

**The Expert Group Meeting on the Clearing House of the UNF Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFN) was held from 9 to 11 January 2019 at UN Headquarters in New York. The meeting was attended by 60 experts from Member States, CFF member organizations, NGOs and academia, with expertise from different fields, including forest**











- i) The four priorities for the GBHN interconnected, and the UNF Secretariat should be encouraged to bear in mind synergies and complementarity between the four priorities of the GBHN when operationalizing the CH**
- j) The UNFSS should further engage in partnerships and explore the possibility of becoming an accredited agency with multilateral financing institutions, eg the Green Climate Fund**
- k) There should be different types of information available through the CH that is beneficial for the categories of countries that are given special consideration in the work of the GBHN**

**Building on the Forum's mandate, Mr Elser presented a structure for the CH along with a set of search criteria building on the existing criteria of the CFF Sourcebook, which could be reviewed periodically for possible modification. These search criteria would be one of the 3 elements of an interactive platform which would also include an interactive dashboard summarizing relevant information, and a networking space like a forum. Finally, he suggested**

the CH could be hosted internally on the UN domain. Rules do clearly state that any information provided by the United Nations has to be accessible to everyone and cannot be restricted to only those who register. In this respect, the benefits of multilingualism might need to be considered in the longer term. Guidelines also exist on web accessibility.

- f) Diagnostics in past and present trends. Although certainly useful, but one must also remember that Member State governments might be more interested in practical information on how to access financing for sustainable forest management.

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phase 1 (Annex 2) and the fully developed structure of the CH, which is included in Annex 3 to this report.

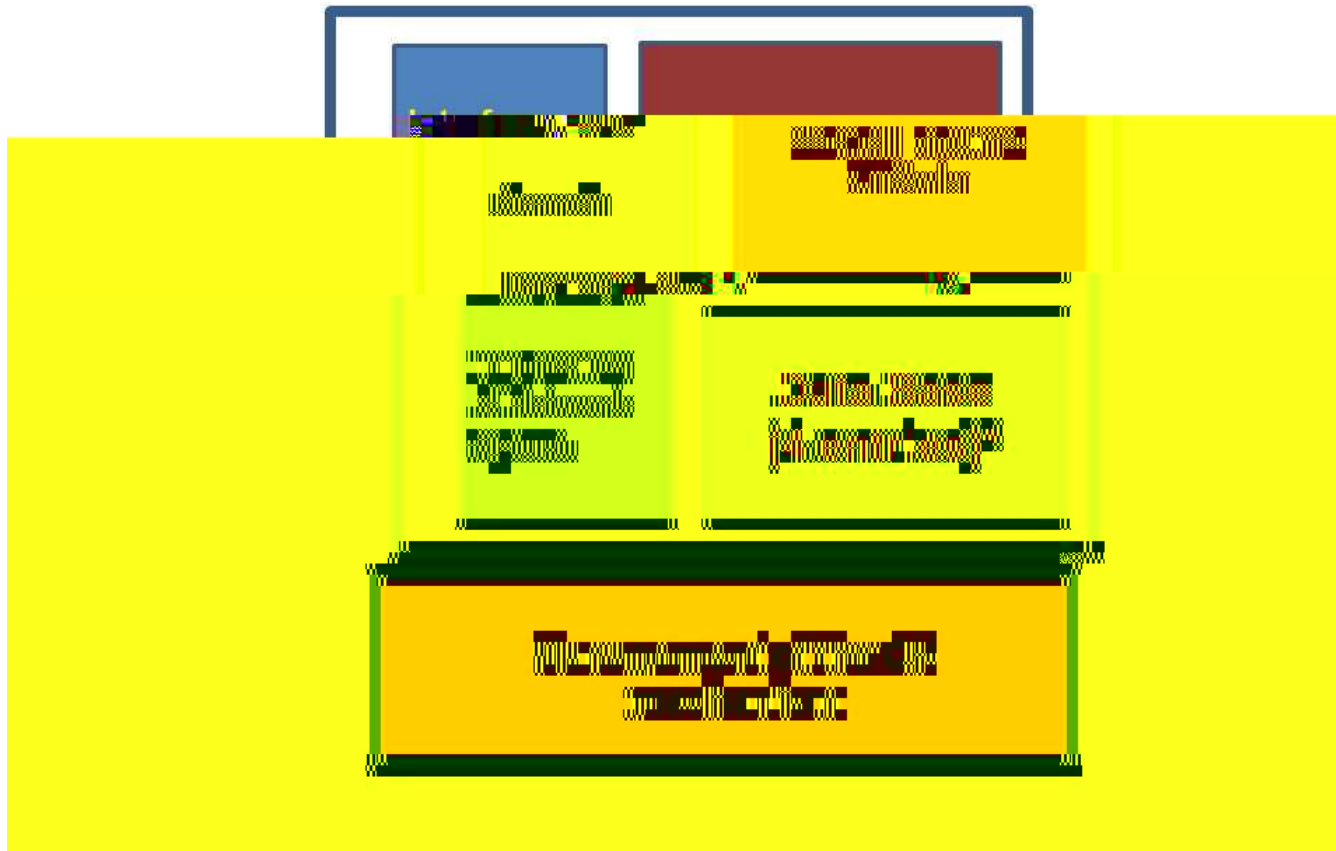




**The following are some suggestions for the next steps which are based on the interactive discussions among participants throughout the meeting**

- a) Annex 1 displays the proposed core elements of the CH**
- b) It is imperative to take a stepwise approach in developing and operationalizing the CH. This means to develop the CH in sequential phases over time. Annexes 2 and 3 display the components of the CH at the end of phase 1 and phase 2 with respective timelines to be discussed**
- c) The experts consider that further work between UNF14 and UNF15 is necessary to provide a solid proposal for phase one of the CH for submission to UNF15 with the objective of an agreement at UNF15 on the first phase of CH of the GBN, with the view to operationalize the first phase of the CH before the end of 2020. This intersessional work could focus on assessment of IT needs and budgetary requirements, the timeline for different phases as well as further elaboration of phase 1 of the CH**

**Annex 1: Proposed core elements of the CH**



**Annex 2 Possible visual structure of a phase 1 of the Clearing House**

