<u>Underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation</u>

The Steering Committee of the Joint Initiative to Address the Underlying Causes of Deforestation and Forest Degradation will meet in Geneva on August 22nd. The meeting will be focused on strategic planning for the Global Workshop which will be held in Costa Rica on 18-22 January. At the same time, there will be presentations on the regional and indigenous peoples' workshops whose findings will form the basis of the discussions in Costa Rica. Special attention will be given to the CIS (ex-USSR) workshop which recently took place, to share the experiences with all Steering Committee members.