

Twelfth Session of the Assembly
13-14 May 2025, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Agenda Item 7.1

Promotion of Membership Relations

1. In accordance with the objectives of the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization to strengthen forest cooperation in Asia, the information on related updates from the focal agencies of the Parties to AFoCO is provided.
2. **Brunei Darussalam:** The Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism of Brunei Darussalam, in partnership with Universiti Brunei Darussalam, and in conjunction with Brunei MYCE 2025, organizes Brunei Darussalam Expedition and Conference on Forest to Reef: expedition on 19-22 May 2025 and conference on 16-18 June 2025.
3. **Cambodia:** The Royal Government of Cambodia has launched the 2024-2028 Action Plan to carry out key measures for the public administration reform. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries is under restructuring its institutional arrangement and updating its roles and responsibilities. As agreeable by the Korea Forest Service and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Cambodia, an Upcoming Event in Cambodia is the official inauguration ceremony for Cambodia-Korea Forest Recreational Site and ASEAN-Korea Garden that will be held on 20 November 2025 in Siem Reap.
4. **Indonesia:** After the merger into Ministry of Environment and Forestry in 2014, the Ministry of Forestry was reformed in 2024. Based on Presidential Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia concerning the Ministry of Forestry (No. 175, 2024), the Ministry of Forestry is a Ministry tasked with organizing government affairs in the forestry sector. In the Red and White Cabinet, the Ministry of Forestry is led by a Minister and assisted by a Deputy Minister who is under and responsible to the President.
5. **Kyrgyzstan:** The International Conference "Global Mountain Dialogue for Sustainable Development / Towards the Summit Bishkek+25", held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, on 24-25 April 2025. The United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution A/RES/77/172, proclaiming 2023-2027 as the "Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions", this conference is a key initiative within this framework, aiming to address the pressing challenges faced by mountain regions, including climate change, ecosystem degradation, and socio-economic disparities, while fostering international cooperation to achieve sustainable development goals. The Secretariat, led by the Executive Director, participated in the conference.

6. **Lao PDR:** The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) of the Lao PDR is reforming policies and practices to improve agriculture and forest management.
7. **Myanmar:** A magnitude 7.7 earthquake struck near Mandalay in March, followed by subsequent quakes, causing extensive damage and resulting in over 7,500 casualties. The Secretariat will keep monitoring the situation through RETC and review relief efforts where possible.
8. **Republic of Korea:** The Republic of Korea experienced severe forest fire this year between March and April, resulting in significant damage and affecting approximately 48,000 hectares. The Executive Board of UNESCO made the final decision on April 10 to register the "Korea Reforestation Archives: A reforestation model achieved through public-private governance on the UNESCO Memory of the World Register. Upcoming international conferences hosted by Korea are: 11th International Congress on Education in Botanic Gardens (ICEBG) on 9-13 June; International Policy Exchange Workshop for the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative (FERI) of CBD in August; and High-Level Policy Meeting on Peace Forest Initiative (PFI) of UNCCD in August.
9. **Tajikistan:** In commemoration of the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation 2025, Tajikistan is hosting the High-Level International Conference on Glaciers' Preservation organized by UNESCO, WMO, ADB, and UNDP in Dushanbe on 29-31 May 2025.
10. **Viet Nam:** In February 2025, Vietnam's National Assembly approved a major government restructuring, consolidating ministries and agencies, eliminating certain National Assembly and Party committees, and dissolving multiple state-run organizations to streamline operations and support economic growth. The Ministry of Agriculture and Environment (MAE) was formed by merging the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)
11. The Assembly may wish to take note of the information.

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