



Asia-Pacific Network for Sustainable Forest Management and Rehabilitation

APFNet/Board/ENG/2015/10

Procedures for the Development of APFNet Membership

(draft)

The 2015 establishment of the Board of Directors and the Council completes the permanent governance structure of APFNet envisioned in the Operational Framework. Given this development, it is appropriate that the transitional Procedures for the Development of APFNet Membership also found in the Operational Framework be formalized. The text proposed below attempts to reflect current developments and will need to be approved by the Council, taking into consideration any input from the Board.

I Membership scope and categories

APFNet is open to APEC economies and other interested and relevant partners outside APEC in the Asia-Pacific region. Members of APFNet should be comprised of entities in the following categories:

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| Category A | (a) APEC economies; |
| | (b) non-APEC economies in the Asia-Pacific region; |
| Category B | (c) international organizations and non-governmental organizations operating in the Asia-Pacific region; |
| | (d) forestry-related academic institutions and civil societies in the Asia-Pacific region; and |
| Category C | (e) forests and forestry related enterprises operating in the Asia-Pacific region. |

II Eligibility requirements

An applicant should:

- Fit into one of the categories listed above;
- Accept and support the vision, mission and objectives of APFNet;
- Undertake significant activities that further sustainable forest management and rehabilitation.

III Rights and responsibilities

Members shall have the right, *inter alia* to,

- participate in the meeting of the APFNet Council;
- nominate candidates to the Chair or Vice-Chair of APFNet Council;
- express views on applications for admission as new Members;
- nominate candidates for vacant seats on the Board of Directors;

- receive APFNet progress reports, annual financial statements, work plans, annual budgets and publications;
- be regularly informed of the activities of APFNet;
- make suggestions on APFNet policies and its subsidiary bodies.

Members shall have the obligation *inter alia* to:

- designate a representative to the Council and contact person(s) for daily communication;
- support and facilitate the objectives, activities and operation of APFNet;
- update APFNet on Members' activities in support of APFNet's objectives.

IV Membership dues

Membership dues are not required but Members are encouraged to provide financial, in-kind or technical support to APFNet on a voluntary basis, including seconding staff to the Secretariat.

V Application and admission

Economies and international / regional organizations who became Members of APFNet during the transitional period do not need to reapply for Membership. New Members will be considered when they submit a formal request to the Secretariat, state their willingness to accept and support the vision, mission and objectives of APFNet, and provisionally designate a Council representative and a contact person(s) for daily communication. The Secretariat will circulate the request(s) among the Members three months before the meeting of the Council to allow enough time for consideration.

The Council will review new requests for Membership that have been submitted in a timely manner, and decide at its next meeting on the eligibility of applicants, according to the criteria contained in this document.

VI Withdrawal

A Member may opt to withdraw from APFNet after giving written notice to the Secretariat three months in advance. After the adoption of these provision, a Member who does not attend two Council meetings in a row, or who does not appoint a representative to the Council or update that information when needed shall be considered inactive. Inactive Members shall have their rights as Members suspended until such time as they inform the Secretariat that they wish to resume active Membership, and take the steps required to do so.