The year 2003 had been a busy and eventful year for APAFRI. During the year we organized, together with a number of international and national agencies, more than half-a-dozen events. These events were held in about half-a-dozen countries, from India in the west to Korea in the east of the Asia Pacific region. A summary of the events and activities during the year is appended in this issue.

We had the Tenth Executive Committee Meeting in August, in Korea, hosted by the Seoul National University. That is the first time APAFRI has had an event in Korea, and it gave us good opportunities to promote APAFRI to the forestry fraternities in Korea and other East Asian countries.

APAFRI’s Third General Assembly is the most significant event of the year. This General Assembly was convened in conjunction with the Tropical Forestry and Climate Change Conference in Manila, Philippines. APAFRI’s member institutions in the Philippines: the College of Natural Resources, University of Philippines Los Banâos (UPLB); the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD); Environmental Research Development Board (ERDB); Forest Products Research and Development Institute (FPRDI); and the University of Northern Philippines (UNP), jointly hosted both these events. The main financial sponsor of these events was the Government of the Netherlands. We are also grateful to the Australian Council for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) for sponsoring a number of participants to these events. The General Assembly had elected a new Executive Committee that would guide the operations of the Association for the next three years, from 2004 to 2006.

I wish to thank you all for giving me your confidence by reelecting me as the Chairman of the Executive Committee for another term. During the Assembly, the members also elected a number of new Executive Committee members. I would like to take this opportunity here to welcome Dr Ramon A. Razal of UPLB, who has been elected as the Vice-chairman; and also the two new members, Dr Park Jung-Hwan of Korea Forest Research Institute and Dr Xiao Wenfa of China Research Institute of Forestry. I look forward to working with you all towards the further strengthening of APAFRI as the Gateway to Asia Pacific.

I would also like to thank the members of the previous Executive Committee, Dato Dr Salleh Mohd Nor, Dr Lucrecio Rebugio and Dr Sarath Fernando, for their contributions towards the activities of APAFRI during their tenure. We hope to receive continued support and contributions from you all, even though you are no longer members of the Executive Committee. Special thanks are due to Dr Percy Sajise of IPGRI whom I have co-opted into the Executive Committee when IPGRI joined APAFRI two years ago. Dr. Percy Sajise had attended all the Executive Committee meetings since then, and had contributed immensely towards governing the functioning of the Association.

During the year, the activities were mainly financed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO). Dr S. Appanah, during his tenure as the Programme Advisor of the Forestry Research Support Programme of Asia and the Pacific (FORSPA), had arranged the finances for APAFRI to organize a series of three workshops on the theme of Forests for Poverty Reduction. The workshops were successfully held in Dehradun, India; Seoul, Korea; and Beijing, China; over three months from June to September. APAFRI would like to acknowledge the support and contributions of agencies in these three countries, without which these workshops would not be successfully organized.
The Secretariat would lose the service of Ms Yeang Nyet-Poi starting January 2004. Ms Yeang, who has been with APAFRI since 1998, is the longest serving staff member of the Secretariat, and had witnessed the many changes experienced by APAFRI. On behalf of APAFRI, I would like to thank her for the contributions over the years, and wish her every success in her future endeavours.

I would like to take this opportunity too, to thank a number of international agencies, specifically FAO, FORSPA, GTZ, USDA-FS, ACIAR, that have continued their support to APAFRI’s programmes and activities. Thanks also to the various national research agencies, universities and private companies for their contributions to many of APAFRI’s activities.

Allow me to take this opportunity also to wish all our members and friends around the world a happy and prosperous New Year (2004).

With best regards

Dato’ Dr Abdul Razak Mohd Ali
Chairman, APAFRI
December 2003

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

APAFRI welcomes our 5th Associate Member:
Prof. Dr Elizabeth M. Remedio

Currently a professor at the Department of Economics, University of San Carlos, Cebu City, Philippines, Dr Elizabeth M. Remedio has a wide and varied research interests ranging from bioenergy, climate change, economic development and sustainable development to environment knowledge and education. Dr. Remedio has a number of publications carrying the themes of socioeconomics, wood energy, export processing zones and child labor.

Dr Elizabeth M. Remedio can be contacted at:
Department of Economics
University of San Carlos,
Cebu City 6000, Philippines
Tel: +63-32-3438546
Fax: +63-32-2531000
E-mail: eremedio@skyinet.net

APAFRI welcomes our 6th Associate Member:
Mr. Ed Sutherland

Ed is no stranger to many of us in APAFRI. Until late 2002, Ed was the field coordinator of the CIDA TreeLink Project. He had formulated and implemented many of the activities and programmes in South East Asian countries during his four years with the project. He has contributed enormously to the strengthening of APAFRI and to forestry research capacity in the region as a whole.

Ed is currently the Field Manager for the CIDA funded Pearl2 Project based in Manila, Philippines. His new project is designed to support the development of small and medium enterprises (throughout the Philippines) that creates meaningful jobs for both men and women, through the strengthening of business support organizations (BSO) and investment promotion groups (IPG). The CND$10m project is managed through a partnership between the Innovation Science Council of British Columbia and the British Columbia Institute of Technology. The Project will run until the second quarter of 2007.

Ed Sutherland can be contacted at:
Pearl2 Project Field Office
Suite 2103 Antel 2000
Corporate Centre
121 Valero St., Salcedo Village
1200 Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines
Tel: +632-751-5912/3  Fax: +632-884-1544
E-mail: esutherland@pearl2.net
In accordance with Article X of APAFRI’s Constitution, the General Assembly shall meet once in three years. The last General Assembly (Second General Assembly), was held in Kuala Lumpur, during the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO) World Congress, in August 2000. The Third General Assembly was successfully convened three years later, as stipulated, at the Traders Hotel, Manila, Philippines, on 21 October 2003, in conjunction with the 2003 International Conference on Tropical Forests and Climate Change. This General Assembly was hosted jointly by APAFRI’s member institutions in the Philippines: the College of Natural Resources, University of Philippines Los Banôs (UPLB); the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD); Environmental Research Development Board (ERDB); Forest Products Research and Development Institute (FPRDI); and the University of Northern Philippines (UNP). We are also grateful to ACIAR for sponsoring the attendance of representatives from the five countries of Myanmar, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Indonesia.

A total of 34 persons, representing 24 institutional members of APAFRI, attended the Third General Assembly. As APAFRI currently has 63 institutional members, this represents a 38% attendance, exceeding the required quorum of 33%.

We were honoured to have the presence of Dr Oudara Souvanavong, Mr. Patrick Durst and Dr S. Appanah from FAO. Their presence indicated strong and continued support from both the FAO Headquarters in Rome, as well as the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok.

The General Assembly elected the following new Executive Committee for 2004-2006:

Chairman: Dato’ Dr Abdul Razak Mohd Ali – FRIM, Malaysia
Vice-chairman: Dr Ramon A. Razal – UPLB, Philippines
Members: Dr John Fryer – ACIAR, Australia
Dr Park Jung-Hwan – KFRI, Korea
Dr Xiao Wenfa – RIF-CAF, China
Dr Yusuf Hadi – IPB, Indonesia

ATIS Update

ATIS has recently developed one more new service, APAFRI E-library, for our members. APAFRI E-library is an in-house library in APAFRI, storing all the collected publications sent to us by member institutions and other regional and international organizations. The system allows users to browse by listing out the whole list of the collections, or search by the publication’s title or author(s). Users can also view the abstracts online.

We are still testing the system with just a few entries at the moment. Metadata for all our collections will be online within the next three months. More data and features will be added continuously to serve you better.

If you are interested to contribute/subscribe to our system, please do not hesitate to contact our Secretariat. More information is available at our website under the E-library Services.
The Tenth Meeting of APAFRI Executive Committee was held in conjunction with the workshop on Poverty Reduction in Seoul on 29 August 2003.

The Executive Committee, chaired by Dato’ Dr Abdul Razak Mohd Ali, reviewed the activity report and financial report tabled by Dr Daniel Baskaran, APAFRI Executive Secretary. The meeting continued to discuss:

• APAFRI Business Plan
• Dr Y. S. Rao Forestry Research Award 2003
• General Assembly 2003

APAFRI has received four nominations from member institutions for this year’s Dr Y. S. Rao Forestry Research Award. The Executive Committee has decided to appoint a panel comprising Dr S. Appanah, Dr Percy Sajise, Dr Lucrecio Rebugio and Dr Park Jung-Hwan, to evaluate and select the winner of this award. The winner would be invited to attend the coming General Assembly in Manila, Philippines, to receive the award.

DR Y. S. RAPO FORESTRY RESEARCH AWARD 2003

This award is given to a young researcher who has produced an outstanding paper or report focusing on practical solutions to problems related to forestry research. It is given once every three years and presented in conjunction with the APAFRI General Assembly. The award consists of a specially designed plaque, a citation and an all-expenses-paid trip to attend the award ceremony.

Dr Y. S. Rao, in whose honour the award is named, was one of the outstanding foresters in the Asia Pacific region. He contributed significantly to the promotion of forestry research, particularly research related to poverty alleviation, sustainable resource development and the needs of young researchers. He had also mooted the idea of setting up APAFRI.

The first Dr Y.S. Rao Forestry Research Award was given in 2000. The award went to Dr Wu Bo, Associate Professor at the Research Institute of Forestry (RIF), Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF), Beijing, in recognition of his outstanding research on desertification.

The recipient of the reward this year is Dr Ashok Kumar, Scientist and Head, Division of Tree Improvement & Propagation, Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat, Assam, India. Dr Ashok Kumar has obtained his Ph. D. degree in forest genetics in 1995 from the Forest Research Institute, Dehradun, India; a master’s degree in genetics and plant breeding in 1988 and B. Sc. in agriculture in 1986, both from the Meerut University, India. He has made considerable contributions in the areas of tree improvement since 1990 when he started his professional career as a Research Fellow at the Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India. He left Tamil Nadu to join Nagarkurna Agricultural Research and Development Institute in Secunderabad, Andhra Pradesh, in 1995, and has been with the Rain Forest Research Institute since 1998. His research interests range from forest genetics, genetic improvement, tree improvement to tissue culture. He had published more than 35 papers in various scientific journals.
**WORKSHOP SERIES:**

**FORESTS FOR POVERTY REDUCTION – EXPLORING THE POTENTIAL**

International development agencies have set targets to reduce by half the proportion of people living in extreme poverty by year 2015. Poverty reduction strategies are thus becoming the framework for development planning and implementation, and are the priorities of many donor agencies. The roles of forests and forestry towards achieving these targets of poverty reduction are gaining more attention. To further explore the potential of forests and forestry in poverty alleviation, FORSPA FAO and APAFRI, together with the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE), Seoul National University (SNU) and the Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF), had organized a series of inter-linked workshops, over three months from June till September in 2003.

**Workshop 1:** Forests for Poverty Reduction – The Changing Role for Research and Development Institutions, 17-18 June, Dehra Dun, India.

Most of the national research and development agencies in the region have yet to recognize the role of forests for poverty reduction, and are not focusing their efforts in this new direction. The two-day workshop, attended by 50 participants from national research institutions in the Asia Pacific region, had achieved in increasing the awareness of policy makers and specialists on the need for a more pro-poor focus in their undertakings. Contributions and support from the Government of India and ICFRE are gratefully acknowledged.

**Workshop 2:** Forests for Poverty Reduction – Opportunities with CDM, Environmental Services and Biodiversity, 27–29 August, Seoul, Korea

This workshop was devoted to looking into how new global initiatives such as CDM and carbon credits can be directed to benefit rural populations. Within the same framework, payments for ecological services and biodiversity conservation in lieu of foregone benefits from converting forests were also being reviewed. These were the issues discussed by the 47 participants who attended the two-and-a-half-day workshop organized with the contributions and support from the Seoul National University, Korea Forest Service, Korea Forest Economics Society and the Northeast Asia Forest Forum.

**Workshop 3:** Forests for Poverty Reduction – Can Community Forestry Make Money? 1–2 September, Beijing, China

One leading means to address the problem of poverty is with community forestry. The traditional view of community forestry is one of a subsistence role. New and innovative processes have to be formulated so that community forestry can play the enhanced role of poverty reduction. On the other hand, while community forestry is gaining acceptance among timber-poor countries of the Asia Pacific region, it has not had the same impact among the timber-rich countries. There are other types of community-based forestry in the Pacific region, but they too are saddled with implementation problems. These were the topics discussed at the workshop attended by a total of 53 participants from the Asia Pacific region. This two-day workshop was organized in collaboration with the Chinese Academy of Forestry and the State Forestry Administration of China.
ASIA-PACIFIC FOREST GENETIC RESOURCES PROGRAMME (APFORGEN) INCEPTION WORKSHOP

The APFORGEN Inception Workshop was successfully held at the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 15 – 18 July 2003 with basic financial support from IPGRI and APAFRI, and in technical collaboration with FAO.

A total of 25 participants from 12 Asian countries, APAFRI, DFSC, FAO and IPGRI attended the three-day workshop. The followings are the recommendations from the workshop:

- The adoption of the following objectives for APFORGEN:
  1. Strengthen national programmes on forest genetic diversity in the participating countries
  2. Enhance regional networking and collaboration on conservation and management of forest genetic resources
  3. Locate, characterize, conserve and facilitate exchange of genetic diversity of selected priority forest species
  4. Promote sustainable utilization of genetic diversity in natural and man-made forests
  5. Enhance linkages with other regional and international networks

- The adoption of an organizational structure, comprising National Coordinators, Steering Committee, and APFORGEN Secretariat.

- APAFRI and IPGRI should approach relevant governmental institutions and policy-makers in each country, with the help of the workshop participants, and initiate a process to officially nominate the National Coordinators for APFORGEN. The National Coordinators should:
  - act as a link between the APFORGEN Secretariat and various national institutions carrying out work on forest genetic resources
  - be responsible for involving relevant institutions and stakeholders within their respective countries to carry out agreed tasks and for coordinating APFORGEN related activities

- APFORGEN Steering Committee to be composed of National Coordinators from all participating countries and the Steering Committee should also include representatives from APAFRI, IPGRI and Danida Forest Seed Centre (DFSC). The main functions of the Steering Committee would be:
  - to oversee APFORGEN and meet regularly to review the progress made
  - to discuss issues relevant to conservation and use of forest genetic resources and make recommendations for the future work of the Programme

- Official endorsement, both at national and regional level, should be obtained for APFORGEN. Relevant forums for seeking endorsement could be the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the FAO Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission and the South Asia Association for Regional Collaboration (SAARC).

- Common areas of interest among participating countries: 1) evaluation, characterization and documentation, 2) in situ and ex situ conservation, 3) exchange of genetic materials, 4) domestication and utilization, 5) strengthening national programmes on forest genetic resources, 6) involvement of local communities and the role of livelihood and gender in conservation and use of forest genetic resources, and 7) development of relevant policies and enhancement of the linkage between conservation of forest genetic resources and national forest programmes; should be given priority in developing regional collaboration.

- Several regional capacity building needs, such as short and long-term training courses, exchange of scientists, collaboration in developing training material, workshops and fellowships for scientists and professionals are needed. More specifically, training is needed on conservation methods, molecular tools, taxonomy, management of forest genetic resources, domestication, participatory approaches in conservation, and livelihood generation through the use of forest genetic resources; and these should be given priority in developing regional capacity-building efforts.

- APFORGEN should give priority to the species in the tentative list of priority species developed during the workshop

- For further development of APFORGEN, the Workshop participants recommended that the modus operandi should be kept flexible and that specific groups or networks could not be established at this point of the Programme.

- One of the first activities for APFORGEN is to develop more effective means for information dissemination and effective communication among participating countries.
APFORGEN SECRETARIAT

APAFRI, in technical collaboration with IPGRI, has set up the APFORGEN Secretariat as proposed during the APFORGEN Inception Workshop of 15-18 July 2003. IPGRI has provided some funds to APAFRI for initiating the Secretariat activities, such as the preparation of brochures and information sheets, and also the establishment of an APFORGEN website. The website, www.apforgen.org, has already been registered, and will reside in the APAFRI server. Information and components are being added.

Official letters requesting nomination of National Coordinators had already been sent out to national governments or relevant agencies in all the 12 countries that participated in the Inception Workshop. A few of these countries have already responded. The particulars of these National Coordinators would be posted on the website by the end of the year.

For more information please contact Dr Sim Heok-Choh (secretariat@apafri.org), Mr Hong L.T. (l.hong@cgiar.org) or Mr Tapio Luoma-aho (t.luoma-aho@cgiar.org).

GFIS ASIA

The Global Forest Information Service (GFIS) was developed by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), as a global multi-lingual Internet gateway to all forest information. GFIS currently has over 100,000 catalogue records kept by organizations located in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America. These organizations do not contribute their original reports, maps, datasets, books, and articles; instead they provide the means that GFIS can use to describe the information (metadata). A big difference from the other information services is that GFIS provides users with the ability to search the catalogues of many information systems from around the world simultaneously.

There exist a huge reservoir of information in the Asia Pacific region that is not easily accessible by interested users outside the organizations keeping the information. On the other hand, many users in the region also have faced constraints to access information kept by organizations in the other regions. Expanding GFIS in Asia would remove most of these hurdles.

A meeting was held at CIFOR, 12-13 December 2003, with major Asian players in the field of forest information management, with the aim to increase the awareness of GFIS and to achieve a better understanding of the forest information needs and available resources in the region. The goal was to explore the possibilities of expanding GFIS in Asia.

Dr Sim Heok-Choh represented APAFRI, attended this meeting together with representatives from ASEAN-GTZ, Seoul National University, Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF), Indian Institute of Forest Management (IIFM), Indonesia Ministry of Forestry, Vietnam Forest Science and Technology Association, and CIFOR. Dr. John Innes (Chairman, GFIS Interim Steering Committee) chaired the meeting, and Dr Michael Kleine, IUFRO-SPDC Coordinator and acting GFIS Coordinator gave a very detailed presentation on GFIS.

The 1½ days meeting decided that APAFRI will be the Asia coordinator for GFIS, and a major task is to draft proposal(s) for funding. Tentatively, there will be four project partners: APAFRI (overall coordinator), FRIM (covering ASEAN), IIFM (covering South Asia) and CAF (covering East Asia). The proposal(s) should be finalised at a meeting, to be held in conjunction with an ASEAN-GTZ meeting scheduled for early March 2004, in Cambodia.
The International Conference on “Bringing Back the Forests: Policies and Practices for Degraded Lands and Forests” was jointly organized by the Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions (APAFRI), the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Forestry Research Support Programme for Asia and the Pacific (FORSPA) and the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO).

This publication includes papers presented this conference, giving a comprehensive overview of the various initiatives and experiences gained in Bringing Back the Forests.

Copies of this proceedings have been sent out to the conference’s participants by normal mail. If you were a participant of this conference, please notify us if you still have not received the proceedings by the end of February 2003.

If you are not one of the participants but would like to have a copy of this proceedings, please place your order through our website (www.apafri.org), or contact the Secretariat directly.

The Conference, convened from 7 to 10 October 2002, had gathered close to a hundred researchers and forestry professionals from the region and various international organizations, to review the current state of knowledge and to chart the course of future research plans for this family of trees so as to ensure its sustainability to perpetuity.

This proceedings, compiled from the papers presented during the three-day Conference, records and updated the research and development work done during the last decade on dipterocarps. Besides sharing the knowledge and information, this proceedings also provides the guide for further research and development efforts needed in the region that would see the nurturing of future crops of this economically and environmentally very important family of trees.

Copies of this proceedings have been sent out to the conference’s participants by normal mail. If you were a participant of this conference, please notify us if you still have not received the proceedings by the end of December 2003.

If you are not one of the participants but would like to have a copy of this proceedings, please place your order through our website (www.apafri.org), or contact the Secretariat directly.
UPCOMING EVENTS

ITTO International Workshop on Environmental Economics of Tropical Forest and Green Policy-Planning and Budgeting
Date : 2–5 March 2004
Venue : Beijing China
Contact : Mr. Hou Yuanzhao or Ms Wu Shuirong
Chinese Academy of Forestry,
Beijing 100091, China
Fax : +86-10-6288 4836
E-mail : houyuanzhao@163.net
yuling@forestry.ac.cn

Pre-Asia Pacific Forestry Commission Workshop: Implementing the International Panel of Forest Proposal and Strengthening the National Forest Programmes.
Date : 16–18 April 2004
Venue : Nadi, Fiji
Contact : Dr Sim Heok-Choh
APAFRI Secretariat
c/o Forest Research Institute Malaysia
Kepong, 52109 Kuala Lumpur
Tel : +60-3-6272 2516
Fax : +60-3-6277 3249
E-mail : sim@apafri.org
secretariat@apafri.org

Fourth Session of the United Nations Forum on Forest
Date : 13–14 May 2004
Venue : Geneva, Switzerland
Contact : Mia Soderlund
Department of Economics and Social Affairs Secretariat UNFF
DC2-2286, UN Plaza
New York, NY 10019 USA
Tel : +1-212-963 3262
Fax : +1-212-963 4260
E-mail : unff@un.org
Web : www.un.org/esa/forests.html

International Conference on Economics of Sustainable Forest Management
Date : 20–22 May 2004
Venue : Toronto, Canada
Contact : Shashi Kant
Conference Secretariat
Faculty of Forestry
33 Willcocks Street
University of Toronto
Toronto, Ontario,
M5S 3B3 Canada
Tel : +1-416-978 5480/6196
Fax : +1-416-978 3834
E-mail : shashi.kant@utoronto.ca
confer.esfm@utoronto.ca
Web : www.forestry.utoronto.ca
socio_economic/icesfm

Forest Genetics and Climate Change
Date : 26–29 June 2004
Venue : Vernon, Canada
Contact : Alvin Yanchuk
Tel : +1-250-387 3338
Fax : +1-250-387 0046
E-mail : Alvin.yanchuk@gems4.gov.bc.ca
Web : http://iufro.boku.ac.at/iufro/

First World Congress of Agroforestry: Working Together for Sustainable Land-Use Systems
Date : 27 June–2 July 2004
Venue : Orlando, Florida, USA
Contact : Mandy Padgett
Officer of Conference & Institute
PO Box 110750,
Gainesville,
Florida 32611-0750, USA
Tel : +1-352-392-5930
Fax : +1-352-392-9734
E-mail : mrpadgett.ifas.ufl.edu
Web : http://conference.ifas.edu/wca

International Symposium on the Role of Forest for Coming Generations-Philosophy and Technology for Forest Resource Management
Date : 17–22 October 2004
Venue : Utsunomiy University, Japan
Contact : Dr Naoto Matsumura
Forest planning for the environment
Faculty of Bioresources,
Mie University,
Tsu 514-8507, Japan
Tel : +81-59-231-9507
Fax : +81-59-231-9517
E-mail : nma@bio.mie-u.ac.jp

Multipurpose Trees in the Tropics; Assessment, Growth and Management
Date : 22–25 November 2004
Venue : Jodhpur, India
Contact : Dr V.P. Tewari
ARID Forest Research Institute
P.O. Krishi, Jodhpur-342005
India
Fax : +91-291-2722588
Fax : +91-291-2722764
E-mail : vptewari@afri.res.in
17th Commonwealth Forestry Conference:  
Forestry's Contribution to Poverty Reduction  
Date : 28 February–5 March 2005  
Venue : Colombo, Sri Lanka  
Contact : Libby Jones  
Tel : +44-131-314 6137  
Fax : +44-131-334 0442  
E-mail : forlib@sltnet.lk  
libby.jones@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Forests in the Balance: Linking Tradition and Technology. XXII IUFRO World Congress  
Date : 8–13 August 2005  
Venue : Brisbane, Australia  
Contact : Dr Russell Haines  
Tel : +61-7-3896 9714  
Fax : +61-7-3896 9628  
E-mail : hainesr@qfril.se2.dpi.qld.gov.au  
Web : http://iufro.boku.ac.at

Front row:  
Dr Daniel Baskaran  
Executive Secretary  
Dato' Dr Abdul Razak Mohd Ali  
Chairman  
Dr Sim Heok-Choh  
Executive Director  

Back row:  
Ms Nazratul Raudzah  
Administrative Officer  
Ms Yeang Nyet-Poi  
Information Officer  
Ms Sarina Hussin  
Administrative Officer

Best Wishes for 2004  
from  
the Secretariat of  
APAFRI
# MAIN APAFRI ACTIVITIES/EVENTS FOR 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Activities/Events</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>Newsletter Issue #10 (December 2002) printed and distributed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat, Assam, India, joined APAFRI as 62nd member. Dr. Ombir Singh, a Principal Scientist, and Dr. K.G. Prasad, the Director, RFRI, Jorhat, Assam, India, have also joined APAFRI as 3rd and 4th individual member, respectively.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Forest Research Centre, Laos, joined APAFRI as 63rd member. Fire Danger Rating System (FDRS) Meeting, 20 March.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>ASEFOREP Steering Committee Meeting, Umea, Sweden, 10–12 April.</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Forest for Poverty Reduction: the changing role for development, research and training institutions, 17–18 June, Dehra Dun, India. Rehabilitation Workshop, 19–20 June.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Forest for Poverty Reduction: Opportunities with CDM, Environmental Services and Biodiversity, 27–29 August, Seoul, Korea. 10th Executive Committee Meeting, 29 August, Seoul, Korea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Forest for Poverty Reduction: Can Community Forestry Make Money? 1–2 September, Beijing, China.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>International Conference on Tropical Forests and Climate Change, 21–22 October, Manila, Philippines. APAFRI Third General Assembly, 21 October, Manila. Prof. Dr Elizabeth M. Remedio, Department of Economics, University of San Carlos, Cebu City, Philippines, and Mr. Ed Sutherland, Field Manager, Pearl 2 Project Philippines, joined APAFRI as the 5th and 6th individual member respectively.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>APAFRI bid goodbye to Ms Yeang Nyet-Poi.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The APAFRI Newsletter is compiled by the Secretariat. Your comments, articles and / or suggestions are gratefully received. Contact us:

APAFRI Secretariat
Forest Research Institute Malaysia
Kepong, 52109 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia
Tel: (6) 03 6272 2516
Fax (6) 03 6277 3249
e-mail: secretariat@apafri.org
website: www.apafri.org

Acknowledgements

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❖ ACIAR (Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research)
❖ CIDA (Canadian International Development Agency)
❖ The Netherlands-FAO Regional Project FORSPA
❖ USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) Forest Service
❖ GTZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit)

Contributions in kind:
❖ Forest Research Institute Malaysia