

▶ 16 - 18 March 2009.

**World Biofuels Markets Congress.** Brussels, Belgium. Contact: Valerie Giblin, Green Power Conferences, Southbank House, Black Prince Road, London, SE1 7SJ, UK; Tel: +44 (0)207 099 0600; Fax: +44 (0)207 900 1853; info@greenpowerconferences.com; www.worldbiofuelsmarkets.com/

▶ 16-20 March 2009.

**FAO Committee on Forestry - 19th Session.** Rome, Italy. Contact: Douglas Kneeland, FAO Forestry Department; Tel: +39-06-5705-3925; Fax: +39-06-5705-5137; douglas.kneeland@fao.org; www.fao.org/forestry/cofo/en/

▶ 17-21 March 2009. **18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CITES Plants Committee.** Buenos Aires, Argentina. Contact: CITES Secretariat; www.cites.org

▶ 18-20 March 2009.

**IUFRO International Forest Biosecurity Conference 2009.** Rotorua, New Zealand. Contact: Amanda Davies; amanda.davies@innovatek.co.nz; http://www.forestbiosecurity.com/

▶ 30 March-9 April 2009.

**The Fifth Session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-Term Cooperative Action and the Seventh session of the AWG on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol.** Bonn, Germany. Contact: UNFCCC Secretariat;

Tel: +49-228-815-1000; Fax: +49-228-815-1999; secretariat@unfccc.int; www.unfccc.int/meetings/unfccc\_calendar/items/2655.php?year=2009

▶ 1-3 April 2009. **Recreation and Health in Landscape and Forest.** Birmensdorf, Switzerland. Contact: Susanne Raschle, events@wsl.ch; http://www.wsl.ch/landscapeandhealth/index\_EN?-C=&

▶ 13-17 April 2009.

**IV International Meeting on Sustainable Forest Development - DEFORS 2009.** Havana, Cuba. Contact: Martha González Izquierdo, gonzalez@forestales.co.cu

▶ 20 April - 1 May 2009.

**Eighth Session of the UN Forum on Forests.** New York, USA. Contact: UNFF Secretariat; Tel: +1-212-963-3160; Fax: +1-917-367-3186; unff@un.org; www.un.org/esa/forests/session.html

▶ 23-24 April 2009. **Carbon Markets Americas: Unlocking Latin America's true carbon market potential.** São Paulo, Brazil. Contact: Santosh Sarma; Tel: +971 4 813 5213; Mobile: +971 50 880 1671; Fax: +44 207 900 1853; santosh.sarma@greenpowerconferences.com; www.greenpowerconferences.com/carbonmarkets/carbonmarkets\_americas\_2009.html

▶ 25-29 May 2008. **Conference on Forest Tenure, Governance and Enterprise: New Opportunities for Livelihoods and Wealth**

**in Central and West Africa.** Yaoundé, Cameroon. Contact: Eduardo Mansur (ITTO RFM); Tel: +81-45-223-1110; Fax: +81-45-223-1111; mansur@itto.or.jp; www.itto.or.jp

▶ 26 May 2009. **FAO Advisory Committee on Paper and Wood Products - 50th session.** Venue to be decided. Contact: Joachim Lorbach, FAO Forest Products and Industries Division; Joachim.Lorbach@fao.org; http://www.fao.org/forestry/site/9530/en/

▶ 1-12 June 2009. **30th Sessions of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies: The Sixth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-Term Cooperative Action and the Eighth session of the AWG on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol.** Bonn, Germany. Contact: UNFCCC Secretariat; Tel: +49-228-815-1000; Fax: +49-228-815-1999; secretariat@unfccc.int; www.unfccc.int/meetings/unfccc\_calendar/items/2655.php?year=2009

▶ 18-20 June 2009.

**International Wildfire Management Conference.** Sydney, Australia. Contact: IWMCo9 Conference Managers; GPO Box 128, Sydney NSW 2001 Australia; Tel +61 2 9265 0700; Fax +61 2 9267 5443; wildfiremanagement09@tourhosts.com.au; www.wildfiremanagement09.com

▶ 6-10 July 2009. **58<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CITES Standing Committee.** Geneva, Switzerland. Contact: CITES Secretariat; www.cites.org

▶ 23-29 August 2009. **Second World Congress of Agroforestry.** Nairobi, Kenya. Contact: Dennis Garrity, World Agroforestry Centre; Tel: +254-20-722-4000; Fax: +254-20-722-4001; wca2009@cgiar.org; www.worldagroforestry.org/wca2009/

▶ 3 September 2009.

**European Forest Institute 2009 Annual Conference.** Dublin, Ireland. Contact: Anu Ruusila, EFI; anu.ruusila@efi.int

▶ 4-5 September 2009. **Forest ecosystem management in the 21st century (seminar in connection with the EFI annual conference).** Dublin, Ireland. Contact: John Gilliland; john@ijfsolutions.com

▶ 18-25 October 2009. **XIIIth World Forestry Congress.** Buenos Aires, Argentina. Contact: Leopoldo Montes, Secretary-General or Olman Serrano, Associate Secretary-General. WFC-XIII@fao.org; info@wfc2009.org; www.wfc2009.org

▶ 9-14 November 2009. **Forty-fifth Session of the International Tropical Timber Council and Associated Committees.** Yokohama, Japan. Contact: ITTO Secretariat; Tel: +81-45-223-1110; Fax: +81-45-223-1111; itto@itto.or.jp; www.itto.or.jp

▶ 30 November - 11 December 2009. **Fifteenth Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC and the Fifth Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol.** Copenhagen, Denmark. Contact: UNFCCC Secretariat; Tel: +49-228-815-1000; Fax: +49-228-815-1999; secretariat@unfccc.int; http://unfccc.int/meetings/unfccc\_calendar/items/2655.php?year=2009

▶ 16-28 January 2010. **15<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to CITES.** Doha, Qatar. Contact: CITES Secretariat; www.cites.org

▶ 23-27 August 2010. **8th Flora Malesiana Symposium.** Singapore. Contact: Singapore Botanic Gardens, 1 Cluny Road, Singapore 259569; Fax: +65-64674832; Floramalesiana2010@nparks.gov.sg; www.sbg.org.sg/fm8

▶ 23-28 August 2010. **XXIII International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) World Congress: "Forests for the Future: Sustaining Society and the Environment".** Seoul, Republic of Korea. Contact: 2010 IUFRO Congress Organizing Committee, Korea Forest Research Institute, 57 Hoegi-ro, Dongdaemun-gu, Seoul 130-712, Korea; Tel: +82-2-961-2591; Fax +82-2-961-2599; iufrococ@forest.go.kr; http://www.iufro2010.com; http://www.iufro.org.

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## Greenpeace forests for climate initiative

Greenpeace launched an international mechanism to reduce deforestation, mitigate climate change, conserve global biodiversity and protect the livelihoods of forest people with their Forests for Climate (FFC) initiative. The FFC mechanism calls on industrialized countries committed to reducing their own emissions to fund protection of tropical forests in participating developing countries that are committed to preserving their forests. The developing countries can receive funding for capacity-building efforts and for national level reductions in deforestation emissions. FFC ensures that the rights and livelihoods of local and indigenous forest people are respected.

## Oil palm plantations may drive deforestation in other ways

The continued expansion of oil palm plantations in Asia will worsen the environmental crises of climate change and biodiversity loss, unless rainforests are better protected according to a recent review published in the journal Trends in Ecology and Evolution. The study found that the biggest ecological impact was the clearance of tropical forest for oil palm, but noted that most land cover statistics are unable to distinguish where oil palm has actually driven forest clearance. The close links many oil palm companies have with timber or pulp companies may also be a contributing factor to forest clearance associated with oil palm plantation development.