

**REPORT ON THE VISIT OF DR. N. KRISHNAKUMAR, IFS, DIRECTOR, IFGTB TO
ATTEND REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON FOREST GENETIC RESOURCES IN ASIA
FROM 12-14, SEPTEMBER, 2012.**

Dr.N.Krishnakumar, Director, Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore attended the 'Regional workshop on Forest Genetic Resources in Asia' held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 12-14, September, 2012. The state of Forest Genetic Resources in India was presented by Dr.N.Krishnakumar, Director, IFGTB, Coimbatore as IFGTB is the National Focal Point in India. The Country Report of India prepared by IFGTB for FAO- State of World's Forest Genetic Resources was approved by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India for forwarding to FAO. The Director, IFGTB presented the State of FGR in India, the diversity of Forest Genetic Resources, the action taken for in-situ and ex-situ conservation, the national programmes on research, education, training, legislations and conservation and management of Forest Genetic Resources. The Country Report of India was appreciated by FAO. During the discussion the need for better collaboration opportunities in the area of research for Forest Genetic Resources between Asian countries were discussed. The National Focal Points from Indonesia, Bangladesh, Korea, China, Nepal, Philippines, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Thailand, Maldives and Laos were present during the discussion. The need for strengthening AFORGEN for increasing research support were also discussed.

The Regional Report on Forest Genetic Resources for Asia was also consolidated and presented by Dr.N.Krishnakumar, Director, IFGTB, Coimbatore. The species prioritized, factors influencing FGR, future needs and priorities, action required for in-situ conservation, ex-situ conservation, constraints, sustainable management of FGR, legislations, programmes, net working information system, international collaboration and the role of FGR in food security and poverty alleviation were also discussed. The objective of the regional workshop was to share the findings of national reports of Asia on the State of Forest Genetic Resources. From the Country Reports and through discussions with the National Focal Points the tentative species for Asian region were shortlisted for collaborative research and sharing of information between Asian countries. Dr. Oudara Souvannavong, from FAO and members from Biodiversity International was also present in the workshop. Dr. Oudara Souvannavong emphasized the need for effective use of the Country Reports for FGR conservation and management in the countries as they have been prepared after wide consultative discussions.

Sd/-
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