



## Seventh Meeting of the APFNet Council

26–27 April 2023 | Manila, the Philippines

### Background note on the renewal of the Project Appraisal Panel

#### 1 Overview of the Project Appraisal Panel

The Project Appraisal Panel (PAP) is a subsidiary body of APFNet, composed of renowned forestry experts in the region. Its main responsibility is to review and recommend projects to the Executive Director and the Board of Directors and provide suggestions and comments for the formulation of project proposals. The Panel consists of no fewer than six members and no more than 11 members, each of whom serves a three-year term. Each member may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms.

#### 2 Composition of the current Project Appraisal Panel

The current PAP was recommended by the Council and approved by the Board at the second meetings of the APFNet Council and the APFNet Board of Directors. It consists of seven members from China, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Chinese Taipei and Thailand. The panel members have diverse expertise spanning various fields, such as forest ecology, forest policy and planning, community forestry, forest restoration and sustainable forest management.

#### 3 At this Council meeting

The terms of the current PAP members will end in 2023. The Council is expected to put forward a list of recommended candidates for a new PAP before the next Board meeting in 2024. This Council meeting **will discuss whether to initiate the selection process and how it should be conducted.**

Two documents are provided for information and review: the *Terms of Reference for the Project Appraisal Panel* (APFNet/Council/2023/10), and the *Selection Criteria and Procedure for the*

*Project Appraisal Panel (APFNet/Council/2023/11)*. The *Terms of Reference* provide an understanding of the PAP's role and responsibilities, and the *Selection Criteria and Procedure* guide the selection process for new members.

The following points should be considered:

- The Council can recommend up to 11 people for the PAP, and the first term for new members will be from 2024 to 2026.
- Each APFNet Council member is invited to nominate one candidate for the PAP.
- Among the candidates nominated for the PAP by Council members, the Executive Director may nominate one to serve as the Chair. This appointment requires the approval of the Board of Directors.
- If the number of nominees exceeds 11, the Council must rank them anonymously using the proposed procedures. If there are 11 nominees or fewer, the Council will review the qualifications and suitability of each nominee.

Participants are encouraged to review the documents before the meeting and to be prepared to discuss them and provide feedback.

#### **4 Next steps**

The Council may consider requesting the Secretariat to circulate the vacancies and application forms after the meeting. Any member interested in making a recommendation should submit an application **before March 2024** (exact date to be determined). At the next Council meeting, the Council will review the candidates, rank them if necessary, and agree on a final recommended list. The final list of names will be presented to the Board for approval.