

**Economic and Social Council**Distr.: General  
25 July 2017

Original: English

**Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations****Economic Commission for Europe****Food and Agriculture Organization****Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry****European Forestry Commission****Seventy-fifth session****Thirty-ninth session**

Warsaw, Poland 9-13 October 2017

Warsaw, Poland 9-13 October 2017

Item 3(f) of the provisional agenda

**Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry matters:  
Strategic Framework 2020-2021****Strategic Framework 2020-2021****Subprogramme 07: Forests and the Forest Industry<sup>1</sup>****Note by the Secretariat***Summary*

The Strategic Framework 2020-2021 is the principal policy directive for the ECE subprogramme on Forests and the Forest Industry. The biennial programme plan contains a short narrative highlighting the overall *raison d'être* of the programme, in addition to a logical framework detailing its constituent subprogrammes and strategy.

The draft Strategic Framework 2020-2021 is based on the Strategic Framework 2018-2019. It was prepared by the ECE Secretariat and endorsed by Bureau of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI).

<sup>1</sup> As in the case of other UNECE subprogrammes, the name of the subprogramme reflects the name and focus of the related Committee.

## I. Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

*Objective of the Organization:* To strengthen sustainable management of forests in the ECE region, and their contribution to sustainable development and the provision of economic and environmental benefits for present and future generations.<sup>2</sup>

<i>Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>		<i>Performance measures</i>			
			<i>2020-2021</i>	<i>2018-2019</i>	<i>2016-2017</i>	<i>2014-2015</i>
(a) Improved monitoring and assessment of the forest sector to support sustainable forest management	(i) Increased percentage of ECE member States providing satisfactory data on qualitative indicators of sustainable forest management	Target	72	71	69	69
		Estimate		71	69	69
		Actual			69	69
	(ii) Increased percentage of ECE member States providing satisfactory data on quantitative indicators of sustainable forest management	Target	76	75	69	69
		Estimate		75	69	69
		Actual			69	73
(b) Increased national capacity of countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and South-East Europe in sustainable forest management	Number of new actions taken by member States to apply measurement standards and monitoring tools on sustainable forest management developed by ECE	Target	3	2		
		Estimate		2		
		Actual				
(c) <sup>3</sup> Increased involvement of the forests industry in activities of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI), including through specific events and the development of guidance relevant to the sector	Number of activities and guidance/recommendations developed by COFFI with contributions from the private sector which are relevant to the forest industry	Target	2			
		Estimate				
		Actual				

<sup>2</sup> This objective statement was revised to align it with the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030, adopted by the General Assembly in April 2017 (A/RES/71/285).

<sup>3</sup> This expected accomplishment is new, this is why numbers are not posted for periods prior to 2020-2021.

## II. Strategy

1. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Forests, Land and Housing Division. The objective of the subprogramme will be achieved through international policy dialogue, analytical and normative work, capacity-building and the dissemination of best practices and lessons learned.
2. The subprogramme will provide a platform for policy dialogue on forest-related issues while taking into account a rapidly changing policy environment, notably related to climate change and bioenergy. The subprogramme will develop and apply analytical and monitoring tools to support evidence-based policymaking to underpin sustainable forest management and the sustainability of the forest industry. The subprogramme will collect, validate and disseminate information and the results of research and analysis; facilitate the exchange of national experiences and best practices; and monitor progress on achieving sustainable forest management using key forest-sector indicators. The subprogramme will support the implementation of the Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy in order to promote the role of the forest sector in a green economy and in mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.
3. The subprogramme will promote the sustainable management of forests and the sound and legal use of forest products (including raw material, energy, and forest ecosystem services), based on appropriate best available scientific knowledge, policies and institutions. Priorities for 2020-2021 will be guided primarily by the outcomes of the joint session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission (Las2017). The sub-programme will support the implementation in the ECE region of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests (2017-2030) and the related Global Forest Goals approved by the General Assembly in April 2017. The subprogramme will also support the development of cross-sectoral and cross-institutional policies promoting sustainable forest management and enhanced forest governance in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by (a) supporting sustainable management of forests and the sustainability of the forest industry, and (b) monitoring the status of forests and forest products and their effect on climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation, provision of sustainable energy and fibres, etc.
4. As part of the implementation strategy of the subprogramme, ECE will carry out its work in partnership with FAO, and in cooperation with the European Forest Institute, Forest Europe and other relevant regional organizations and processes. The subprogramme will provide regular input to the United Nations Forum on Forests and the FAO Committee on Forestry.
5. To support forest management, including the provision of forest services and the use of wood and forest products which are ecologically, economically and socially sustainable, the subprogramme will: (a) encourage all relevant stakeholders to participate in and implement the activities of the subprogramme and (b) take a cross-sectoral approach to ensure that the strategy is well integrated into the policy framework of other sectors. Achieving sustainable forest management is primarily a national responsibility, so the subprogramme and its partners will support national-level efforts by: (a) developing and disseminating concepts, information and specific studies, (b) sharing experiences and providing capacity-building and (c) by defining measurement standards and policy tools.

## II. External factors

6. The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) there is active country and stakeholder participation; (b) partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) continues, including the provision of staff and non-staff resources, to implement the integrated ECE/FAO programme of work in this area; and (c) in kind and cash support from member States to the implementation of planned activities is sustained.

## III. Legislative mandates

### A. Overall ECE legislative mandates

#### *General Assembly resolutions*

66/288	The future we want
67/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
70/133	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
70/221	Operational activities for development of the United Nations system
71/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States
71/13	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative
71/14	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization
71/16	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
71/18	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
71/162	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
71/212	Information and communications technologies for development

71/223	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
71/226	Disaster risk reduction
71/228	Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind
71/233	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
71/243	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
71/244	South-South cooperation
71/283	Progress towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat

*Economic and Social Council resolutions*

2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference of the Commission
2013/1	Outcome of the review of the 2005 Reform of the Economic Commission for Europe
2016/2	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

*Economic Commission for Europe decisions*

A (64)	The Work of the Economic Commission for Europe
A (65)	Outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE
A (66)	Endorsement of the High-level statement on the post-2015 development agenda and expected sustainable development goals in the ECE region
A(67)	Adoption of the High-level statement
B(67)	Establishment of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

**B. Legislative mandates specific to the subprogramme**

*General Assembly resolutions*

62/98	Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests
67/200	International Day of Forests
70/199	United Nations forest instrument
71/285	United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030

*Economic and Social Council resolutions*

2007/40 Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests

2015/33 International arrangement on forests beyond 2015

2017/4 United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030

---