



## **FORESTRY OUTLOOK STUDY FOR AFRICA**

**Planning meeting for North Africa  
Hammamet, Tunisia, 23-25 November 1999**

### **Report of the Meeting**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The planning meeting for the North Africa sub-region for the Forestry Outlook Study for Africa (FOSA) took place in Hammamet, Tunisia from 23-25 November 1999.

The Forestry Outlook Study for Africa (FOSA) is an initiative co-ordinated by FAO, in partnership with all the African nations, the African Development Bank, the European Commission, sub-regional and regional inter-governmental organizations, the World Bank and other organizations. FOSA was endorsed by African nations at the 11<sup>th</sup> Session of the African Forestry and Wildlife Commission (AFWC), held in Dakar, Senegal in April 1998. Activities related to FOSA began in October 1998 and will conclude in July 2002.

FOSA is a process designed to analyse the potential of the forestry sector to contribute to the well being of the African people, by its economic, social and environmental functions. FOSA will analyse the situation; trends and major issues characterising African forestry; will present a vision of the forestry sector in the region to the year 2020; and will identify the policies, programmes and possible investments that will help move the sector in desirable directions.

FOSA is the most recent of the long-standing series of regional forestry outlook studies carried out by FAO. FOSA will draw upon this past experience, in particular that of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Outlook Study, which was recently completed and which entailed a more comprehensive analysis than previous outlook studies. FOSA is, however, distinguished by three features: it relies strongly on collaboration with financial institutions active in the region; it includes efforts to improve the information base upon which the analyses depend; and it has a strong sub-regional orientation.

The African continent has been divided into sub-regions. The North African sub-region consists of the following countries: Morocco, Algeria, Mauritania, Tunisia, Egypt, Sudan, and Libya.

#### **1. OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING**

The objectives of the planning meeting for FOSA were: (i) to introduce FOSA – its objectives and process; (ii) to review the current status of the forestry sector in the countries of the sub-region; (iii) to present the activities of the study and the proposed schedule; and finally, (iv) to define the responsibilities of the FOSA National Focal Points and the nature of their involvement.

#### **II. ACTIVITIES OF THE MEETING**

##### **2.1. Opening ceremony**

The meeting was opened by Mr. Ameer Horchani, Secretary of State for the Minister of

Agriculture responsible for water and fish resources, who welcomed the participants, thanked FAO for its unceasing assistance to countries in their efforts to promote agriculture and rural development in general, and emphasised the role of forestry in socio-economic development and the necessity of involving all partners (population, private sector, NGOs) in the management and development of the forestry sector.

Mr. Amouri, FAO Sub-regional Representative for North Africa, on behalf of the Director General of FAO, thanked the Government of Tunisia, and the Minister of Agriculture in particular, for its contribution to the organization of the workshop, and the African Development Bank, which is a major collaborator in the study. He stressed the importance of FOSA as a planning tool and for the implementation of forestry policies at the national and regional levels, and emphasised the essential role of the FOSA National Focal Points in ensuring the effort's success.

## **2.2. Introduction of FOSA**

Ms. Susan Braatz, the Coordinator of FOSA, introduced FOSA. The presentation focused on the following points: what is FOSA, why it has been initiated, who the partners are, what is involved in the implementation of FOSA, and how the African countries may be involved in the study. She outlined the activities of FOSA, the final products and the mechanisms established to ensure the co-ordination and technical and operational support of FOSA.

## **2.3. Presentation of national reports**

The national participants presented a report on the status of the forestry sector and the principal constraints affecting the development of the sector in their countries.

### a) Country report of Morocco: Mr. Bendahmane Mohamed

This report presented the current situation of the forestry sector, in particular its ecological, economic and social importance. It also highlighted the contribution of the different economic driving forces behind forestry development, the constraints affecting its development and the factors that can promote the sustainable development of national forest resources.

### b) Country report of Egypt: Ms Enanyat Abdul Aziz and Mr. Megahed Mabrouk Megahed

The report on Egypt outlined the efforts undertaken by the government in afforestation, in particular in the newly developed agricultural zones for the protection of infrastructure and irrigation canals and for the production of wood for local use. Emphasis has been put on the use of treated wastewater for the irrigation of plantations in the desert zones.

### c) Country report of Libya: Mr. Adel Said

The report on Libya reviewed the principal forestry activities in the country, including the production of forest seedlings, reforestation and complementary projects (protection of plantations, efforts to combat sand encroachment, forest mapping, marketing of forest products).

### d) Country report of Tunisia: M. Gader Ghazi

The Tunisian report focused on the country's new orientation that attempts to integrate people who live in or near the forest in the management and development of forests and the

results obtained from studies and projects already carried out, including the inventory of forest and rangeland resources; strategic studies on woodfuels, industrial wood and non-wood forest products; SIFOP's project in developing a forestry planning and information system (SIPF). Pilot efforts in integrated development and the implementation plan of the AFIC were also discussed. Finally, the principal problems of the forestry sector in Tunisia were outlined.

e) Country report of Sudan: Mme Amira Awad M. Salih

The management of the forestry sector in Sudan is based on the 1988 Forestry Strategy. This strategy consists of: the intensification of efforts to develop village woodlots; the establishment of windbreaks; the promotion of agroforestry; the management of natural forests; the development of the national forest inventory; and the valorisation of non-wood forest products, in particular gum arabic destined for export.

f) Country report of Mauritania: M. Mohamed Lemine Ould Hmeida

The report of Mauritania focused on the forestry activities related to efforts to combat desertification, in particular efforts to control sand encroachment and the establishment of plantations along the Senegal River.

g) Country report of Algeria

The report for Algeria, which was sent to the meeting, presented the status of Algerian forests and the forestry sector and the measures planned to reduce the effects of forest resource degradation.

The presentation of the national reports was followed by discussions focused mainly on innovative projects in the management and development of the forestry sector.

#### **2.4. The sub-regional context : M. El Aichouni**

The sub-regional context was presented in a working document entitled: "The forestry sector in North Africa: a critical analysis of the situation and future prospects to the year 2020". This document placed the forestry sector in a political and socio-economic context, indicated the principal problems linked to the development of forestry in the sub-region and outlined the trends in the sector to the year 2020. The consultant proposed solutions and alternative approaches to promote sustainable forest development. These proposals concerned all aspects of the sector, including political, social, environmental, institutional and technical.

The presentation of this document gave way to a discussion on the necessity of taking into consideration the differences between the various countries' political, socio-economic, ecological and institutional features.

#### **2.5. Contribution of regional organizations**

Three organizations, working in cooperation with countries in the sub-region in fields related to the forestry sector, participated in the sub-regional planning meeting for FOSA.

a) The Plan Bleu: Ms. Sidhoum Hayeth

The representative of the Plan Bleu began by giving an overview of the activities of the organization, in particular its prospective (or outlook) studies on water resources, the environment, tourism and energy for the countries of the Mediterranean Basin. She also

emphasised the activities carried out in the forestry sector and stressed the importance of regional cooperation in the implementation of FOSA.

b) OADA (Arab Organization for Agricultural Development): Mr. El Houssien Ballis

In his presentation, the representative of OADA emphasised the activities undertaken by the organization in the field of agricultural development and environmental conservation in the Arab countries, citing many studies, projects carried out or facilitated by OADA. He also stressed the necessity of co-ordination between FOSA and OADA efforts.

c) *Silva Mediterranea*: Mr. Mohamed Skouri

The consultant to the FAO-supported statutory body or committee, *Silva Mediterranea*, explained the objectives and history of the body, whose principal mission is to assist countries of the Mediterranean Basin develop and conserve their forest heritage. He also took note of the ways in which the committee works and the difficulties encountered in carrying out its mission.

## **2.6 Thematic papers**

A series of thematic papers will be prepared for FOSA by organizations and experts to give an overall view of the situation, trends and future prospects in important areas of forestry development in the African region. A list of 23 major themes were reviewed to ensure that the major issues facing the North African sub-region were adequately covered by the list, and to identify any gaps. The relationship between the thematic studies and the country outlook studies was discussed. Coordination with sub-regional organizations, as OADA, the Plan Bleu, and *Silva Mediterranea* is indispensable. A number of studies have already been carried out on the proposed themes.

## **2.7. Field visit**

The participants of the meeting had a field trip to the area of Cap Bon, where they visited tree nurseries and experimental plantations.

## **2.8. Preparation of the country outlook paper and operational issues**

During this session, many points were presented and discussed by the participants, including the contents of the country outlook paper, the calendar of activities of the national focal points, and the means to implement and co-ordinate the study at national and regional levels.

## **2.9. Conclusions and recommendations of the planning meeting**

The participants made a number of proposals to facilitate the achievement of the objectives of FOSA. These proposals and recommendations are included in part III of this report.

## **2.10. Closing session: presentation of the recommendations and acknowledgements**

# **III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKSHOP**

### **Taking into consideration:**

- The importance of forest resources – from the social, economic and environmental

standpoints – in the overall development of nations;

- The problems – technical, economic et institutional – facing the forestry sector and the direct and indirect consequences that degradation of the forest resources have on the daily lives of the population of the countries of North Africa;
- The decision of the African Forestry and Wildlife Commission (11th session, April 1998), related to the preparation of the Forestry Outlook Study for Africa;
- The interest to carry out the outlook study to orient the sustainable development of the sector to the year 2020 and to provide the countries with a useful tool that can help them in sector planning and in the implementation of their respective forestry policies;

**The participants recommend:**

***At the level of the countries concerned:***

- The nomination of a permanent focal point responsible for the preparation of the country outlook paper and overall support to FOSA from now until the end of the study in 2002.
- The necessary financial, logistic and technical support to the FOSA National Focal Points in order to facilitate the tasks as outlined in the terms of reference which have been discussed in the meeting. This support concerns, in particular, the furnishing of information and data necessary for the study and coordination with other departments and with sub-regional organizations working in the country.
- Taking into consideration the:
  - Workplan of the country outlook paper proposed during the planning meeting and for which the detailed proposal ought to be submitted to FAO towards the beginning of January 2000;
  - The timetable for the entire outlook study;
  - Preparation of the country outlook paper by September 2000;
  - Participation in FOSA meetings and other activities until the release of the final reports (2002);
- The constitution of an interdisciplinary and intersectoral working group whose activities would be co-ordinated by the FOSA National Focal Point;
  - The integration of FOSA with efforts in national forestry planning, and in particular with the national forest programmes and the establishment of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management.

***By FAO:***

- To ensure technical support to the FOSA National Focal Points relative to the provision of information, useful documentation and regular contact;
- To take any measures necessary to facilitate the progress of the study by making direct contact with the country, governments and sub-regional organizations (governmental and

non-governmental).

- To identify potential partners which could provide technical and/or financial support to FOSA.
- To consider the possibility of providing (supplementary) technical support at the sub-regional level for North Africa to facilitate the preparation of the country outlook papers and the sub-regional report.

The intensification and promotion of sub-regional and regional cooperation, in particular with organizations working in related fields, such as the Plan Bleu, OADA, *Silva Mediterranea*, ICARDA, etc.

## **ANNEXES**

1. Agenda of the meeting
2. Participants list

**FORESTRY OUTLOOK STUDY FOR AFRICA - FOSA**

**Sub-regional planning meeting for North Africa – Agenda**

**Hammamet (Tunisia) - 23 – 25 November 1999**

The agenda of the meeting is as follows :

**Monday 22 November 1999**

- Arrival of the participants in Tunis – transfer to Hammamet – welcome at the hotel « Le Shalimar »

**Tuesday 23 November 1999**

- **Opening Session (09h00 –10h00)**
  - ♦ Welcoming address by the FAO Representative to Tunisia: Mr Brahim AMOURI
  - ♦ Address by the representative of the Ministry responsible for forests: Secretary of State Mr. Ameer HORCHANI
  - ♦ Introduction of the FAO Team and the participants
- **Coffee break ( 10h00 – 10h30)**
- **Session 1 – Introduction de FOSA (10h30 – 12h30)**  
Chairman: M. Ben M'Hamed Rapporteur : M. El Aichouni
  - ♦ Approval of the agenda
  - ♦ Presentation of the FOSA study : Susan Braatz
  - ♦ Definition of the objectives of the planning workshop : Susan Braatz /Jean Louis Blanchez
  - ♦ FAO's experience in carrying out outlook studies : Jean Louis Blanchez
  - ♦ Comments and discussion with the participants
- **Lunch (12h30 – 14h00)**
- **Session 2 (14h00 – 15h30) :**  
Chairman: M. Ben M'Hamed - Rapporteur : Md El Aichouni  
  
Presentations by the national focal points: Three major constraints that prevent or hinder the development of the forestry sector in their respective countries - 15 minutes of presentation followed by 15 minutes of questions/answers  
Morocco  
Egypt
- **Coffee break (15h30 –15h 45)**
- **Session 2 (continued 15h 45 – 18h 00) :**

Presentations :

Tunisia

Libya

Sudan

Conclusions of the session : 17h45 – 18h00

### Wednesday 24 November 1999

- **Session 3 – The sub-regional context ( 08h30 – 10h00)**  
Chairman: A. AlFares - Rapporteur : J.L. Blanchez
  - ♦ The forestry sector in the sub-regional context – critical analysis of the situation and prospects for development to year 2020 ; M. Md El Aichouni
  - ♦ Discussion
- **Coffee break (10h00 – 10h30)**
- **Session 4 – Other sub-regional presentations ( 10h30 – 12h30)**  
Chairman:El Aichouni - Rapporteur : Md El Aichouni
  - ♦ OADA – 10h30 – 10h45
  - ♦ Plan Bleu – 10h45 – 11h00
  - ♦ *Silva Mediterranea* – 11h00 – 11h15
  - ♦ Presentation of Mauritania – 11h15 – 11h45
  
  - ♦ Presentation of the list of regional thematic papers : analysis of the proposed subjects and identification of the key issues faced by North Africa, actual and potential collaborating organizations; existing studies of value to FOSA
- **Lunch ( 12h30 –13h30)**
- **Field visit ( 13h30 – 18h30)**  
Cap Bon - plantations and forest nurseries

### Thursday 25 November 1999

- **Session 5 – The preparation of the country outlook paper (08h30 – 10h00)**  
Chairman: El Aichouni - Rapporteur : Jean Louis Blanchez
  - Methods of making projections
  - Presentation and discussion of the contents of the country outlook study: Jean louis Blanchez/ Susan Braatz
  - Discussion of the contents country outlook paper: J.L. Blanchez
- **Coffee break ( 10h00 – 10h30)**

➤ **Session 6 – Table des matières du rapport de prospective et les problèmes opérationnels (10h30 – 12h30)**

Chairman: M. Skouri Rapporteur : Md El Aichouni

- ♦ Terms of reference of the FOSA National Focal Point
- ♦ Calendar of activities at the national level - work plan
- ♦ Resources available for implementation
- ♦ Coordination at national and sub-regional level

➤ **Lunch ( 12h30 – 13h30)**

➤ **Session 7 - Conclusions et propositions de la réunion de planification**

Chairman: M. Skouri Rapporteur : Md El Aichouni/ A. Alfares

Drafting Committee : El Aichouni, A. Alfares, M.L. Hmeida, Mogahed M. Mogahed

Drafting of the conclusions and recommendations of the meeting: 13h30 – 15h00

Presentation and discussion of the conclusions : 15h00 – 16h00

➤ **Coffee break(16h00 – 16h30)**

➤ **Closing session ( 16h30 – 17h30)**

Chairman: El Aichouni/ A. Alfares

- ♦ Official reading of the conclusions and recommendations of the FOSA planning workshop
- ♦ Acknowledgements

**Evening : Gala dinner with the Forest Administration of Tunisia**

**Friday 26 November 1999**

**Departure of the participants – transfer to Tunis.**

**FORESTRY OUTLOOK STUDY FOR AFRICA**  
**Sub-regional Planning Meeting for North Africa****List of Participants****COUNTRIES**

<b><u>COUNTRIES</u></b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>TITLE/POSITION</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>
Egypt	Ms. Enayat Abdel Aziz	General Director of Plantation, Secretariat of Afforestation, Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation	Dokki-Cairo, Egypt Tel:00202 3373790 Fax:00202 3354983
Libya	Adel M. Said	Engineer, Ministry of Agriculture Forestry Department	P.O Box 81436 Tripoli, Libya Tel: 4440861
Morocco	Mohamed Bendahman	Ingénieur au Ministère	Ministère chargé des Eaux et Forêts
Mauritania	Mohamed Lamine O. Hamida	Ingénieur Forestier	MDRE/DEAR Nouakchott, Mauritania Tel: 00222-252425 Home tel: 00222-255123
Sudan	Amira A. M. Salih	Agric. Eng. National Forest Corporation	P.O Box 658 Khartoum, Sudan Tel: 00249 11 467654 Fax: 00249 11 472659
Tunisia	Mohamed El Munji Ben  Gader Gahzi	Director, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Project for Forestry Development  Resp. Economie Forestiere Direction Generale des Forets	30 Rue Alain Savary 1002 Tunis Direction Generale des Forets, Ministere de l'Agriculture Tel/Fax: 216 1 891 141 e-mail: <a href="mailto:ghazi.gader@francimel.com">ghazi.gader@francimel.com</a>

**OBSERVERS**

OADA	El Houssein Ballis	Environment Expert League of Arab States Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (OADA)	P.O Box 474 Khartoum, Sudan Tel: 00249-11-472176/183 Fax: 00249-11-471402 e-mail: aoad@sudanmail.net
PLAN BLEU	Hayeth Sidhoum	Representant le Plan Bleu pour la Méditerranée	15 rue Ludwing V. Beethoven 06560 Valbonne France Tel: 0033 4 92 38 71 30 e.mail: www. plan bleu.org
<i>Silva Mediterranea</i>	Mohamed Skouri	Evaluation Mission – <i>Silva Mediterranea</i>	8 Rue Avicenne Le Bardo 2000, Tunisia Tel/Fax: 00216 1 502 102
ICARDA	Mohamed El Mourid	Regional Coordinator North Africa Program International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA)	P.O Box 435 El Menzah I, 1004 Tunis, Tunisia Tel: 00216 1 232 207 Fax: 00216 1 751 666 e-mail: ICARDA - Tunis @cgiar.org

**FAO**

SNEA	B. Amouri	Sub-regional Representative Sub-regional Office for North Africa	P.O. Box 300 Cité Mahragène Tunis, Tunisia Tel: 00216-1-847553 Fax: 00216-1-791859
SNEA	Mohamed Ajroud	Programme Officer Sub-regional Office for North Africa	P.O. Box 300 Cité Mahragène Tunis, Tunisia Tel: 00216-1-847553 Fax: 00216-1-791859 e-mail: mohamed.ajroud@field.fao.org
FONS	Susan Braatz	Policy Analyst/SOFO Coordinator Forestry Policy and Planning Division FAO, Rome	Viale delle Terme di Caracalla Rome 0100, Italy Tél: 0039 06 5705 3902 Fax: 0039 06 5705 5137 e-mail: <a href="mailto:Susan.Braatz@fao.org">Susan.Braatz@fao.org</a>
FONS	Jean Louis Blanchez	Forestry Officer (Investment) Forestry Policy and Planning Division FAO, Rome	Viale delle Terme di Caracalla Rome 00100, Italy Tel: 39 06 570 5712 Fax: 39 06 570 5137 e-mail: Jean Louis <a href="mailto:Blanchez@fao.org">Blanchez@fao.org</a>
RNE	Adnan AlFares	Regional Forestry Officer Regional Office for the Near East Cairo, Egypt	<a href="mailto:Adnan.AlFares@fao.org">P.O. Box 2223</a> <a href="mailto:Adnan.AlFares@fao.org">Cairo, Egypt</a> <a href="mailto:Adnan.AlFares@fao.org">Tel: 0020-2-3316000 (3316138 Direct)</a> <a href="mailto:Adnan.AlFares@fao.org">Fax:0020-2-7495981</a> <a href="mailto:Adnan.AlFares@fao.org">E – mail: Adnan.AlFares@fao.org</a>
FAO	Mohamed El Aichouni	FAO Consultant	Ministère des Eaux et Forêts Rabat, Marocco Tel: 212 7 71 53 79 Fax: 212 7 67 10 31 e-mail: <a href="mailto:Elaicho@compuweb.net.ma">Elaicho@compuweb.net.ma</a>
FAO	Megahed M. Megahed	FAO Consultant	Faculty of Agriculture, Alexandria University Alexandria, Egypt Tel: 0020-3-4206385 Fax: 0020-3-7172780

