

Dr. V.K. Bahuguna, DG, ICFRE elected as vice-chairman of Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institution

Dr. V.K. Bahuguna, DG, ICFRE has been elected unanimously Vice Chairman of Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions (APFRI) during the Sixth General Assembly of APFRI held on 31-08-2012 at Guangzhou, China and Dr. Abd Latif Mohmod, DG, FRIM, Malaysia Chairman with 6 Executive Members.



The **Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions (APAFRI)** is an independent non-profit body, which aims to enhance research and technology development capabilities in support of conservation and management of forest resources in the Asia-Pacific region.

The establishment of **APAFRI** was prompted by the need to provide a viable institutional framework for research collaboration in the region. Since 1991, the Forestry Research Support Programme for Asia and the Pacific (FORSPA) has been fulfilling the networking function. **APAFRI**, a follow-up of FORSPA, is an outcome of the desire of the countries in the region and the donor community to develop a more self-reliant and sustainable mechanism to strengthen research networking. It was launched during the meeting of the Heads of Forestry Research Organizations in the Asia-Pacific held in Bogor, 20-23 February 1995.

The International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) has recognised **APAFRI** as its Asia-Pacific chapter. **APAFRI** has been collaborating closely with the IUFRO Special Programme for Developing Countries (SPDC) in strengthening research in the Asia-Pacific region, and **APAFRI**'s Executive Director has been coopted as regional coordinator of IUFRO-SPDC.

The Secretariat of the Association was initially based at the FAO Regional Office, Bangkok, Thailand. Following the decision of the First General Assembly of the Association held at Ho Chi Minh City in March 1997, the Secretariat has been shifted to the [Faculty of Forestry, University Putra Malaysia \(UPM\)](#), Selangor, Malaysia. In year 2001, Secretariat was relocated to [Forest Research Institute Malaysia](#), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

