



# African Forest Forum

A platform for stakeholders in African forestry



## Report on the third meeting of the members' forum of the African Forest Forum

*28-30 June 2022*



## **About AFF**

Established in 2007 as a non-political, non-governmental, objective, independent and not for profit international organisation, the African Forest Forum (AFF) is an association of individuals with a commitment to the sustainable management, wise use and conservation of Africa's forest and tree resources for the socio-economic well-being of its peoples and for the stability and improvement of its environment.

AFF exists to voice the concerns of African forestry stakeholders, and to use science, indigenous knowledge, and experience to advocate for the increasing relevance of forests and trees outside forests to peoples' livelihoods, national economies and the stability of the environment.

In this regard, AFF provides independent analysis and advice to national, regional and international institutions and actors on how economic, food security and environmental issues can be addressed through the sustainable management of forests and trees outside forests. Operationally, AFF mobilises resources to address forestry and related issues that cut across countries and different African sub-regions with a view of enhancing the relevance and contribution of forests and trees outside forests to the livelihoods of the people of Africa and stability of their environment.

## **Vision**

The leading forum that unites all stakeholders in African forestry

## **Mission**

To contribute to the improvement of the livelihoods of the people of Africa and the environment they live in through the sustainable management and use of tree and forest resources on the African continent.

Photo credits (left to right): Dry forest in the Sahelian Parklands © AFF; Secondary forest in the southern part of Nigeria © Larwanou Mahamane / AFF 2008; Harvesting timber in the Vipya forest plantations in Malawi ©Björn Lundgren/AFF

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**REPORT ON THE THIRD MEETING  
OF THE MEMBERS' FORUM OF THE  
AFRICAN FOREST FORUM  
(28-30 JUNE 2022)**

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# ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFF	African Forest Forum
AFORNET	African Forestry Research Network
AFP-CCP	African Forests, People and Climate Change Project
ANAFE	African Network for Agriculture, Agroforestry and Natural Resources Education
AUC	African Union Commission
AVE	Advertising Value Equivalent
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
COMIFAC	Central African Forest Commission
CoPs	Communities of Practice
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease
EAC	East African Community
EALA	East Africa Legislative Assembly
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FAO	The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.
GC	Governing Council
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GFFFN	Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network
GGW	Great Green Wall
ICRAF	World Agroforestry Centre
KMCOMM	Knowledge Management and Communications Unit
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
PFA	Professional Forestry Associations
PMER	Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Unit
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
SABC	South African Broadcasting Corporation
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SFMF	Sustainable Forest Management Framework for Africa
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SLU	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
TNA	Training Needs Assessment
ToT	Training of Trainers
USD	United States Dollar

# 1. INTRODUCTION

The meetings of the Members' Forum of the African Forest Forum are held once every five years as provided for in the AFF Constitution, Article 4 Section 4 (a) 4. However, the Members' Forum may hold extraordinary meetings at the request of any member, provided that such a request is supported by at least one-third of the members. The Members' Forum of AFF is constituted by the entire membership of AFF. Meetings of the Members' Forum usually consider and determine any matter which the Governing Council may refer to it, and generally provide broad guidance to the Governing Council in the discharge of its functions, among other functions as provided under the Constitution.

The first meeting of the Members' Forum was held electronically on 15-20 February 2012. It was during this meeting that members elected the Chair (Prof. Fredrick Owino of the Republic of Kenya) and Vice Chair (Dr. Abdelazim Mirghan Ibrahim of the Republic of Sudan) of Members' Forum; ratified the AFF Constitution, guidelines for administrative and financial operations and several Governing Council (GC) decisions.

The second meeting of the Members' Forum held virtually on 27 February – 3 March 2017 provided an opportunity for members to appreciate the achievements made on implementation of AFF's two flagship projects. Namely: *Strengthening sustainable forest management in Africa* funded by Sida and *African forests, people and climate change* funded by SDC. Further, review the institution's programmatic approach to its work, which was found to be robust and crucial in addressing forestry issues high on the development agenda. Prof. Demel Teketay of the Republic of Ethiopia and Ibro Adamou (Republic of Niger) were elected as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively.

In order to address the agenda of the Members' Forum third meeting (28-30 June 2022), the Secretariat prepared the following documents and shared to members in order to support their participation and contribution to respective agenda items:

Meeting agenda	Documents shared by AFF Secretariat
1. Adoption of the agenda	a) Report on First Members' Forum of the African Forest Forum ( 27 February – 3 March 2017)
2. Matters arising from the report on the First Meeting of the Members' Forum	b) Report on key decisions made by Governing Council meetings in the period (2017-2021)
3. Ratification of major decisions made by the Governing Council	

Meeting agenda	Documents shared by AFF Secretariat
<p>4. Projects implementation and achievements</p> <p>a) Implementation of projects b) Key outputs/achievements c) Uptake and impact of work undertaken by AFF</p>	<p>c) Overview of achievements of project: Strengthening Sustainable Forest Management in Africa. Project Duration: 2017-2022. Funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).</p> <p>d) Overview of achievements of project: African Forests, People and Climate Change. African Forest Forum Climate Change Programme (AFF-CCP). Phase III: 15 Nov. 2018– Dec 31st 2022. Funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).</p> <p>e) Summary report on uptake and impact of AFF knowledge products and services.</p>
<p>5. Administrative matters</p>	<p>f) Administrative and management issues at AFF</p>
<p>6. Election of next Chair and Vice Chair of the Members' Forum</p>	<p>g) Election guide: Chair and Vice-Chair of Members' Forum</p>

The members discussed each item electronically via Zoom. A total of 241 members (Annex 2) participated in the three-day meeting and effectively contributed to the agenda. The deliberations for each day are summarized in the subsequent sections.

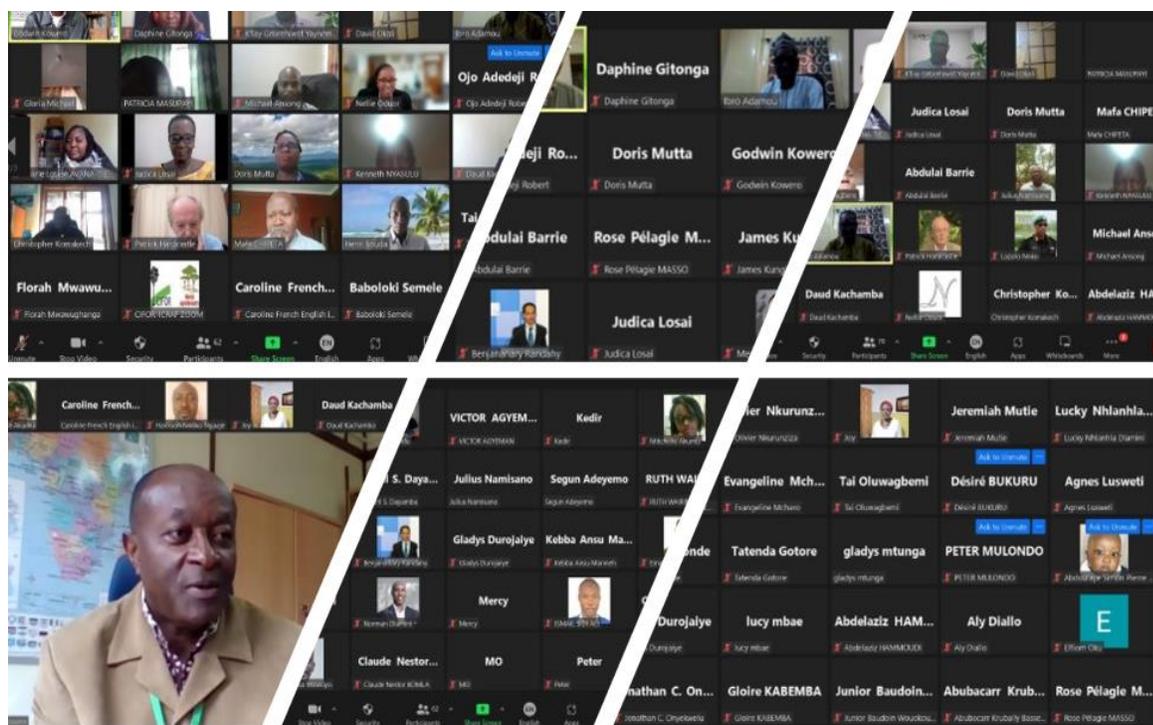


Photo collage: Third Meeting of the Members' Forum of the African Forum held virtually via Zoom on 28-30 June 2022

## **2. MEETING PROCEEDINGS: TUESDAY, 28 JUNE 2022**

### **2.1 Adoption of the meeting agenda**

Willie Kakuru (Republic of Uganda) moved to have the agenda of the meeting (Annex 1) adopted. He was seconded by Abdulai Barrie (Republic of Sierra Leone).

### **2.2 Welcome remarks by the Chair of Members' Forum**

On behalf of the Chair of the Members Forum, Demel Teketay, Ibrou Adamou, Vice Chairperson welcomed members to the Third Meeting of the Members Forum. He said that the Chair was unable to participate in the virtual meeting due to health reasons and wished him a speedy recovery.

Ibrou Adamou thanked members for the opportunity to serve them during their five-year tenure. He also recognized the efforts of the AFF Secretariat for its effort and resilience in delivering on its mandate despite the COVID-19 crisis and other global challenges. He also thanked AFF's Governing Council and its Committees for its leadership and oversight during this period.

In line with the Constitution of the African Forest Forum, Ibrou Adamou stated that aim of the forum was to provide a platform for members to review and contribute towards the progress of the AFF. He assured members that every suggestion would be valued and appreciated for betterment of the forum.

### **2.3 Matters arising from the Second Meeting of the Members' Forum**

The report on the Second Meeting of the Members' Forum was adopted, as proposed by Mafa Chipeta (Republic of Malawi) and as seconded by Onyekachi Chukwu (Republic of Nigeria) and Musa Mussa Wawuyo (Republic of Tanzania). The members reviewed the matters arising from the previous meeting as follows:

#### *(a) Sharing information, assessing its uptake and impact, and strengthening networking*

In his presentation, Godwin Kowero stated that post-workshop evaluations were conducted to help determine intended use of information shared by AFF. A six-month follow-up survey, he said, would then assess the level of information retention, application and impact of knowledge learned as manifested by improved attitudes, skills and changes to improve forest management on the continent.

The meeting was also informed that periodic assessments were undertaken to highlight areas of knowledge impact, as well as ways for improving AFF communication tools. A specific example provided was a survey that covered a ten-year period (2008 – 2018)<sup>1</sup>. It was noted that the results of such surveys provided insights on the ease of access to AFF's knowledge products by end users; their relevance in today's world and agenda of targeted institutions; interest, willingness and ability to influence change with the knowledge received and level of catalytic dissemination of information to other stakeholders, within an enabling environment.

*(b) Media engagement*

With regard to increasing the reach of AFF project activities and outputs, Godwin Kowero explained that a "Media in Forestry" Chapter had been established on the institution's Governing Council to (i) integrate the needs of media on its work; (ii) strengthen the capacity of media on forestry issues in general, and those addressed by AFF in particular (iii) increase the reach of its work and (iv) save on cost of buying space. In terms of the latter, he informed members that in 2021, the estimated buying space taken up by the media articles, of which AFF did not pay for (Advertising Value Equivalent, AVE) was at a cost of USD 19,757.50.

*(c) On future work*

Members were made aware of the recommendations from the Second Meeting of the Members' Forum that had been incorporated in AFF's work. In particular, through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) supported projects, it was noted that AFF had:

- Catalogued and shared appropriate technologies and best practices on different issues suitable across different African landscapes;
- Integrated new and emerging issues in its work e.g climate change and green economy in forestry management;
- Identified challenges of forest planning and management and strategies needed for conservation of large-scale ecological processes
- Evaluated ways for intensifying forest-based activities at grass root level through introduction and promotion of new technologies such as liquid biofuel production and utilization;
- Upon the request of the African Union Commission (AUC), reviewed gums and resins and how they could be used to empower women and youth. Furthermore, contributed towards development of a multi-country proposal spearheaded by FAO

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<sup>1</sup> <https://afforum.org/publication/access-uptake-and-use-of-knowledge-products-developed-by-the-african-forest-forum/>

in the context of the Great Green Wall (GGW) initiative, specifically on the Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) value chain analysis in this region for access to green climate funds.

- Evaluated climate change effects on the private sector in the context of forestry on the continent;
- Continued with studies that could provide suitable alternatives for enhancing regeneration of degraded forests.
- Extended reach of AFF activities to North and Central Africa.
- Enhanced AFF synergies with country specific forestry professional organizations in order to reach a wider membership, encourage its participation in AFF activities, as well facilitate mentorship of young forestry professionals;

In the same token, members were informed that there were certain recommendations that had not been incorporated in the work of AFF, largely due to the focus of ongoing projects, linkages with donor requirements, existing capacity within the institution and the comparative advantage of other agencies e.g. World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) specialized in certain fields.

With regards to establishment of AFF regional offices, members were urged to shelve the proposal for a considerable period, due to scaling down of donor funding and programmes following the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Discussion

In his observation, Mafa Chipeta (Malawi) commended AFF on areas of engagement mainstreamed in its work. He highlighted, of notable interest, the suggestion on increasing the synergy between AFF and other forestry institutions not only at country level but also in the sub-regions would promote shared interests of forestry stakeholders across the continent. In view of this, it was noted that considerable effort would be needed from both AFF and from the national associations.

Labode Popoola (Nigeria), echoed the appreciation of members on the milestones attained by AFF. He reiterated the need to operationalize professional sub-regional forestry associations that could support AFF in information sharing, amplifying voices of stakeholders across the continent.

Likewise, Tajudeen Amusa (Nigeria) reminded members that in 2018, an AFF study was conducted on the establishment and operationalization of professional forestry associations. Based on the findings and recommendations provided, a suitable approach could be adopted in strengthening the activities of the associations.

On behalf of members, Musa Mussa Wawuyo (Tanzania) expressed gratitude to AFF for actions taken to address recommendations emanating from the previous meeting.

He said that there was a need to further secure political will and commitment towards sustainable management of forests.

James Kung'u (Kenya) lauded the leadership of the Executive Secretary of AFF on the highlights of his presentation especially in lieu of the COVID-19 pandemic era. Further, increasing the visibility of the institution at the regional and international levels. He sought to understand possible solutions to the challenges of donor funding in view of ongoing conflicts in certain parts of the world.

Jonathan Onyekwelu (Nigeria) reverberated the sentiments of members by congratulating Godwin Kowero on the well outlined and informative presentation. He sought to enquire about the sustainability of AFF, given limited opportunities in donor funding – a trend that had led to the collapse of other institutions such as AFORNET and ANAFE.

Patrick Kariuki (Nigeria) equally thanked AFF for the efforts made to keep its members informed of the institution's activities across the continent. He urged AFF to find ways to engage the youth and in particular Undergraduate students to understand the value of forests and trees outside forests in order to pursue research, opportunities and a subsequent profession in this field

In his response, Godwin Kowero reminded the plenary that AFF was a members'-based forum, hence the need to address all the issues collectively. With that said, he provided the following feedback on the issues raised:

- With regards to operationalization of professional forestry associations (PFAs), he said that despite the efforts made, there was a limited to what AFF could do. It is because of this, that for example, AFF had contributed towards the development of the East Africa Community (EAC) Forest Management and Protection Bill that aimed to strengthen professional national forestry associations and support formation of a regional professional forestry association in the region. He advised members from East Africa, to persuade their Members of Parliament within the East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA) to allocate resources to help build these institutions.
- In the West African region, AFF had made similar submissions to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Secretariat. It was noted that given the mandate to the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), they could enhance the capacities of member countries to sustainably develop their forestry associations while promoting cooperation at the regional level.
- AFF had engaged political leaders at regional and sub-regional levels. For example, the *Sustainable Forest Management Framework for Africa (2020-2030)* developed by the African Union Commission (AUC) with technical support from AFF and other actors, had been ratified by the heads of state and governments. Further, the

framework would help AUC's members states prioritize forestry in their national plans and budgets.

- AFF like any other institution should compete for funding. Key strategies should include; building a good rapport with existing donors, increasing visibility of the institution's outcomes and impact at the regional level; enhancing partnerships to enable multiple streams of possible funding opportunities and remaining credible through regular audit reports. Apart from that, members were invited to contribute towards its growing Trust Fund to resource mobilization.
- Twenty-eight (28) postgraduate students from across Africa, had been identified and supported by AFF to undertake forestry research in line with respective plans of work and budgets.

## **2.4 Ratification of major decisions made by the Governing Council**

The members ratified the major decisions made by Governing Council during convenings held from 2017-2022. Specifically members:

- a) endorsed the decision by the AFF Governing Council to approve its Sida supported project for funding
- b) endorsed the decision by the AFF Governing Council to approve its SDC supported project for funding
- c) endorsed the decision by the AFF Governing Council to approve plans of work and budgets for the work of AFF in the period 2017-2023.
- d) endorsed the decision by the AFF Governing Council to approve operational, final and audit reports of both the Sida and SDC supported projects for the period 2017-2022.
- e) endorsed the decision by the AFF Governing Council to approve the AFF Strategic Plan (2021-2025) and Knowledge Management Strategy (2021-2025).

# **3. MEETING PROCEEDINGS: TUESDAY, 29 JUNE 2022**

## **3.1 Projects implementation and achievements**

### Sida supported projects (2017-2022)

In her presentation, Doris Mutta provided an overview of achievements for the Sida supported projects implemented from 2017-2022. Namely: (i) *Strengthening Sustainable*

*Forest Management in Africa (2014-2019) and (ii) Strengthening Management and Use of Forest Ecosystems for Sustainable Development in Africa (2019-2022).*

The members celebrated the achievements made on implementation of the two projects. Specifically, the following are some highlights from the discussions:

- *Conceptual framework based on local communities:* Members were informed that the poverty status of forest dependent communities required an intervention to help protect forest lands they depended on. It was for this reason that the projects focused on enhancing the capacity of stakeholders through identification of alternative livelihoods that would be compatible with containing forest cover loss.
- *Poverty eradication vis a vis poverty alleviation:* The meeting noted that in the past, the latter term was often used. However, with the 2030 Agenda and specifically, the first Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 1) that aims to “End poverty in all its forms everywhere” – poverty eradication is the universal term that has been accepted and utilized.
- *Country selection process:* Members were made aware that focus countries from the Sida supported project, were selected based on the nature of studies undertaken, availability of funding, potential evidence base that would provide the greatest opportunity for learning. For example, research conducted by AFF scientists on forest and woodland ecosystems would naturally be conducted in woodland eco-regions. This notwithstanding, it was emphasized that AFF would always make an effort to ensure integration of all sub-regions in its work.
- *Stakeholder engagement during project formulation:* Members were reminded that the priority areas of action in the *Programmatic Approach to the Work of the African Forest Forum* and the initial plans of work and budgets of AFF’s two projects were identified by the African forestry fraternity. Through consultations convened by AFF (e.g. Members’ Forum, Governing Council, among others), representatives of stakeholder groups were able to provide substantive input at all levels.
- *Launch of pilot projects:* Through the Sida supported project (2019-2022), it was noted that pilot projects would be launched at the local level to provide a benchmark for key strategic interventions. These include pathways to climate resilient livelihoods among others.
- *Youth engagement:* The fact that AFF had established a Youth Chapter in its Governing Council to provide strategic guidance on their effective involvement in forest management decision-making processes was emphasized. In addition, through the institution’s collaboration with the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), efforts were underway to engage this target group as a pilot project, understand their needs and encourage them towards sustainable use of the continent’s forests for better living conditions and conservation.

- *Training of Trainers (ToT)*: Given the dynamic nature of the forestry sector, the need for short courses to train trainers on new and emerging issues was highlighted. Members were informed that as a first step, a Training Needs Assessment (TNA) implemented for Sub-Saharan Africa led to the development of a set of comprehensive training modules on forest-based climate change adaptation, mitigation and carbon trading. Subsequently, AFF developed, in a pedagogical manner, a set of fourteen (14) contextualized training materials in the form of compendiums available freely on the AFF website for professional, technical and informal groups. More effort would be needed in future to develop additional training materials on other issues that include: NTFPs value chains, green and blue economy.

#### SDC supported project (2018-2022)

Marie Louise Avana provided an overview of achievements on AFF's SDC supported project. Namely: African Forests, People and Climate Change Project (AFP-CCP)-Phase III (15 Nov. 2018– Dec 31st, 2022).

Members congratulated AFF for the well elaborated presentation and achievements made so far. Members noted that the existing synergies between the SDC and Sida supported projects aimed to increase the scope, reach and impact of activities implemented.

An example highlighted pertained to a SDC supported activity on development of bankable projects for REDD+ implementation as well as for NTFPs value chains. This activity was similar in nature to a Sida supported activity aimed at increasing access to funding from the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN) and Green Climate Fund (GCF).

In view of this, both projects jointly identified resource persons to conduct the training, facilitated a Training Needs Assessment (TNA) among stakeholders that led to development of training modules on the subject. By pooling resources together, training on the development of bankable projects was undertaken in five (5) African countries was made possible along with a regional Training of Trainers (ToT).

Marie Louise Avana reiterated the fact that the work of AFF – even in previous project phases - was guided by consultations with stakeholders in African forestry including local leaders, Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), training institutions, research institutions, women and youth to ensure relevance, uptake and impact at the local level.

Members were made aware that more information on both the SDC and Sida supported projects could be downloaded from the AFF website under, 'corporate documents.'

## **4. MEETING PROCEEDINGS: WEDNESDAY, 30 JUNE 2022**

### **4.1 Uptake and impact of work undertaken by AFF**

In her presentation, Daphine Gitonga provided a summary on the uptake and impact of the work undertaken by AFF over the past five years (Annex 2).

Members agreed that the two AFF specialized units: Knowledge Management and Communications (KMCOMM) and the Planning Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting (PMER) Unit had provided the much-needed support to reveal the patterns of access and uses of information shared by AFF.

Members considered it gratifying for those who were there at the beginning to witness the growth of the institution from a 'forum idea' to a recognised and respected actor on the African forestry scene and internationally. With 70% of the highest visits originating from the international community, it was noted that there was indeed widespread appeal of the institution's mandate and activities.

With regards to the membership, AFF had a total of 2,688 members, with 90% being ordinary members while the rest (10%) are associate members (mainly students). Out of these, it was emphasized that only about 40% were in the forestry profession while the rest had an interest from a diverse range of stakeholders.

In terms of AFF's efforts to target political audiences, the meeting was informed that line ministries and respective focal points for forestry and environment would be invited to participate in workshops or trainings held at the national and regional levels. Moreover, policy briefs along with other knowledge products would be shared on key issues facing the sector.

Apart from the Communities of Practice (CoPs) programme that aims to enable sharing of information and experience amongst stakeholders in African forestry, podcasts were also developed to ensure maximum reach at the grassroots level. With support of Channel Africa – the international news service of SABC, members were informed that several radio programmes that involved experts, community voices, youth leaders had been developed on topical forestry issues for maximum reach at the local level.

### **4.2 Administrative matters**

Godwin Kowero shared an update on administrative and management issues at AFF. Overall, members were able to appreciate from the presentation, how AFF continues to

grow strongly on the continent and globally in terms of its reach, influence, and credibility.

On the question of sustainability of the institution and whether there had been any outreach to secure funding from African institutions, members were informed that AFF had received support from FAO through the African Union Communication to help develop the Sustainable Forest Management Framework for Africa (SFMF). Further, AFF's contribution towards development of the GGW concept note, submitted to the Green Climate Fund, received financial support from FAO to undertake studies on NTFPs in six African countries. In addition, seed funding from institutions such as SLU had been received for implementation of small projects on the continent.

Despite the challenges of mobilizing resources from national governments, it was established that AFF had been able to secure good political will to work in countries African countries and remain credible in the process.

In terms of stakeholder analysis, members were informed that AFF had established databases of critical teams from the African continent who worked with the secretariat to achieve specified goals. These databases included experts on forest certification, cross boundary issues such as forest pests and diseases, tree germplasm, forest restoration and conflict among others.

With respect to forest financing, members were urged to visit the AFF website to access a document on how it is organized globally and from the individual countries. To the extent possible it was made clear that there was need to mobilize resources independent of donor support for sustainable forest management.

### **4.3 Election of next Chair and Vice Chair of the Members' Forum**

The election of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Members Forum is anchored in Article 4 Section 4 a (3) of the Constitution that states: "The Chair and Vice Chair of the Members' Forum shall be elected by the Members' Forum and shall hold office for five years, i.e. until the following Members' Forum meeting. The Chair shall be a member of the Governing Council."

The following list of the members of the Governing Council covering different sub regions was shared with the members for election of the Chair and Vice Chair except for observers and ex-official:

#### **Central Africa**

1. Sebastien Malele Mbala (Vice-Chair)-Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)
2. Paul Henri Bourobou -Republic of Benin

### **East Africa**

4. Fredrick Owino-Kenya.
5. Jean Baptiste Nduwayezu- Rwanda
6. Suzana Agustino -Tanzania

### **North and North Eastern Africa**

7. Demel Teketay - Ethiopia
8. Abdelazim Mirghani Ibrahim –Republic of Sudan

### **Southern Africa**

9. Ms Alima Issufo-Mozambique.
10. Ms Anna Chileshe Masinja-Zambia
11. Peter Gondo-Zimbabwe

### **West Africa**

12. Marcathy Afolabi Oyebo (Chair)-Nigeria
13. Ibro Adamou - Niger
14. Daniel Ofori -Ghana

### **Private Sector**

15. Humphrey Mwaniki Ngibuini- Forestry Development Trust  
Alt: Kwame Asamoah Adam -Ghana Timber Millers Organization
16. Darlington Duwa- Timber Federation of Zimbabwe

### **Civil Society Organisations**

17. Ben Chikamai –Network for Gums and Resins in Africa (NGARA)
18. Daniel Ofori- Forest Research Network for Sub-Sahara Africa (FORNESSA)

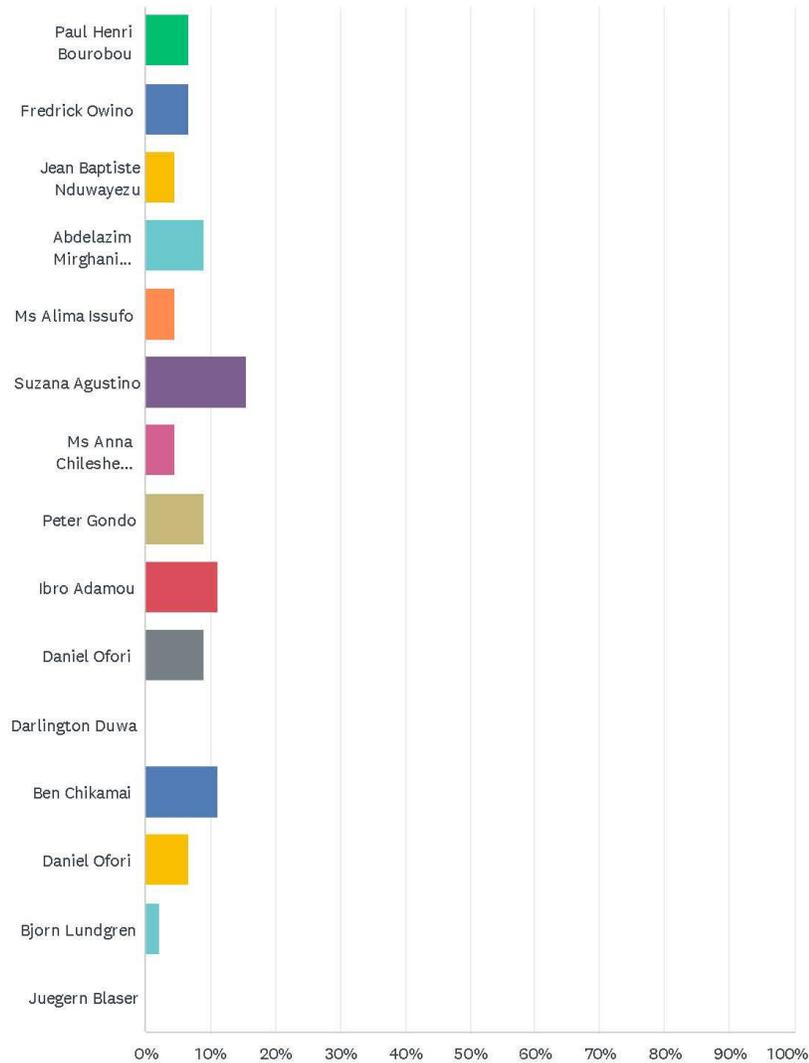
### **Friends of African Forestry**

19. Bjorn Lundgren -Sweden
20. Juegern Blaser -Switzerland
  
21. Godwin Kowero-Tanzania-Executive Secretary-ex-officio

45 Members cast their votes online via SurveyMonkey for the position of a Chair (Figure 1) while 47 members voted for the position of Vice Chair (Figure 2) of the Members' Forum.

### Q1 Who are you voting for as the Chair of the AFF Members' Forum?

Answered: 45 Skipped: 0



*Figure 1: Election of the Chairperson of the Members Forum (2022-2027)*

Based on the tallying of the votes cast, Prof Suzana Augustino was elected as the Chair of the Members' Forum, and shall hold office for five years, that is 2022- 2027.

### Q1 Who are you voting for as the Vice Chair of the AFF Members' Forum?

Answered: 47 Skipped: 0

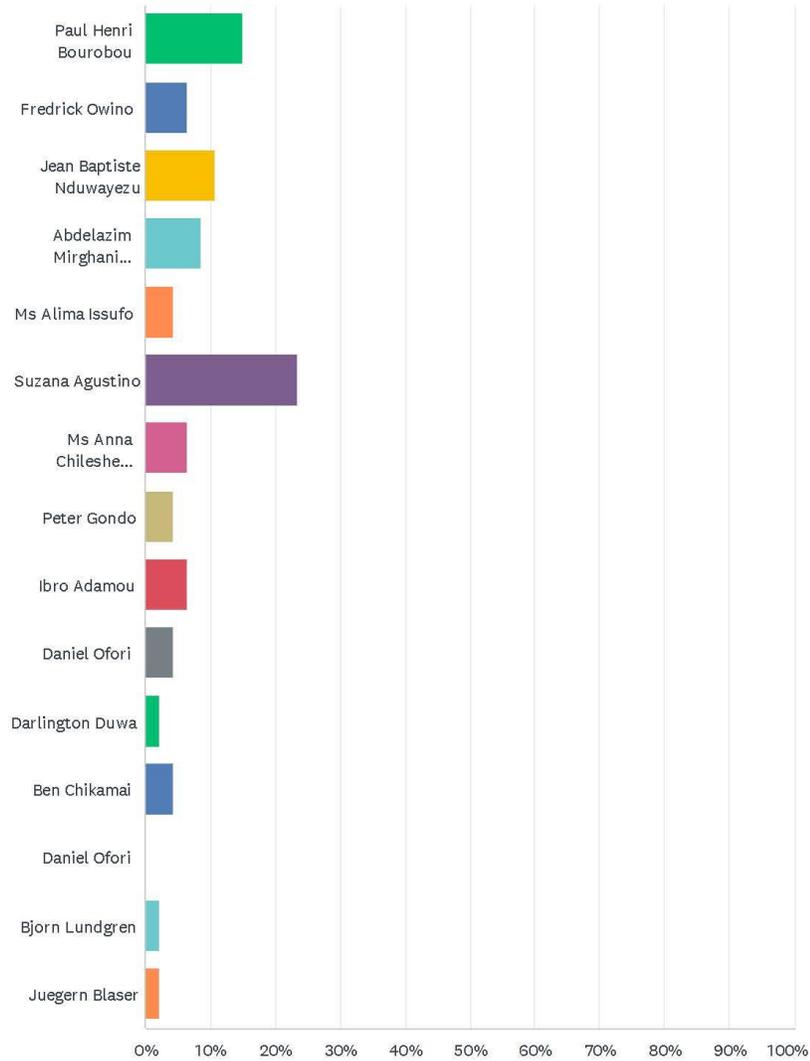


Figure 2: Election of the Vice-Chairperson of the Members Forum (2022-2027)

Based on the tallying of the votes cast, Mr Paul Bourobou was elected as the Vice Chair of the Members' Forum, and shall hold office for five years, that is 2022-2027. Member congratulated the newly elected officials and wished them success in their tenure.

Godwin Kowero expressed his gratitude to all the members of the forum for attending the three-day meeting. He also appreciated their active participation as experts, who provided substantive inputs towards the work of the African Forest Forum (AFF). He encouraged members to take ownership and maintain a sense of focus for the institution. In addition, he extended an invitation to all AFF members to share their ideas on any opportunities or areas of improvement deemed necessary to the secretariat and could help achieve its goals.

Godwin thanked the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) for their immense support throughout the years. In the same vein, he also acknowledged the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the African Union Commission (AUC) and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences for their mutually beneficial partnerships. In addition, the Governing Council and its Committees were recognized for their strategic guidance and technical support towards the work of AFF. Godwin Kowero also thanked all past and present staff of the AFF Secretariat along with other forestry stakeholders for supporting the growth of the institution.

Above all, he thanked the Almighty God for making the third meeting of the Members' Forum possible.

## **4.5 Any other business**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 2.15p.m.

# ANNEX 1: MEETING AGENDA



## **Third Meeting of the African Forest Forum “Members’ Forum”**

**June 28-30, 2012**

### **Agenda**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Welcome remarks by Chair of Member’s Forum
3. Matters arising from the report on the Second Meeting of the Members’ Forum
4. Ratification of major decisions made by the Governing Council
5. Projects implementation and achievements
  - (a) Implementation of projects
  - (b) Key outputs/achievements
  - (c) Uptake and impact of work undertaken by
6. Administrative matters
7. Election of next Chair and Vice Chair of the Members’ Forum
8. Any other business

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## **ANNEX 3: BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

[Agenda for Third Meeting of Members' Forum](#)

[June Matters Arising from Governing Council Meeting](#)

[Report on 2nd Members Forum Meeting](#)

[2021 Annual Project Report \(Sida\)](#)

[2021 Annual Project Report \(SDC\)](#)

[2020 Annual Project Report \(Sida\)](#)

[2020 Annual Project Report \(SDC\)](#)

[2019 Final Annual Project Report \(Sida\)](#)

[2018 End of Phase 2 Project Report \(SDC\)](#)

[Overview of Achievements \(2017-2022\) -Sida \(presentation\)](#)

[Overview of Achievements \(2017-2022\) - Sida \(narrative report\)](#)

[Overview of Achievements \(2018-2022\) - SDC](#)

[Uptake and impact of work undertaken by AFF](#)

[Administrative and management issues at AFF](#)

[Election guide of the Chair and Vice Chairperson of the Members Forum](#)



# African Forest Forum

A platform for stakeholders in African forestry



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