MEDIA ALERT

Forests beyond the law: Scientific insights into illegal logging and related timber trade

A new scientific report on "Illegal Logging and Related Timber Trade - Dimensions, Drivers, Impacts and Responses" will be launched together with a policy brief on 3 December 2016 in the course of the UN Biodiversity Conference High-Level Segment (CBD COP13) in Cancun, Quintana Roo, Mexico.

On this occasion, a **press briefing will be held on 3 December at 09:00 a.m. in Cancun** (Eastern Standard Time EST: -5 hours Greenwich Mean Time). The **briefing will be live webcast** with archived copies available on the CBD website as early as 6 hours following the closure of the conference.

The report is the most comprehensive scientific analysis to date on illegal logging and available response options. More than 40 renowned scientists from around the world collaborated on the study, which has been coordinated by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) on behalf of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF). In the report scientists call for policy measures that fully address all dimensions of illegal logging in order to provide for a sustained future of forests.

A press release in English and Spanish will be published on 3 December at 03:00 a.m. EST (08:00 a.m. GMT). It will be available for download at: http://www.iufro.org/media/latest-releases/

The full report and the related policy brief will be available as of 3 December 2016 at: http://www.iufro.org/science/gfep/illegal-timber-trade-rapid-response/report/

Interviews with authors can be arranged. Due to time zone differences (Cancun Eastern Standard Time EST: UTC/GMT – 5 hours), requests should be submitted in writing to <wolfrum(at)iufro.org>. Please leave a telephone number and email address. We will get back to you as quickly as possible.

For information and interview requests, please contact:

Ms Gerda Wolfrum at +43 1 877015117 (Austria), mobile +43-664-142-6852 (Cancun/Mexico from 1-4 December), **wolfrum(at)iufro.org**

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