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# COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY

## TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

**Rome, Italy, 23-27 June 2014**

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. At its 139<sup>th</sup> Session, the Council invited the Technical Committees to examine their Rules of Procedure, taking into account the considerations outlined in document CCLM 90/2 and the recommendations of the Report of the 90<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters (CCLM). The Council also acknowledged that authority to amend Rules of Procedure was vested in the Technical Committees. However, the Council stressed the desirability of consistency among the Rules of Procedure of all Technical Committees.
2. On this basis the Committee on Forestry (COFO) took action at its 20<sup>th</sup> session and revised its Rules of Procedure. In so doing the Committee duly considered the opinion of the CCLM which noted that under current Rules of Procedure of the Technical Committees the Chairperson and the other officers remain in office until the election of a new Chairperson and other officers, without specifying whether the election takes place at the beginning or at the end of the sessions of the Committees, thus providing sufficient flexibility for an election either at the beginning or at the end of the sessions. The CCLM also noted that, in general, proposals that elections should take place at the end of the sessions had benefited from increasing support.
3. In the last biennium several governing bodies addressed the issue of the timing of the election. They concluded that it is more beneficial to conduct the election at the end of the sessions, and decided to change their practice in this regard, within the framework of their existing Rules of Procedures.
4. The COFO Steering Committee, at its meeting on 31 January 2014, also considered the benefits of the election being held at the end of the sessions and requested the secretariat to make a recommendation for the consideration of COFO.
5. On this basis, and with due consideration of the opinion of the CCLM as well as the election cycles of the Committee on Agriculture, the Committee on Commodity Problems, the Committee on Fisheries and the Committee on World Food Security, the Committee, when electing its officers, may wish to:
  - decide to hold the election of officers at the end of its future sessions;
  - agree that, as a transitional measure, the Chairperson will continue serving during the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session until the election of the officers of the 24<sup>th</sup> Session, noting also that according to the Rules of Procedure “*the Vice-Chairpersons shall remain in office until they complete their term as Chairpersons in their respective Regional Forestry Commissions.*”

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