. Find the UNFF4 ENGO reports on the CEN Forest Caucus webpage (see under UNFF): <http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/caucuses/forest/index.html>

#### Preparation for UNFF 5

Forest Caucus members gave comments on two documents that the Canadian Forest Service of Natural Resources Canada produced in preparation for the UNFF 5 (to be held in May of 2005 in New York):

1 - Canada's activity report. See more information and the report at: [http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/consultations/comment\\_calls/04\\_11\\_UNFF.html](http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/consultations/comment_calls/04_11_UNFF.html)

2 - The draft response to a voluntary questionnaire designed to assess the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests, notably the United Nations Forum on Forests UNFF. See more information and the report at: [http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/consultations/comment\\_calls/04\\_11\\_Questionnaire\\_UNFF.html](http://www.cen-rce.org/eng/consultations/comment_calls/04_11_Questionnaire_UNFF.html)