

Thirteenth Session of the Assembly
29-30 October 2025, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Agenda Item 3

Information on the List of Parties and Observers (Promotion of Membership Relations)

I. Information on the List of Parties and Observers

1. In accordance with Article 5 and Article 6 of the Agreement on the Establishment of AFoCO, the organization consists of fifteen (15) Parties and two (2) Observers, who collectively support the organizational objectives of strengthening forest cooperation.
2. The Secretariat, as to function as the depositary to the Agreement in accordance with Article 18 of Agreement, maintains up-to-date list of Parties and Observers, and further facilitates communications among the Parties and Observers. After the admission of an Observer at the 11th Session of the Assembly, the Parties and Observers remain the same. The list of Parties and Observers as of 1 October 2025 is attached in **Annex-1**:

II. Promotion of Membership Relations

3. Updates from respective focal agencies of the Parties and Observers are provided.
4. **Bhutan:** Bhutan would like to update on relevant laws and policies and the government strategies in the forest sector as attached in **Annex-2**.
5. **Cambodia:** Cambodia would like to update on relevant laws and policies and the government strategies in the forest sector as attached in **Annex-3**.
6. **Kazakhstan:** Kazakhstan is strongly committed for the establishment of the AFoCO Training Center in Kazakhstan and identifying potential resources. Potential site of 25 ha has been identified and the master plan and architectural design have been developed with national funding. Kazakhstan is also exploring partnership with various partners and expert group has been formed. The development of training modules has started with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The AFoCO Training Center is supported at the highest state level, ensuring political support and institutional stability.

7. **Lao PDR:** Lao PDR would like to update on the government organizational structure of AFoCO's focal agency, relevant laws and policies, and national strategies in the forest sector as attached in **Annex-4**.

8. **Myanmar:** Myanmar would like to update on the government organizational structure of AFoCO's focal agency, relevant laws and policies, and national strategies in the forest sector as attached in **Annex-5**.

9. **Timor-Leste:** Timor-Leste would like to share the good news that Timor-Leste has been officially accepted as a full membership of ASEAN on 27 October of 2025.

In addition, based on the recent adjustments to the new structure of the General Directorate of Forestry, the Ministry issued Dispatch No. 16/G-MAPPF/IV/2025, designating the updated official in charge of the AFoCO Projects as detailed below:

1. General Director of Forestry - Mr. Hermenegildo de Almeida Granadeiro as National Focal Point and Project Director
2. National Director of Forest, Watershed and Mangrove Areas Management
- Mr. Eduardo F.M. de Carvalho as Project Manager of AFoCO/026/2021
3. National Director of Development Community Forestry
- Mr. Americo da Silva as Country Manager of AFoCO/035/2022 (Regional Project).

III. Points for Consideration

10. The Assembly may wish to take note of the information.

Queries on the content of the document may be addressed to:

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List of Parties and Observers to the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization
As of 1 October 2025

I. PARTIES

No.	Party	Date signed	Date of deposit of respective instrument
1	Republic of Korea	10 December 2015	4 November 2016
2	Viet Nam	17 October 2016	14 March 2017
3	Timor-Leste	20 June 2016	25 July 2017
4	Bhutan	13 September 2016	8 December 2017
5	Myanmar	31 July 2017	28 March 2018
6	Cambodia	16 February 2017	10 August 2018
7	Brunei Darussalam	8 May 2017	23 August 2018
8	Philippines	4 June 2018	20 February 2019
9	Lao PDR	13 March 2018	28 May 2019
10	Thailand	<i>Accession</i>	26 June 2019
11	Indonesia	2 August 2016	8 July 2019
12	Kazakhstan	<i>Accession</i>	4 September 2019
13	Mongolia	21 August 2017	1 July 2020
14	Kyrgyzstan	<i>Accession</i>	30 August 2022
15	Tajikistan	<i>Accession</i>	12 June 2024

II. OBSERVERS

No.	Observer	Date Observer Status Granted	Remarks
1	Malaysia	24 March 2020	Following the intent from Malaysia to become a Party, Malaysia was granted Observer status to AFoCO and is currently taking domestic procedures for accession.
2	Singapore	31 October 2024	After its completion of duration as the Observer from Nov 2019 to Nov 2023, Singapore expressed its intention to keep participating to AFoCO as Observer.