



Expert Meeting on Regional and Sub-Regional Inputs to the United Nations Forum on Forests

07- 08 January 2019

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Headquarters

1. BACKGROUND AND SCOPE OF THE MEETING

On 27 April 2017 the United Nations General Assembly approved the Resolution A/RES/71/285, entitled “United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests” (UNSPF) which states that “regional bodies (...) provide a crucial bridge between international policies and national actions and are important partners in efforts to implement the strategic plan and achieve its global forest goals and targets”. Moreover, the Forum works with regional and sub-regional bodies and processes to identify ways to contribute to the global forest goals and targets, including by encouraging them to exchange information, enhance cooperation, raise awareness, strengthen stakeholder engagement and build capacity to scale up best practices within and across regions.

The theme of the 2019 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF 2019) is “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under its in-depth review are: SDG 4¹; SDG 8²; SDG 10³; SDG 13⁴; SDG 16⁵; and SDG 17⁶. The theme of the 2019 International Day of Forests is “Forests and education” which will contribute to SDG4.

Technical discussions during the 14th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF14) will focus on three thematic priorities: (i) Forests and Climate Change; (ii) Forests, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and employment; and (iii) Forests, peaceful and inclusive societies, reduced inequality, education, and inclusive institutions at all levels.

¹ Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

² Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

³ Reduce inequality within and among countries

⁴ Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

⁵ Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

⁶ Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development



Topic 1:



It was noted that UNFF regional and sub-regional partners can potentially have a role in the context of the Network, which could allow those entities to provide GFFFN related capacity building activities directed at their Member States.

Topic 3: Contributions to the UNFF14 agenda item 6 on enhancing global forest policy coherence and a common understanding of sustainable forest management



In closing, the UNFF Secretariat thanked experts for attending the meeting, reiterated the importance of regional and sub-regional cooperation and expressed the hope that those partners continue to support the work of the Forum. Experts expressed their appreciation for the UNFF Secretariat, facilitators, rapporteurs and presenters.



1:30 pm~
5:00 pm

Item 2: Continues

- x Presentation on SDGs FRA reporting system
- x Presentation on the Global Core Set of Forest related indicators

Summary of outcome by rapporteurs

Item 3: Presentation on Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN)

- x Discussion on Guidelines and regional support
- x Way forward

Item 4: Discussion on UNFF14 agenda item 6 “Enhancing global forest policy coherence and a common understanding of sustainable forest management (SFM)”

- x Presentations on:
 - i. Item 6 Survey results
 - ii. SFM definitions and 7 thematic elements (UNFI)
 - iii. Discussion on the role of regional/sub-regional organizations may play in promoting and advocating enhanced global forest policy coherence and a common understanding of SFM

Summary of outcome by rapporteurs

(Coffee/Tea Break at appropriate time)

Item 6: Any other business

Item 7: Discussion on main outcomes of the meeting

Closing

(Coffee/Tea Break at appropriate time)



ANNEX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS



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The Center for People and Forests	Dr. David Ganz	Executive Director	david.ganz@recoftc.org
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United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	Mr. Roman Michalak	Economic Affairs Officer	roman.michalak@un.org
United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat	Ms. Afsa Kemitale-Rotschild	Senior Programme Management Officer	kemitale@un.org
United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat	Ms. Barbara Tavora- Jainchill	Forest Affairs Officer	tavora-jainchill@un.org
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United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat	Ms. Erika del Rocio Lopez-Rojas	Consultant	erilpr@hotmail.com



ANNEX 3: Format for United Nations Forum on Forests regional/sub-regional partners reporting on progress towards the implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030 and the United Nations Forest Instrument

While considering the word limits, regional and sub-regional entities are invited to provide as much detail as possible in their answers, including regarding figures and deadlines, if applicable.



General Information

Information on Entity

Official Name:	
Membership:	
Mandate:	

Entity's focal point

Name:	
Title:	
Address:	
Entity:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

Person to contact concerning the entity's report, if someone other than the entity's focal point

Name:	
Title:	
Address:	
Entity:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

Entity/entities involved in the preparation of the report

Entity/Entities:	
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Global forest goal 1 and associated targets⁹

Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change

Associated targets

- 1.1 Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide¹⁰
- 1.2 The world's forest carbon stocks are maintained or enhanced
- 1.3 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally
- 1.4 The resilience and adaptive capacity of all types of forests to natural disasters and the impact of climate change is significantly strengthened worldwide

Questions on goal 1

1. (a) Since 2015,¹¹ what types of action have been taken by your entity to support Member States to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 1.1–1.4?

Please indicate to which targets



(ii) Institutional actions (actions to advance implementation of SFM)

List of actions:
Description of actions:

(iii) Financial actions

List of actions:
Description of actions:

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

List of actions:
Description of actions:

(b) How do the actions listed above support Member States in the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

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(c) What are the main challenges in supporting Member States in achieving goal 1 in your region?





(b) What other action is being taken by your entity in support Member States to achieve goal 2?

(c) How does the action listed above support Member States in the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

(d) What are the main challenges in supporting Member States in achieving goal 2 in your region?

(e) Any additional comments on goal 2:



Global forest goal 3 and associated targets¹³

Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests

Associated targets

3.1



(iii) Financial actions



(iv)



Global forest goal 4 and associated targets¹⁴

Mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management and strengthen scientific and technical cooperation and partnerships

Associated targets

4.1 Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

4.2 Forest-related financing from all sources at all levels, including public (national, bilateral, multilateral and triangular), private and philanthropic financing, is significantly increased

4.3 North-South, South-South, North-North and triangular cooperation and public-private partnerships on science, technology and innovation in the forest sector are significantly enhanced and increased

4.4 The number of countries that have developed and implemented forest financing strategies and have access to financing from all sources is significantly increased

4.5 The collection, availability and accessibility of forest-related information is improved through, for example, multidisciplinary scientific assessments

Questions on goal 4

4. (a) Please describe major actions taken in your region to move towards goal 4 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

Progress towards targets 4.1 and 4.2

(b) Since 2015, has your entity been able to mobilize significantly increased financial resources to support Member States in the implementation of sustainable forest management?

- Yes
- No

¹⁴ Goal 4 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 12.a, 15.7, 15.a, 15.b, 17.1–17.3, 17.6, 17.7 and 17.16–17.19 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Target 19, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (h), (i), (m), (r) and (s) and 7 (a)–(c) and (l)–(q) of the United Nations forest instrument.



Please describe the main challenges in mobilizing funds in a maximum of 250 words:

Progress towards target 4.3

(c) Please specify the actors/stakeholders with which your entity is cooperating:

- Governments
- ~~Governmental organizations/processes~~
- Private sector
- Non-governmental organizations
- Other (please specify)



Progress towards target 4.4

(d) Since 2015, has your entity supported Member States in developing or implementing financing strategies to achieve sustainable forest management and to implement the United Nations forest instrument?

- Yes
- No

Comments if needed:

Global forest goal 5 and associated targets¹⁵

Promote governance frameworks to implement sustainable forest management, including through the United Nations forest instrument, and enhance the contribution of forests to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Associated targets

5.1 Number of countries that have integrated forests into their national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies is significantly increased

5.2 Forest law enforcement and governance are enhanced, including through significantly strengthening national and subnational forest authorities, and illegal logging and associated trade are significantly reduced worldwide

5.3 National and subnational forest-related policies and programmes are coherent, coordinated and complementary across ministries, departments and authorities, consistent with national laws, and engage relevant stakeholders, local communities and indigenous peoples, fully recognizing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

5.4 Forest-related issues and the forest sector are fully integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development

¹⁵ Goal 5 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement, among other things, of targets 1.4, 2.4, 5.a, 15.9, 15.c, 16.3, 16.5–16.7, 16.10 and 17.14 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 2 and 3, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (a), (c), (k), (l), (n) and (w) and 7 (c) and (h)–(j) of the United Nations forest instrument.



Questions on goal 5

5. (a) Please describe major actions taken in your region to move towards goal 5 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

Progress towards target 5.2

(b) Since 2015, has your entity supported Member States in promoting or participating in National/Regional/Sub-Regional initiatives to prevent and reduce illegal international trafficking in forest products, wildlife and other biological resources?

- Yes
- No

Comments if needed:

Global forest goal 6 and associated targets¹⁶

Enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies on forest-related issues at all levels, including within the United Nations system and across member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, as well as across sectors and relevant



6.5 The input and involvement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan and in the work of the Forum, including intersessional work, is strengthened

Questions on goal 6

6. (a) Please describe major actions taken in your region to move towards goal 6 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

Progress towards target 6.3 (cross-sectorial coordination and cooperation)

(b) Please describe major actions taken in your region to regarding cross-sectorial coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation.

Progress towards target 6.4 (criteria and indicators)

(c) Are there criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management used by your entity?

- Yes
- No



For which of the following purposes are they used? (Multiple answers possible)

- To generate information for national reports on forest conditions and management
- To monitor and assess forest conditions and management
- To review and develop national forest policies and tools for

sustainable forest management (SFM) (e) 562712126 (b) 17a-12-7 (p) 11648 (c) 360-12.4



Success stories

8. Does your entity have any success stories relating to the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030? If so, please provide a brief description, with references (such as weblinks, publications and articles), showing how the action contributed