Circumboreal Cooperation – the way forward
Side-event during COFFI2018 in Vancouver

Date: Tuesday 6 November 2018
Time: 12:15 – 13:45
Place: Room 7
Moderator: Dr Guy Robertson, US Forest Service

Agenda
1. Introduction to boreal forests – context, challenges & opportunities
2. Circumboreal cooperation – what & why
3. Science-policy interface – the new IBFRA insight process
4. Why a Team of Specialists on Boreal Forests?
5. Closing
The Circumboreal Cooperation

- What is circumboreal cooperation and why?
- Summary of the work so far
What it is

A network of six boreal countries to strengthen cooperation on forest matters in the boreal region. It includes

- Canada, The United States, Norway, Sweden, Finland and the Russian Federation.
- The international Boreal Forest Research Association (IBFRA) – network research institutions
- FAO and ECE observers
Why it is

Boreal countries face similar challenges and opportunities:

- Forest countries with developed industrial sector – Bio economy
- Special challenges with regard to climate change requiring regional adapted strategies/responses, exchange scientific knowledge
- Gender equality, local communities, indigenous peoples, skilled workforce, R&D.
- Raise the profile of boreal forests in Agenda 2030
How it started and work so far

- 2012: Dialogue to strengthen cooperation between Circumboreal countries (rationale, themes, possible modes of cooperation)
- 2013: High level meeting in Edmonton. Circumboreal working group established. IBFRA joined.
- 2018: Ministerial summit and high level science/policy dialogue, Haparanda, Sweden
Outcomes of the Haparanda summit

• **The Haparanda declaration**: Explore the establishment of a UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists (ToS) on Boreal Forests

• **Science/policy dialogue**: Launching of an IBFRA insight process