

A brief comment is made here about the Forests Workshop proceedings and outcomes, in relation to each topic and how input on it has been collected. These are the recorder's comments. The following section is Collected Input on key aspects of those themes, from the workshop itself.

1. Links between the workshop and the official APEC process

The people represented and the organizations they represent reject APEC in a fundamental way, and are concerned about legitimizing such multilateral processes of which this is one (viewed with MAI, WTO), by making recommendations to it.

On the other hand, neither do the strategists and activists want to miss out on the windows of opportunity that present themselves to use the presenting media opportunities, and take core messages and actions/stands back to our communities of reference, and our home organizations.

The proposal for fast-tracking forest products brought forward by four countries including the US and Canada was a pressing priority requiring immediate attention. Also important to many is ensuring continuity in the network and relationships between now and building towards the next APEC meetings, in Malaysia.

In general, participants in the special session on forests recognize a continuing link between their work and APEC. It existed before, it exists now, and mobilizing to prepare for the next engagement in Malaysia and beyond is part of the global-level strategies in which organizations working for change must be connected for coordination.

The time necessary to fully develop and set priorities for links between the workshop and APEC includes expanded opportunities for the following, in future working meetings on this issue:

- a) exchanging experiences and learning from each other about the context of APEC and the specific situations with which people are working – specifically, strengthening and building the opportunity for people from more oral traditions to engage equally with more print-based and organized participants (clearly we need both; abbreviated time for the international guests in their panel presentations, plus difficulties of presenting complex material across second languages in shortened time periods, took their toll on the process;
- b) developing strategies together for longer-term joint action; international visitors in particular identified learning from each other, developing strategies together as being their main interest – being part of networks is recognized as being linked to survival, as well as the success of campaigns;
- c) developing a core set of messages and responses to take forward to the *Sustainability Issues Forum*; widely agreed as a communications / public advocacy and education campaign issue is the need for core messages, a serious strategy to inform people and motivate them to action;
- d) meeting other individual objectives (such as signing on other allies in joint campaigns, other such legitimate networking goals).