



# The Model Forest Act Initiative (MoFAI)

THE MODEL FOREST ACT INITIATIVE

AUGUST - OCTOBER 2025, NO. 14

## MOFAI UPDATES



## ADB, ADBI, and UNEP Convene Policy Dialogue on the Model Forest Act Initiative Ahead of COP30

On 25 September, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) convened a high-level roundtable in Tokyo to advance the Model Forest Act Initiative (MoFAI). The dialogue brought together senior voices including ADBI Dean Bambang Brodjonegoro, ADB General Counsel Thomas Clark, ADB Environment Director Yoko Watanabe, UNEP Law Director Patricia Kameri-Mbote, and Chief Justice Antonio Herman Benjamin of Brazil's High Court. In a recorded message, COP30 President André Corrêa do Lago welcomed the initiative, stressing that forests and the law will be priorities of the COP30 Presidency. Participants from the Japan Ministry of Environment, scientists, lawyers, academics, and international organizations contributed to the consultations.

Following the roundtable, MoFAI Drafting Committee meetings were held from 26–29 September in Tokyo. Members conducted a detailed review of the draft text, covering enforcement and access to justice, forest governance institutions, classification and permitting systems, and finance, as well as principles and definitions. The meetings also advanced work on the accompanying Legislative Guide and set out next steps.

The Tokyo consultations mark a major milestone in MoFAI's global partnership. The draft text will be presented at COP30 in November, with the "General Part" of the Model Forest Act and its Legislative Guide scheduled for launch in 2026.

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- [Draft Forest Bill 2025 Summary – Ministry of Forestry](#)
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- [Japan's smart forests use IoT to fight climate change](#)

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- [Fourth Meeting of Ministers Responsible for Forestry in Greater Central Asia](#)
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