

RECORD OF DECISIONS
CAFF Management Board Meeting
Monday 13 February – Wednesday 15 February, 2006
Helsinki, Finland

Present:

National Representatives (9)

Esko Jaakkola – Chair, Finland
Sune Sohlberg – Sweden
Aevar Petersen – Iceland
Janet Hohn – USA
Martti Raillard (substitute) – Canada
Valeyri Orlov – Russia
Finn Kateras (substitute) – Norway (from item #6)
Anna Maria Fossa – Faroe Islands

Not Represented: Greenland

Permanent Participants (4)

Victoria Gofman – AIA
Mikhail Todyshev – RAIPON
Ritva Torvika-Gelencier – Saami Council
Bobbie Joe Greenland – GCI, IPS

Others (2)

John Calder – Chair AMAP (13th)
Simon Wilson – Deputy ES AMAP (13th)
Joan Eamer- UNEP/GRID-Arendal (13th)
Bernt Johansson – NORIT IT (13th)
Steinar Eldøy – IPIECA/OGP (14th)
Outi Mahonen – Finland, CAFF/AMAP
Interpreter

Maria Victoria Gunnarsdottir – CAFF Executive Secretary (ES)

1.0 Agenda

1. Addition of discussion on CBIRD STAMP, pilot project submitted by CBird Expert Group.
2. Change PAME discussion to Wednesday morning.
3. Move COMAAR discussion to Tuesday after lunch.

2.0 Adoption of minutes from Cambridge; and

3.0 Final approval of minutes from Helsinki Feb 2005

1. Website version will not have country dialog or actions table, only list of decisions.
2. Internally distributed minutes will have country dialog and actions table.
3. Comments to be received back to Secretariat by the first week in March.

4.0 CBMP Presentation and Status Report

1. CAFF reps are asked to consider balancing task teams, adding members so there is more balance in representation by each country.
2. Important documents will be made available in Russian, in print as well as on the website.
3. CBMP products will be developed with the goal of making them of use to the PPs, with appropriate translations into local languages as need arises and as resources become available.
4. Need more input on indicators from the PPs, as well as what products they would find most useful.

5. Implementation plan will be ready in draft form for June Biennial meeting review, with finalization planned for Ministerial in October 2006.
6. Communication strategy will be added to list of products for Ministerial, as well as additional networks that may join CBMP.
7. Chair of CBMP will draft a letter to be sent to each country asking for in-kind and financial support for CBMP. This letter will include a draft of the implementation plan, and will be sent out prior to the April SAO meeting.
8. National Reps will send Chair of CBMP names and addresses (if appropriate) of those people who should receive such a letter with copies sent to the SAOs and the CAFF National Reps.

5.0 2010 Arctic Biodiversity Assessment

1. CAFF National Reps agree to doing a 2010 biodiversity assessment.
2. More discussion needed on content before structure can be determined, but generally agreed that format should be impressive, and heavy on data, and graphics, showing status and trends, stressing species, habitats and ecosystems.
3. CBMP Secretariat is asked to submit proposal on contents, based on what is reasonably expected to be acquired and accomplished by scientists.
4. CBMP and CAFF Secretariats will write a white paper to CAFF NRs then to SAOs for April 2006, with a more detailed draft to be submitted for CAFF Biennial review. Final to be presented to SAOs/Ministers in October 2006 for endorsement.
5. Chair of CAFF will compile a list of what other products will be generated for 2010 by other international bodies, so efforts with this assessment can be properly coordinated.

6.0 AMAP discussion on Joint Monitoring

1. Before a workshop, something has to be prepared for the attendees to review and finalize, however it is agreed that the timing is right for experts from both Working Groups to now come together.
2. CBMP will review AMAP's trends and effects program now under revision; and AMAP will review CBMP's list of indicators.
3. Opportunities for joint CAFF/AMAP monitoring may include: CBird/STAMP (birds), Polar Bears (mammals), and Arctic Char (fish).
4. Will keep joint cooperation to no more than 3 pilots in order not to overwhelm the CBMP which is still just starting up.

7.0 Focal Point Discussion

1. Focal Point could benefit from having scientific experts involved, with more outreach to the scientific community, however, current Focal Point structure is good enough and flexible enough at the present time. This may change over the longterm with further refinement from SAOs and Ministers.
2. CAFF NRs made clear their wish to be represented on Focal Point by the Chair. If Chair cannot attend, then another NR should serve as a replacement.
3. CAFF will start with CBMP being a key instrument for ACIA follow-up.
4. CBMP Secretariat will review ACIA for biodiversity-related recommendations and compare with Chair's table, for a more detailed view on the way forward for CAFF.
5. CAFF Chair will request that CAFF experts join AMAP's Climate Expert Group, ahead of the Focal Point meeting.
6. General viewpoint that a science advisory board could serve Focal Point, balanced between different scientific disciplines.
7. Sweden is prepared to send a national rep.

7.1 IUCN Documents

1. All are supporters to IUCN and cooperation is welcome. CAFF will provide comments if SAOs request them.
2. Letter will be written from CAFF Chair outlining CAFF's connections with IUCN.

8.0 Review of Budget

1. Iceland's Ministry of Environment will increase by 20% if other countries do the same.
2. Finland, Sweden, and Canada confirmed they could increase by 20%.
3. Letter reviewing background of financial situation, and decision by SAOs in October 2005, to be sent from CAFF Chair to Norway, requesting for increased contribution from 2007 and for possible voluntary contributions for 2006, stating also willingness of other countries to increase their contributions.
4. Faroe Islands will discuss with Danish SAO their possibility for contribution and also Greenland's contribution.
5. US does not plan to increase its voluntary contributions at this time but can contribute on a project by project basis as requested in writing.
6. At this time, Russia can only contribute in kind.
7. ES was instructed to set up a new table breaking travel down into four categories reflecting the priorities expressed by the Board: 1) CAFF mtgs, 2) SAO and Ministerial meetings; 3) Focal Point and CBMP; 4) Support to PPs; 5) Support to other WGs; 6) other travel.

9.0 CAFF XI, and Oil and Gas Biodiversity Workshop

1. NRs agree to the idea of contributing to an Oil and Gas Workshop focused on Arctic aspects, in time connected to the CAFF XI Biennial meeting, but underlined need for this being two independent events.
2. A wish from CAFF to contribute input to and have dialogue with IPIECA, but some countries expressed concern over having Oil and Gas Workshop the day before CAFF XI. Esko to notify Steinar Eldoy of alternatives (alternate venue and dates subsequently set).
3. ES and Outi not to proceed with planning until details have been worked out.
4. After that, teleconferences will be set up between Outi, Maria and IPIECA to iron out details, which will be circulated to the NRs for review.

10.0 ECORA Update

1. Item will be on the agenda for CAFF XI, and UNEP as project manager is prepared to make a presentation.
2. RAIPON's concerns were noted, and will be taken into consideration by Russia and CAFF partners in the project.
3. Semi-annual reports submitted to GEF will be circulated through CAFF.
4. Russia's Ministry of Natural Resources has made process open and transparent for all stakeholders and all comments will be taken into account.
5. General agreement that it is important for CAFF that this project be a success and all countries are committed to see that happen.
6. Norway has requested countries to look for possible ways to provide translation services for ECORA.

11.0 Updates from Expert Groups – CFG, CBird, CPAN

1. Faroe Islands will check about holding Flora Group meeting in their country.
2. Chair will check if there is money for CAFF products, to assist AIA with publication of Workplan item 1.6.
3. US offered to try to find money for Boreal Forest Mapping workshop, and offered to host the workshop in Anchorage, if needed.
4. Details will be added to Work Plan under existing headings where possible – difficult to add new items at this stage to Work Plan. However, it was emphasized that CAFF must make the WP a “living document”.
5. Regarding CPAN, a decision was reached by the NRs that CPAN will not move forward until a country steps up to take the lead. The NRs agreed a policy level discussion is needed by the CAFF Board prior to further CPAN actions being taken. The CAFF Chair agreed to add this item to the

agenda for the June 5 Board meeting. The CAFF Board will work on policy, direction, for CPAN and will seek a country lead.

6. Norway volunteered to find and distribute an electronic version of CPAN strategy.
7. Norway will review the CPAN strategy and Action Plan in light of developments since 1996, drawing on CPAN members, for discussion at the CAFF XI Biennial meeting, with the goal of clarifying the international role and relevance of CPAN and identifying possible elements for renewed cooperation.

12.0 Status of Boreal Forest Mapping Project

1. The US and Finland may have some money to support the Boreal Forest Mapping Project. Both countries will check on this.
2. Request that all countries see if they have resources to contribute directly to this project.

13.0 CAFF 2004-2006 Work Plan

1. Item 2.1 will not be completed unless significant progress and decisions are made at CAFF XI. *Prepare an Implementation Plan for the Circumpolar Protected Areas Network (CPAN) Strategy and Action Plan. Lead: CPAN Chair Country – to be determined.*
2. Item 2.5 will not be completed. *Conduct a workshop on the values of protected areas, and indigenous subsistence lands in Russia by 2006. Lead: Finland, Norway, Sweden, (Russia), RAIPON, and UNEP/GRID-Arendal.*
3. Item 3.5 will not be completed. *Complete an inventory of active Arctic biodiversity monitoring programs and projects in each CAFF country and complete a gap analysis by 2005. Lead: Canada*
4. Item 5.1 will not be completed. *Produce a CPAN Poster. Lead: US*

14.0 Update on Arctic Portal Workshop and Feasibility Study

1. Update given – no decisions required.

15.0 CAFF Map Redraw - finalization

1. CAFF adopts the new proposed map that includes the Faroe Islands.
2. Russia will consider inclusion of the Commander Islands and other possible modifications to the CAFF designated border.
3. Canada and the US will review its CAFF border.
4. Iceland, Sweden, Norway and Finland will not change their borders at present.

16.0 PAME LME's, AMSA, and AMSP

1. Norway will look at possibility to have an expert attend the next PAME meeting in Oslo, 1-2 March.

17.0 Discussion of CAFF posters and brochures

1. ES will distribute electronic version of poster for one-month comment period.

18.0 RAIPON and Sacred Sites Workshop

1. Looking now at possibility to hold this workshop preceding the Ministerial meeting, Friday and Saturday 20-21 October.
2. Will present more details at CAFF XI.

19.0 Presentation by AIA on IPY CBM Bering Sea Region

1. AIA will send a draft of a letter to Chair for signature in support of BSSN.

20.0 Changes in Members of Management Board

1. Russia not able to take position of Chair.
2. Faroe Islands will check with Danish SAO on Greenland. Need clarification on Greenland.
3. Provided no response from Greenland, then Canada is possibly next in line. Decision needed before CAFF XI.

21.0 Update on COMAAR

1. Chair of CBMP will contact Terry Callaghan to reinforce link between CBMP and COMAAR.

22.0 Dates of Upcoming CAFF Meetings

CAFF XI is scheduled for 5-9 June, in Yllas Finland. A management board meeting will be held on 5 June. Another Management Board meeting may be needed in August to prepare for the Ministerial. This will be decided at CAFF XI.

23.0 Membership in GBIF

1. ES will distribute this information via email and will ask for final comments.
2. NRs requested to know what is the benefit to CAFF of membership.

24.0 Upcoming Meetings – approval for attendance by CAFF ES

- Permanent Participant Workshop followed by Focal Point – 21-24 February – YES
- PAME mtg 1-2 March Oslo – possible attendance by Norwegian representative to CAFF
- IPY Data Management Workshop – 3-4 March, Cambridge – Halldor
- CBD and COP 8 in Brazil – NO, but possible representation by Canada on CBMP, in addition to CAFF participation on delegations from Finland and Norway.
- Arctic Science Summit Week and Focal Point – YES
- SAO meeting, Russia – YES
- CAFF XI and Management Board Meeting 5-9 June, Northern Finland – YES
- Oil and Gas Biodiversity Workshop 12-13 June, Tromsø – YES
- SAO and Ministerial, 24-26 October, Russia - YES

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm on Wednesday 15 February