

**EUROPE AND NORTH ASIA (ENA) FLEG MINISTERIAL PROCESS  
FOURTH MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE (ISC)  
VIDEO CONFERENCE**

**October 12, 2005**

**Meeting Summary**

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*Growing worldwide concern over illegal logging and associated trade in illegal timber has led, in the last few years, to the development of the Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) ministerial processes. The FLEG processes aim to galvanize international and multi-stakeholder commitment to combat the problem of illegal logging and associated trade and corruption at high political levels, and to strengthen political will, capacity and collaborative approaches for forest governance.*

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**1. Objective of Meeting:** On October 12, 2005 the World Bank and the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) of the Russian Federation co-hosted by video-conference the 4th meeting of the International Steering Committee of the Europe and North Asia Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (ENA FLEG) Ministerial Process. The objective of the meeting was to review the status of preparations for the Ministerial Conference to be held in St. Petersburg, Russia from November 22-25, 2005 and provide guidance on specific issues related to the Ministerial Conference and negotiations of the ENA FLEG Declaration and Indicative Action Plan. An agenda of the meeting is provided in Annex 1.

**2. Participants:** The ISC member governments of Bulgaria, Canada, China, Finland, Germany, Japan, Russia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, as well as the European Commission and World Bank participated in the video-conference.

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS**

**3. Invitations and Participation in the ENA FLEG Ministerial Conference:** The Russian MNR sent out the majority of invitations in late August. A list of confirmed participants as of October 25 is attached as Annex 2.

*Governmental attendance:* The Russian Ministry of Natural Resources and the World Bank noted that 32 out of 55 governments had confirmed their participation in the event by October 12, 2005. The World Bank Moscow office is in daily contact with several countries which are still in the process of nominating representatives. Only two countries have officially declined to attend (Cyprus and South Korea).

Of the 32 confirmations, ten of these governments' delegations 10 would be led by Ministers, and 8 by Deputy Ministers. Many countries in the region have separate agencies rather than ministries responsible for forests. In many of these cases, Director Generals of the relevant agencies will lead delegation. A list of confirmed governmental delegations will be made available on the ENA FLEG website.

For those delegations that are not led by Ministers, it is critical that the lead delegate is authorized by his/her Minister to negotiate the ENA FLEG MDIAP and endorse it by acclamation on behalf of the Minister. The World Bank will send a reminder to all governments to this effect.

*International organizations:* Invitations to several international organizations such as UNFF, FAO,

UNECE and others have been extended to ensure effective collaborative between the ENA FLEG process and these existing initiatives.

*NGO:* The NGO self-selection process coordinated by IUCN has been completed. A list of 25 local NGOs and 10 international NGOs was presented to the ISC and approved, and are listed as confirmed participants in Annex 2.

*Industry:* 10 firms have been identified by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) to be invited, while the Russian ministry has identified 5 Russian firms and 3 associations for participation. In order to ensure a balance of representation in aspects of regional location, size and type, the World Bank will identify 10-15 additional firms and industry associations for invitation, based on a list of potential invitees developed by the World Bank, WBCSD and The Forest Dialogue. The World Bank has already invited more than 200 firms or industry associations to express their interest in participating in the ENA FLEG Ministerial Conference, but only 2 had responded. ISC members noted that low interest by the private sector may be improved if they could better see how their presence could influence the MDIAP. ISC members made suggestions of additional industry invitations to be sent out, and were asked to encourage participation of industry from their countries.

The ISC noted that events that were likely to foster industry input, if not participation, in the ENA FLEG process included The Forests Dialogue event in St. Petersburg on November 2-3. The TFD, co-chaired by WBCSD and IUCN, will host a meeting of NGOs and industry to develop a joint statement for consideration by the ENA FLEG process.

*Regional Observers:* Invitations will also be extended to representatives involved in the FLEG processes in East Asia, Africa and Latin America.

It was noted that representatives of financial institutions such as members of the Equator Principles and academic / policy-advisory bodies should also be invited.

**Agenda:** The draft Ministerial Conference agenda was reviewed, noting the following major changes since the previous draft:

- More interactive sessions between the inter-governmental negotiations and other participants' groups (notably NGO and industry). These sessions will be structured to facilitate reporting and feedback at different stages of the negotiations and stakeholder statement development.
- Reduction of technical sessions to just two sessions which will focus on (a) constraints to investment due to governance issues and (b) resource access issues. These sessions will be structured as small panels with high-level panelists at the start of Days 2 and 3 of the Conference, with the aim to provide input to the negotiations.
- Addition of a session for NGOs and industry to focus on the identification of joint actions to be taken as follow-up to the Ministerial Conference;
- Presentation of the results and recommendations of existing dialogues on FLEG issues in the region to the NGO and industry sessions. This would include presentations by events hosted by the WBCSD, TFD, CEPI, MCPFE and others.

The UK agreed that it would make a keynote presentation on Day 1 (November 22) of the Ministerial Conference in its capacity as EU Presidency.

The latest agenda as of October 25, 2005 is attached in Annex 3. This agenda will not significantly change prior to the Ministerial Conference.

**Status of the ENA FLEG draft negotiations document and Negotiations Process:** An update was provided on the status of the draft negotiations document, and guidance sought on various aspects of the development of the MDIAP and the negotiations process:

*Development of draft negotiating document:* The comment period for Draft #3 closed on October 4. Comments from government, industry and NGOs have been compiled into a document which will be made publicly available within the next few weeks. Jag Maini, one of the senior co-facilitators for negotiations responsible for producing the next draft, summarized some of the more challenging aspects of the comments, including:

- The need to keep the negotiating document short and concise, yet most contributors usually recommended additional text to insertion, rather than elements to be deleted;
- The wide divergence of FLEG issues in the region – from forest-rich to forest-poor countries, from large-scale operations to local peoples dependent on forests for energy and livelihoods, etc.
- Many comments focused on the need for the Indicative Action Plan to be target and timetable driven – which governments will have to consider during the negotiations.
- Whether or how the ENA FLEG IAP should incorporate or recognize any national indicative action plan (such as the Russia IAP) or other national strategies that may be developed.

Comments on Draft #3 will be incorporated into the next version of the document, entitled “Elements of an ENA FLEG Ministerial Declaration and Indicative Action Plan.” This document will be provided to the World Bank by the Conference co-facilitators by October 15 and the ISC and participants by October 21. The document will serve as the base document for the start of negotiations on November 22.

Comments on Draft #3 have been compiled into a single “historical” document without direct attribution to the contributing organization, although these comments are categorized as either “government,” “industry,” or “NGO.” This compilation will be made available together when the new Draft #4 is released on October 21. Institutions or authors wishing to make their comments and statements made public *in their original form* are encouraged to post them on their organization’s website. Contact information (website or email address) can also be sent to the ENA FLEG Secretariat ([enafleg@worldbank.org](mailto:enafleg@worldbank.org)) so this information can be advertised in the next FLEG Newsletter.

Starting October 21, 2005, comments on the next draft (#4) should be sent to the ENA FLEG Secretariat ([enafleg@worldbank.org](mailto:enafleg@worldbank.org)). *These comments will be made publicly available in their original form at the Ministerial Conference itself.*

*Interaction between the Government negotiators and the NGO and Industry Dialogue during the Ministerial Conference.* The importance of facilitating interaction between these two groups beyond the formal meetings indicated in the Conference Agenda was recognized by the ISC members. The arrangements for this could include NGO and industry representatives’ meeting in a breakout group with the governmental negotiators several times during the negotiations, and possibly a specific contact group or other similar arrangements for consultations among the stakeholders. The details of these will be discussed prior to the Ministerial Conference and formalized during the conference organization session.

*Composition and Size of Governmental Delegations:* Some governments have indicated that their delegations may include NGO or industry representatives. Common protocol in such cases is that the NGO or industry representatives would then not be acting on their personal or organizational capacity, but must represent the government with which they are associated. This often includes confidentiality agreements with their government. It was noted that the presence of several large delegations could begin to pose a logistical problem for the negotiations venue.

**Logistics:** Hotel Pribaltiyskaya <http://www.pribaltiyskayahotel.ru/comm.html> has been confirmed as both the hotel and conference venue, with rooms for plenary and break-out sessions as well as the inter-governmental negotiations.

*Accommodations:* All hosted participants will be accommodated at the Hotel Pribaltiyskaya. Delegations expecting to consist of more than 2 delegates are requested to inform the World Bank as soon as possible to ensure that enough rooms are reserved.

*Exhibition Hall:* The conference venue has 2 rooms available for table displays or poster exhibitions. Governments, NGOs, firms and other participants interested in reserving a spot in the exhibition hall will be encouraged to contact the ENA FLEG Secretariat ([ena-fleg@worldbank.org](mailto:ena-fleg@worldbank.org)). Notification of the exhibition will be sent out to all participants.

**Budget:** The World Bank reported that donor support for the ENA FLEG process was likely adequate to cover the Ministerial Conference as long as the number of sponsored participants did not rise above what was originally budgeted<sup>1</sup>. However, donor funds being managed by the World Bank would then be exhausted, with no funds available for any follow-up activities.

**ISC Role at Ministerial Conference:** The ISC will meet again the evening of November 21, 2005 in St. Petersburg to provide guidance on any final aspects of the Ministerial Conference. ISC members are also prepared to meet every morning during the Conference to provide guidance if necessary, although the need to be pragmatic and flexible in order to respond to time constraints and opportunities was stressed.

**Follow-up:** Discussions on ENA FLEG follow-up or the potential role and structure of the ISC or any other formal ENA FLEG structure were postponed until the Ministerial Conference.

Brussels, Belgium  
Sofia, Bulgaria  
Beijing, China  
Tokyo, Japan  
Moscow, Russia  
Ankara, Turkey  
Washington, DC USA

October 12, 2005

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<sup>1</sup> The World Bank noted the recent announcement of donor support from the Government of Norway.

## **Annex 1**

### **Proposed Agenda for 4th Meeting of the ISC October 12, 2005, 1-3 pm Brussels time**

*Chair: Gerhard Dieterle, Lead Forest Advisor, World Bank*

- 1. St. Petersburg Ministerial: Update on status of preparations (MNR/WB)**
- 2. Min. Conf. Agenda: Draft Agenda attached (WB).**

*Guidance sought on:*

- OPEN/CLOSE session status of government negotiations
- Press engagement and press conference

- 3. ENA FLEG Conference Participants: Latest position regarding list of invitees and acceptances (WB)**

*Guidance sought on:*

- How to engage missing countries
- Adequacy of private sector representation
- Composition of governmental delegations

- 4. Status of MD+IAP: Key comments received; status of draft for negotiations (Facilitators)**

*Guidance sought on:*

- Length and degree of detail of the two draft documents
- Process from now till the Ministerial Conference
- Dissemination of received comments

- 5. Role of ISC:**

*Guidance sought on:*

- Role of ISC at Min. Conf. – need for meetings to assess progress and revise agenda if necessary

- 6. Follow-up activities:**

*Guidance sought on:*

- Composition and structure of ISC or other potential “governing bodies” such as Task Force/Advisory Group
- Post Min. Conf. actions, such as fund-raising, and organization of follow-up activities.

## Annex 2

### PARTICIPANTS LIST AS OF OCTOBER 25, 2005

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**Annex 3**  
**EUROPE & NORTH ASIA FOREST LAW ENFORCEMENT AND GOVERNANCE (ENA FLEG)**  
**MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE AGENDA**  
**ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA**  
**NOVEMBER 22-25, 2005**

VERSION OCTOBER 25

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21**

12:00-21:00	<b>REGISTRATION</b>
	Registration of Participants

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22**

<b>9:00-10:30</b>	<b>SESSION 1: OPENING</b>	
9:00-9:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome Remarks and Overall Objectives of the ENA-FLEG Ministerial Conference (Valery Roshupkin, Head of the Federal Forest Agency)</li> </ul>	
9:15-9:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome Remarks by the World Bank (Kristalina Georgieva, World Bank Country Director, Russia )</li> </ul>	
9:30-9:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keynote Address: “Importance of FLEG and Inter-linkages to the MDGs and G-8 Program of Action” (John Hudson, Forestry Adviser, DFID, Representative of the EU Presidency)</li> </ul>	
9:45-10:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summary of State of Knowledge on Illegal Logging, Related Governance Issues and Potential Responses in the ENA Region (based on reference study)<sup>2</sup> (Tapani Oksanen, World Bank FLEG Task Team Leader)</li> </ul>	
10:15-10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summary of the ENA FLEG Process (Juergen Blaser / Jag Maini, International Facilitators)</li> </ul>	
10:30-11:00	COFFEE	
<b>11:00-12:30</b>	<b>SESSION 2: ORGANIZATION</b>	
11:00-11:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation of Conference Agenda (Gerhard Dieterle/Nikita Bantsekin, Co-chairs of the ISC)</li> <li>Procedures and Logistics (Juergen Blaser/Jag Maini, International Facilitators)</li> </ul>	
11:45-12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report on the Status of the Draft Ministerial Declaration (MD) and Indicative Action Plan (IAP) (Designated ISC member/s)</li> <li>Invited Statements from The Forests Dialogue, Private Sector and NGO Representatives</li> </ul>	
12:30-2:00	LUNCH	
<b>2:00-3:30</b>	<b>SESSION 3: NEGOTIATION/ DIALOGUE</b>	
	<b>Intergovernmental Negotiations Session</b> Facilitators: Jag Maini, Juergen Blaser, Viktor Tepliakov, Elena Kulikova	<b>Civil Society and Industry Dialogue</b> FACILITATORS: TBD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MD + IAP Draft Review</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MD + IAP Draft Review in Light of The Forests Dialogue and Other Stakeholder Preparatory Processes to the Ministerial Conference</li> </ul>
3:30-4:00	COFFEE	
<b>4:00-7:00</b>	<b>SESSION 4: NEGOTIATION/DIALOGUE*</b>	
	<b>Intergovernmental Negotiations Session</b>	<b>Civil Society and Industry Dialogue</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MD + IAP Draft Review</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MD + IAP Draft Review Continues</li> <li>Identification of Key Messages to the Joint Session with the Governmental</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> Reference Study and other materials of the Briefing Package will be distributed by Nov 5,05

		Group
7:30	COCKTAILS & WELCOME DINNER	

\*Negotiations/dialogue may continue after dinner if necessary, including contact group meetings.

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

<b>8:30-9:30</b>	<b>SESSION 5: REPORTING BACK FROM BOTH GROUPS</b>	
8:30-9:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Session of Governmental and Civil Society/Industry Groups to (i) Inform on Progress of Negotiations, (ii) Inform on Stakeholder Dialogue, (iii) Conduct Dialogue on Key Issues</li> </ul>	
<b>9:45-10:30</b>	<b>SESSION 6: THEMATIC AND LEARNING SESSION</b>	
9:45-10:30	T1: Key Governance Issues in Improving the Investment Climate and Private Sector Incentives Co-chairs: (to be decided) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Panel Representing Industry and Financing Institutions</li> <li>Plenary Discussion on Implications to MD &amp; IAP</li> </ul>	
10:30-11:00	COFFEE	
<b>11:00-12:30</b>	<b>SESSION 7: NEGOTIATION/DIALOGUE</b>	
	<b>Intergovernmental Negotiations Session</b>	<b>Civil Society and Industry Dialogue</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MD + IAP Draft Review</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dialogue on MD + IAP Continues in Response to Issues Raised in the Joint Session and/or on Recommendations on MD + IAP Follow-up</li> </ul>
12:30-2:00	LUNCH	
<b>2:00-3:30</b>	<b>SESSION 8: NEGOTIATION/DIALOGUE</b>	
	<b>Intergovernmental Negotiations Session</b>	<b>Civil Society and Industry Dialogue</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MD + IAP Draft Review</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dialogue on MD+IAP and Recommendations on Follow-up Continues</li> </ul>
3:30-4:00	COFFEE	
<b>4:00-6:00</b>	<b>SESSION 9: NEGOTIATION/DIALOGUE*</b>	
	<b>Intergovernmental Negotiations Session*</b>	<b>Civil Society and Industry Dialogue</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Review of MD + IAP Draft</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dialogue on MD+IAP and Recommendations on Follow-up Continues</li> </ul>
6:30	DINNER	

\*Negotiations/dialogue may continue after dinner if necessary, including contact group meetings.

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

<b>8:30-9:30</b>	<b>SESSION 10: REPORTING BACK FROM BOTH GROUPS</b>	
8:30-9:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint session of Governmental and Civil Society/Industry Groups to (i) Inform on Progress of Negotiations, (ii) Inform on Stakeholder Dialogue, (iii) Conduct Dialogue on Key Issues</li> </ul>	
<b>9:45-10:30</b>	<b>SESSION 11: THEMATIC AND LEARNING SESSION</b>	
9:45-10:30	T2: Ensuring Resource Access to Local Populations and Equity in Resource Utilization CO-chairs: (to be decided) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Panel Including Government, NGO and Industry Representatives</li> <li>Discussion on Implications to MD &amp; IAP</li> </ul>	
10:30-11:00	COFFEE	
<b>11:00-12:30</b>	<b>SESSION 12: NEGOTIATION/DIALOGUE</b>	
	<b>Intergovernmental Negotiations Session</b>	<b>Civil Society and Industry Dialogue</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Review of MD + IAP Draft</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NGO and Private Sector Representatives Prepare Statements to Ministers</li> </ul>

12:30-2:00	LUNCH
2:00-4:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrival of Ministers and their Briefing by the Governmental Delegates</li> </ul>
4:00-4:30	COFFEE

<b>4:30-5:30</b>	<b>SESSION 13: Ministerial Briefing</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome of Ministers by Host Government (Minister of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation or Presidential Representative of NW Russia)</li> <li>• View from the EU Presidency (Gareth Thomas, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, UK)</li> <li>• Statements of the NGO and Private Sector Representatives to the Ministers</li> <li>• Review and Approval of Agenda for the Ministerial Segment of the Conference (ISC Representative)</li> </ul>	
<b>5:30-8:00</b>	<b>SESSION 14: NEGOTIATION/DIALOGUE</b>	
	<b>Intergovernmental Negotiations Session*</b>	<b>Civil Society and Industry Dialogue</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministerial Review of Draft MD+IAP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NGO and Private Sector Representatives Prepare their Statements for Closing Session</li> </ul>
<b>8:00</b>	<b>COCKTAILS AND WELCOME DINNER FOR MINISTERS</b>	

\*Negotiations may continue after dinner if necessary.

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

<b>9:00-10:00</b>	<b>SESSION 15: MINISTERIAL REVIEW</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministerial Review of Final Draft</li> </ul>	
<b>10:00-10:30</b>	COFFEE	
<b>10:30-12:30</b>	<b>SESSION 16: CLOSING SESSION</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of ENA-FLEG MD+ IAP (Valery Roshupkin, Head of the Federal Forest Agency)</li> <li>• Acceptance by Acclaim</li> <li>• Statements on follow-up by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ISC, the World Bank, The Forests Dialogue, Private Sector, NGOs, Consumer Country and Producer Country representatives</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>12:30-2:00</b>	LUNCH	
<b>2:00 -3:30</b>	<b>CLOSING CEREMONY</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statement by Ministers (4 Ministers)</li> <li>• Closing Speech (Minister of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation or Presidential Representative of NW Russia)</li> </ul>	
<b>3:30-4:00</b>	<b>PRESS CONFERENCE</b>	
<b>5:00</b>	<b>Special Event with Heads of Delegation Hosted by RF Government (by Invitation Only)</b>	

## Annex 4

### ENA-FLEG International Steering Committee Terms of Reference

The International Steering Committee (ISC) will provide overall strategic guidance on all phases of the Europe and North Asia Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (ENA FLEG) Ministerial Process, and play a proactive role in ensuring the success of the ENA FLEG process.

*Members of ENA FLEG ISC:* Governments with important producer, consumer and/or trade links, and/or forest-related interests to the ENA region, plus the European Commission and the World Bank have been asked to appoint representatives (ENA FLEG Focal Points) to serve on the ISC. Bulgaria, Canada, European Commission, Finland, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Poland, Russian Federation, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, and the World Bank have agreed to serve on the ISC. It is hoped that China may join the ISC soon.

*Specific tasks of the ISC governments:* ISC governments are expected to take a proactive role in the ENA FLEG process. The ISC will:

1. Provide strategic guidance on all phases of the ENA FLEG process
2. Develop the objectives, scope and timeline of the ENA FLEG Ministerial Process and associated events
3. Provide guidance on development of the ENA FLEG Declaration, by providing advice on the structure of the negotiating process and participating and playing a lead role in negotiations
4. Provide guidance on how to effectively engage other ENA governments so as to ensure their commitment to the objectives of the initiative. This may include encouraging sub-regional engagement by
  - encouraging neighboring governments to participate in the FLEG process and explaining the FLEG concept as needed
  - encouraging cooperation with neighboring governments to agree on regional approaches and/or regional input to the ENA FLEG Declaration
5. Identify how to build national-level consensus among ENA FLEG stakeholders (governments, civil society, industry)
6. Review and provide comments on all plans and documents related to the ENA FLEG Process – such as public documents (e.g. Concept Document), PrepConf and Ministerial Conference documents (e.g. agendas, invitation letters and invitations lists). Much of this communication will be conducted via e-mail and approved by the ISC on a no-objection basis.
7. Review budgets and discuss fund-raising strategies and long-term implementation goals;
8. Develop a strategy for follow-up to the commitments in the expected ENA FLEG Declaration and Action Plan

*Frequency of ISC meetings:* It is likely that the ISC will physically meet 2 times prior to the convening of the Ministerial Conference. These meetings will be supplemented by periodic video-conferences and/or opportunistic meetings immediately prior to or after other major international events that involve several ENA FLEG Focal Points (e.g. Friday, May 20 during UNFF-5 meeting in New York ). The ISC may or may not decide to continue meetings after the Ministerial Conference, but some form of organizational or guiding body would be welcomed to ensure coherent continuation and implementation of the commitments and actions identified in the expected ENA FLEG Declaration.

**Role of ENA FLEG Focal Point:** ENA FLEG Focal Points will be expected to:

- be able to make decisions related to the organizational aspects of the ENA FLEG Process on behalf of his/her minister,
- be familiar with issues of forest governance, illegal logging, associated trade and corruption in the ENA region
- be able to draw on expertise from different ministries, as forest governance involves a number of sectors and disciplines
- serve as liaison with other participating governments in their sub-region and/or with relevant international fora, providing information on the ENA FLEG and encouraging participation .