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Food and
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Продовольственная и
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Organización
de las
Naciones Unidas
para la
Alimentación y la
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ASIA-PACIFIC FORESTRY COMMISSION

TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION

Colombo, Sri Lanka, 23-27 October 2017

THE HIGH LEVEL PANEL OF EXPERTS ON FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION REPORT ON SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

SECRETARIAT NOTE

Background

1. FAO's *International Conference on Forests for Food Security and Nutrition* held in Rome in 2013 raised awareness and recognition of forests' contribution to food security and nutrition. The main outcomes of this conference and the recommendations of the 22nd Session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO) in 2014, highlighted the importance of developing capacity and of mainstreaming cross-sectoral forestry and food security policies and programmes.
2. In response to these recommendations, and in light of the increasing recognition of the role of forests in food security and nutrition, the 41st Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in 2014 requested the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE)¹ to conduct a study on "Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition"².
3. The HLPE was created as part of the 2009 reform of the international governance of food security to advise the CFS to keep it up to date with worldwide knowledge and abreast of emerging trends in food security. The HLPE facilitates more informed policy debates and improve the quality, effectiveness and coherence of food security and nutrition policies from local to international levels.

¹ <http://www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-hlpe/about-the-hlpe/en/>

² CFS41 report, para 41.d "... requested the HLPE to undertake a study on "Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition, including the role of livestock" to be presented to CFS Plenary in 2016 and a study on "Sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition" to be presented to CFS Plenary in 2017".

4. The HLPE report on “Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition” has been officially launched on 27 June 2017 as a major contribution to the 44th Session of the CFS in October 2017³.

5. The Summary and Recommendations of the HLPE report is attached as Annex for consideration by the Commission.

Points for Consideration

6. In view of the importance of sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition as highlighted by the HLPE report, the Commission may wish to:

- a) Recognize that the sustainable management of forests is essential for achieving SDG 2 “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”.
- b) Invite countries to consider the recommendations of the HLPE and initiate appropriate actions
- c) Request FAO to:
 - support countries in enhancing the contributions of forests and trees to food security and nutrition;
 - identify, document and disseminate best practices regarding food security and nutrition mainstreaming in forestry;
 - develop guidelines for mainstreaming food security and nutrition objectives in forest policies and in forest management practices.

³ CFS 44 will take place during 9-13 October 2017 and the policy process outcome will not be available for most of the RFCs, however, the HLPE study outcome will be available for discussions to be held by the Regional Commissions. Commission members may also wish to take domestic action to allow for their views to be presented at the CFS 44 by their respective national delegations.