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منظمة  
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# CONFERENCE

## Thirty-ninth Session

Rome, 6-13 June 2015

### Report of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Committee on Forestry (Rome, 23-27 June 2014)

#### Executive Summary

The Committee on Forestry (COFO) held its 22<sup>nd</sup> Session from 23 to 27 June 2014 and covered the following matters:

- 1) State of the World's Forests 2014: Enhancing the socio-economic benefits from forests (paragraphs 14-17)
  - Policy measures to sustain and enhance benefits (paragraphs 18-22)
  - Innovations in the forest products sector and promoting products from sustainably managed forests (paragraphs 23-24)
  - Income, employment and livelihoods (paragraphs 25-28)
  - Forests and family farming (paragraphs 29-33)
  - Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) and forest financing (paragraphs 34-36)
- 2) Contribution to global processes and initiatives
  - Forests and the Sustainable Development Goals (paragraphs 37-39)
  - The Zero Hunger Challenge (paragraphs 40-42)
  - The Zero Illegal Deforestation Initiative (paragraphs 43-47)
  - Review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests (paragraphs 48-54)
  - The Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources (paragraphs 55-57)
  - Forests and gender equality (paragraphs 58-60)
- 3) Implementation of the recommendations of past Sessions of the Committee and other FAO Governing Bodies (paragraphs 61-86)
- 4) FAO's work in forestry under the reviewed Strategic Framework (paragraphs 87-92)
  - Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, and the Climate Summit 2014 (paragraphs 93-95)
  - Enhancing work on boreal forests and dryland forests (paragraphs 96-102)

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### Matters requiring the attention of the Council

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Committee:

- welcomed the State of the World's Forests 2014 (SOFO 2014) and supported its messages concerning the contribution that forests make towards sustainable development, including in the current discussions on Sustainable Development Goals and the post-2015 Development Agenda; (paragraph 14)
- recommended that FAO should increase efforts in assisting countries in upgrading their socio-economic data on forests through a specific programme in the Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) 2016-2017, and in accessing extra-budgetary resources to this end; and disseminating information about the socio-economic benefits of forests and their contributions to broader development goals; (paragraph 16)
- recommended that FAO, in collaboration with the World Bank and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), strengthen data collection and information management systems on people's use and benefits from forests, improve broad access to information, and strengthen transparency and accountability; (paragraph 22)
- recommended that FAO assist countries in strengthening tenure rights and governance processes, including through building capacity to implement the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security; (paragraph 21)
- recommended that FAO support countries particularly in strengthening forest-based industries, producer associations, and community-based forest organizations, in order to raise the productivity and efficiency of the entire forest sector; (paragraph 24)
- recommended that FAO continue to work on strengthening the links between forests and food security, in particular in the context of Strategic Objectives 1 and 3, and assist countries in collecting and disseminating information about the socio-economic benefits of forests and their contributions to broader development goals; (paragraph 32 and 28)
- recommended that FAO support Members in enhancing the effectiveness of current PES programmes and in creating an enabling environment to introduce such programmes, and cooperate with other agencies and countries in this regard; (paragraph 36)
- recommended that FAO continue to provide, in collaboration with CPF members and others, technical support for the development of appropriate targets and indicators on forests in the SDGs, and work with partners to develop improved indicators for the socio-economic benefits of forests in the context of the SDGs, especially as they relate to poverty reduction and food security; (paragraph 40)
- recommended that FAO, in the context of its new Strategic Framework, initiate actions to upscale its capacities for monitoring the contribution of forests to address the Zero Hunger Challenge at regional and global level; and present the contribution of forests to food security to the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) for its consideration; (paragraphs 42 and 43)
- requested FAO to assist countries, within the context of the Strategic Framework and Medium Term Plan-Programme of Work and Budget, to strengthen their efforts and capacities in policy and planning, information exchange and dialogue, as well as access to funding with a view to achieving zero illegal deforestation and strengthening sustainable management of natural resources; (paragraph 47)

- encouraged FAO to contribute actively to the review of the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF); (paragraph 50)
- requested FAO to continue its leadership role in the CPF, including, with the full participation of CPF members, considering new ways of strengthening the CPF and developing a vision for the future of the Partnership as an input to the review of IAF; (paragraph 55)
- requested FAO to continue incorporating fully the work under CPF in the Strategic Framework of the Organization, including the provision of adequate resources; (paragraph 55)
- recommended that FAO assist countries in strengthening capacity and providing technical support for gender mainstreaming and the collection of gender-disaggregated data in the forest sector; and supporting the economic empowerment of women, including access to and control over, resources in the forestry value chain through enterprise development; (paragraph 60)
- gave guidance for the development of the next MYPOW and requested the Secretariat to develop it, in consultation with the Steering Committee, for consideration and adoption by the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of COFO; (paragraphs 63 and 64)
- recommended that FAO further develop, disseminate and test the SFM Toolbox and encouraged FAO to assess, in coordination with other CPF members, the demand and opportunity for developing a set of voluntary guidelines for multipurpose forest management planning; (paragraphs 66 and 67)
- requested FAO to complete the development of the voluntary guidelines on national forest monitoring for final endorsement by the next session; (paragraph 70)
- recommended that FAO support country efforts to plan and implement forest landscape restoration, through activities of the Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism (FLR) and engage in more cross-cutting and inter-departmental work under the new Strategic Framework, to support integrated approaches across the landscape; (paragraph 72)
- requested FAO to continue supporting the regional forest communicators networks, including through providing coordination at the global and regional levels and dedicate funding to projects and programmes to facilitate communication of progress and results; (paragraph 75)
- requested FAO to continue promoting cross-sectoral collaboration within FAO's Strategic Framework and its Objectives and elaborate, in consultation with the respective bureaux, a detailed proposal for collaboration, for the consideration of the Technical Committees in their forthcoming sessions; (paragraph 78)
- requested FAO to continue enhancing the forestry-related knowledge base and, in collaboration with other partners, disseminating this knowledge, *inter alia*, by including education and research initiatives in FAO's regional activities under FAO's Strategic Objectives; (paragraph 82)
- encouraged the Regional Forestry Commissions to provide guidance on areas of regional priority in forestry that inform and contribute to FAO's Strategic Objectives; (paragraph 89)
- reiterated the importance of several topics and work areas including monitoring and assessment, forest ecosystem services, REDD+, urban and community forestry, integrated land use and landscape management, governance, gender, wood energy, forest biodiversity, innovation in forest products, and education; (paragraph 91)

- stressed the need for the Organization as a whole and the forestry programme in particular to continue to prioritize its activities in support of the new Strategic Framework. In that regard, the Committee emphasized the importance of ensuring that FAO's work in forestry was realistic to implement and highlighted the need to allocate sufficient financial resources to the work on forestry; (paragraph 92)
- requested FAO to continue supporting countries in the area of forests and climate change mitigation and adaptation, including through active participation in the work and further development of the UN-REDD; (paragraph 96)
- requested FAO to, commensurate with FAO's mandate, expertise and resources and in synergy with the Zero Illegal Deforestation Challenge, as well as various relevant programmes, work in partnership with other organizations, including members of the CPF and UN-REDD, to support the launch of the forest initiative at the UNSG's Climate Summit; (paragraph 96)
- requested FAO to continue exploring further possibilities for enhancing interdisciplinary work on boreal forests for consideration by the Committee at the next session; (paragraph 99)
- requested FAO to present a recommendation to the Committee for the establishment of the working group on dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems, for consideration and possible adoption at its next session. (paragraph 103)

#### **Matters requiring the attention of the Conference**

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Committee:

- invited countries to assess the status and future trends in demands for forest benefits and take these into account in forest-related policies and measures; (paragraph 19)
- encouraged countries to strengthen their efforts in recognizing the potential contributions of forests in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and recommended countries to coordinate and collaborate at national, regional and international level to ensure adequate consideration and visibility of forests in the SDGs and the post-2015 Development Agenda; (paragraphs 23 and 39)
- invited Members to establish and strengthen platforms for cross-sectoral, multi-stakeholder dialogue and initiatives that link forestry and agriculture and other natural resource-related sectors to enable more effective coordination and communication at a landscape level; (paragraph 31)
- invited Members to create an enabling environment for forest communities, family forest owners, forest rights holders and forest and farm producer organizations, including clear tenure, fair access to markets and good service provision, incentive programmes and financing mechanisms for agroforestry, reforestation and sustainable community forest management; (paragraph 31)
- invited countries to strengthen their response to the Zero Hunger Challenge by developing evidence-based and inclusive forest policies as well as integrated cross-sectoral approaches to national food security and nutrition strategies and programmes; (paragraph 41)

- invited countries to advocate at national and international level for, and work actively towards achieving zero illegal deforestation, drawing attention to the need to protect, conserve, restore and sustainably manage forest resources worldwide, in the framework of developing sustainable and more integrated land use policies; (paragraph 46)
- invited Members to consider further strengthening the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) as a broad inter-agency coordination mechanism, in any future international arrangement on forests; (paragraph 52)
- invited countries to increase efforts to ensure adequate consideration of gender issues in forestry in the deliberations of the UN Commission on the Status of Women at “Beijing +20” and gender equality in the post-2015 Development Agenda; (paragraph 59)
- invited countries to strengthen their agriculture and forest sectors by considering membership in the International Poplar Commission and encouraged the Executive Committee to continue the reform process of the Commission; (paragraph 84)
- encouraged countries to strengthen collaboration of agriculture, fisheries, forestry and other land use sectors to promote the application of integrated approaches across the landscape and invited the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Fisheries to explore opportunities for collaboration with the Committee, and stressed the benefits of including the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in these collaborative efforts; (paragraph 77)
- emphasized the need to consider FAO’s work in forestry in the broader context of FAO’s Strategic Framework; and highlighted the need to allocate sufficient financial resources to the work on forestry; (paragraphs 88 and 90)
- invited countries to elevate the REDD+ discussions to the highest political level in the countries, regions and globally, and support the forest initiative that will be launched at the UNSG Climate Summit; (paragraph 94)
- invited interested countries to foster the cooperation within the existing initiatives working on boreal forests, and requested FAO to scale up its support to countries on boreal forests; further invited countries to work with FAO for the formulation of a global capacity development programme on sustainable management and restoration of dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems. (paragraphs 98, 99 and 101)

#### **Suggested action by the Council and Conference**

The Council and Conference are invited to:

- Endorse the Report of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Committee on Forestry

*Queries on the substantive content of this document may be addressed to:*

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## I. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO) was held at FAO Headquarters, Rome (Italy), from 23 to 27 June 2014 as the centrepiece of the 4<sup>th</sup> World Forest Week.
2. The Session was attended by delegates from 117 countries and one Member Organization, representatives of 6 United Nations Agencies and Programmes and observers from 28 intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations.
3. Dr Felician Kilahama (Tanzania), Chairperson of the 21<sup>st</sup> Session of COFO, opened the Session highlighting the timeliness of the topics to be addressed. He introduced the speakers at the opening Session: His Royal Highness Prince Laurent of Belgium; Her Excellency Rosine Amane Baiwong Djibergui, Minister for Agriculture and Environment of Chad; His Excellency Mr Shin Won-Sop, Minister, Korea Forest Service, Republic of Korea; Mr Thomas Gass, Assistant Secretary-General, Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA); Mr Piet Vanthemsche, President of AGRICORD, and the Director-General of FAO, Mr José Graziano da Silva.
4. His Royal Highness, Prince Laurent of Belgium accepted FAO's invitation to become the Special Ambassador for Forests and the Environment, to help FAO raise awareness and foster policy dialogue on issues related to the sustainable management of all types of forests and other natural resources.
5. Mr José Graziano da Silva, Director-General of FAO, welcomed participants and recalled that since the last session of COFO, FAO's strategic planning process had been completed. He stressed that FAO's work was focused on the five Strategic Objectives allowing to better respond to the Organization's three Global Goals. He noted that forestry was contributing significantly to reaching these goals and all five new Strategic Objectives. He expressed his hope for COFO's continued engagement and support, so that it could help consolidate changes and further strengthen the role of forestry in FAO's future programmes of work.
6. Mr Eduardo Rojas-Briales, Assistant Director-General, Forestry Department, welcomed delegates and highlighted the crossroads for forests in 2015: agreement on the post-2015 Development Agenda, new climate change agreement and the review of the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF), and noted the need for a forward-looking vision building upon strengths and opportunities for forests and a shared response to the challenges faced by forests.

## II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

7. The Agenda (Appendix A) was adopted. The documents considered by the Committee are listed in Appendix B.

## III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DESIGNATION OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE

8. The Committee elected Dr Bharrat Jagdeo of Guyana, representing the Latin American and Caribbean region as Chairperson of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Committee on Forestry.
9. In accordance with Rule I of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee adopted by the 20<sup>th</sup> Session of COFO, the Chairpersons of the six FAO Regional Forestry Commissions acted as Vice-Chairpersons of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of COFO.
10. The Committee elected as Vice-Chairpersons:
  - Mr Joseph Hailwa (Namibia), representing the African Forestry and Wildlife Commission
  - Mr Jarred Mair (New Zealand), representing the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission
  - Mr Robert Busink (The Netherlands), representing the European Forestry Commission
  - Mr James Singh (Guyana), representing the Latin American and Caribbean Forestry Commission

- Mr Issa Al Shobaki (Jordan), representing the Near East Forestry and Range Commission
- Mr Jorge Rescala Perez (Mexico), representing the North American Forest Commission.

11. Based on the recommendations of the 139<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council and of the 90<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters, the Committee decided to hold the election of officers at the end of its future sessions and agreed that, as a transitional measure, the Chairperson would continue serving during the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session until the election of the officers of the 24<sup>th</sup> Session.

12. The following Members were elected to the Drafting Committee for the Report: Austria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Egypt, Greece, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya (Chair), New Zealand, Norway, Peru, the Russian Federation, Togo, United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia.

13. The following delegations delivered statements at the opening session: Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Gabon, Iran, the Russian Federation, Turkey and the European Union.

#### IV. STATE OF THE WORLD'S FORESTS 2014

14. The Committee welcomed the launch of the State of the World's Forests 2014 (SOFO 2014), its focus on the socio-economic benefits of forests, and supported its messages concerning the contribution that forests make towards sustainable development, including in the current discussions on Sustainable Development Goals and the post-2015 Development Agenda and on the review of the International Arrangement on Forests.

15. The Committee invited Members to take the key messages of SOFO 2014 into account.

16. The Committee recommended that FAO assist countries in:

- building capacity to implement the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security;
- promoting more sustainable patterns of consumption and production as relate to forests in national frameworks;
- upgrading their socio-economic data on forests through a specific programme in the Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) 2016-2017, and in accessing extra-budgetary resources to this end.

17. The Committee discussed possible topics and the structure of the next SOFO report. The topics suggested include: an update on the UNFCCC process and the progress on REDD+, forest degradation, forest adaptation and the implications of climate change for sustainable forest management, an update on forests in the Sustainable Development Goals, and details of financial flows for forests, especially in light of the important role of forests in poverty eradication, inclusive socio-economic development and climate change mitigation.

#### Policy Measures to Sustain and Enhance Benefits

18. The Committee recognized that significant progress has been made around the world to strengthen the policy framework for forests. Many countries have incorporated sustainable forest management (SFM) as a broad national goal and put in place policy measures to foster SFM and enhance the socio-economic benefit of forests in an inclusive manner. The Committee underlined, however, that much more needs to be done to promote innovative SFM policies and to ensure that enabling institutional, policy and legislative frameworks are in place. The Committee was also briefed on the outcome of the Heads of Forestry Dialogue, held on this subject.

19. The Committee invited countries to:

- assess the status and future trends in demands for forest benefits and take these into account in forest-related policies and measures;
- develop mechanisms that would harness the potential of markets to help deliver socio-economic benefits by improving access to resources and markets, and promoting the equitable sharing of benefits from forests, including through Payment for Ecosystem Services for Forests (PES) and other innovative financing mechanisms;



- favour enabling conditions that incentivize innovation and public and private sector investment in sustainable forest management;
- strengthen their governance framework and enhance participation of forest-dependent people and forest stakeholders in forest planning and management;
- enhance and align capacities of forest administrations with new mandates and roles, governing the management of forests for sustainable provision of benefits and creating enabling environments for related investment and innovation.

20. The Committee encouraged regional economic integration organizations and regional dialogue *fora*, including Regional Forestry Commissions, to foster dialogue and provide venues for information and experience exchange on improving access to resources and markets and strengthening governance mechanisms to sustainably provide and enhance the benefits from forests.

21. The Committee recommended that FAO support countries in:

- reviewing and revising national forest programmes to address people's benefits from forests more explicitly and directly in forest policies, programmes and plans of action and to address efficiency of production and waste reduction along value chains;
- strengthening tenure rights and governance processes, including through implementing the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests;
- enhancing and aligning capacities of forest-related public administrations to more effectively govern sustainable forest resource management and use, and to adapt to changing conditions and emerging challenges.

22. The Committee recommended that FAO, in collaboration with the World Bank and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), strengthen data collection and information management systems on people's use and benefits from forests, improve broad access to information, and strengthen transparency and accountability.

### **Innovations in the Forest Products Sector and Promoting Products from Sustainably Managed Forests**

23. The Committee encouraged countries to strengthen their efforts in:

- recognizing the potential contributions of forest products and bioenergy from sustainably managed forests in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- creating an enabling environment for fostering higher innovation, productivity and efficiency in implementing sustainable forest management and inclusive forest product value chains;
- engaging stakeholders in various discussion *fora* to instigate effective public-private partnerships for transferring knowledge, best practices and environmentally sound technologies, and for improving the performance of wood-based products to facilitate transition towards a bioeconomy;
- promoting positive perceptions in the society towards developing and using a wider range of innovative forest-based products as contributors to bioeconomy.

24. The Committee recommended that FAO support countries, particularly in:

- establishing inclusive value chains of innovative and competitive forest products which bring benefits to local communities;
- promoting the organization of small to medium forest producers to demonstrate the products they supply are sourced from sustainably managed lands in order to leverage their access to markets, including through the work of the Forest and Farm Facility;
- promoting sustainable consumption and production of wood-based products in bioenergy and sustainable building, through Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and similar studies taking into account the three pillars of sustainability, while noting existing work and focusing on specific areas where additional work is needed and appropriate;
- strengthening forest-based industries, producer associations, and community-based forest organizations, in order to raise the productivity and efficiency of the entire forest sector, and

thereby promoting innovations and cross-sectoral planning (for example agriculture, food security and energy);

- promoting sub-regional, inter-organizational and public-private cooperation, for capturing better comparative advantages in producing innovative forest products and bioenergy.

### **Income, Employment and Livelihoods**

25. The Committee welcomed the work done by FAO in collecting and reporting socio-economic data on forests, in particular on income, employment and livelihoods and on forests' direct contributions to the welfare of indigenous and local communities, and encouraged FAO to consider ways to continue and improve this work.

26. The Committee reaffirmed the importance of the collection of annual statistics on the production and trade of wood and non-wood forest products, as well as income, gender aspects and employment in the forest sector, and invited countries to consider ways to improve information about the socio-economic benefits of forests, in collaboration with other agencies responsible for welfare.

27. The Committee noted that information gathering activities about the informal forest sector should utilize cost efficient techniques and be guided by a clear idea of how the information can be used to improve people's lives. It was further noted that quantifying the increased socio-economic benefits from forests is an important component of the realization of payments for ecosystem services and thus for the realization of a return on investments in forest activities. It was also suggested to address challenges of employment e.g. by sharing successful cases.

28. The Committee recommended that FAO should increase efforts, in particular in the context of Strategic Objectives 1 and 3, including support to countries in the following:

- collection of more detailed information about income, gender aspects and quantitative and qualitative aspects of employment in forest-related activities, including in the informal sector;
- development and testing of methodologies to measure more accurately the contributions of forests to improved quality of life, with a focus on food security, nutrition and health; develop methods based on scientific evidence to document the contribution of ecosystem services;
- dissemination of information about the socio-economic benefits of forests and their contributions to broader development goals; and
- inclusion of socio-economic indicators in national forest monitoring and forest information systems.

### **Forests and Family Farming**

29. The Committee expressed its appreciation to FAO for its role in raising awareness of the connections between forests and family farming in events related to the International Year of Family Farming 2014.

30. Recognizing that clear and secure tenure is a precondition for sustainable land and forest management by family farmers and forest rights holders and owners, the Committee encouraged countries to implement the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests.

31. The Committee invited Members to:

- emphasize the connection between forests and family farms in events and celebrations related to the International Year of Family Farming;
- recognize the important role that forest-and-farm producer organizations and cooperatives can play in sustainable forest management and sustainable rural development, and encourage stakeholders, including the private sector to take a long term approach in engaging in forest producer organizations at all levels;
- create an enabling environment for forest communities (including indigenous and local communities), family forest owners, forest rights holders and forest and farm producer organizations, including clear tenure, fair access to markets and good service provision,

including incentive programmes and financing mechanisms for agroforestry, reforestation and sustainable community forest management;

- promote policies conducive for family farming and forestry backed by a sound legal framework;
- establish and strengthen platforms for cross-sectoral, multi-stakeholder dialogue and initiatives that link forestry and agriculture and other natural resource-related sectors to enable more effective coordination and communication at a landscape level that benefit rural forest and farming communities, and that facilitate integrated approaches to land use planning;
- create favourable conditions for the younger generation to become family farmers, forest producers;
- support the Forest and Farm Facility, which has a crucial role in supporting family forest owners and family farmers in increasing their technical, business, advocacy and organizational capacity.

32. The Committee recommended FAO to:

- continue to work on strengthening the links between forests and food security;
- continue to support the creation and strengthening of forest and farm producer organizations including through the Forest and Farm Facility and in partnership with other programmes;
- provide support to countries through knowledge sharing, technical assistance and capacity building;
- promote understanding and increase awareness of the links between forests and family farming and support forest communities, family forest owners, family farmers and their organizations in engaging with relevant international events and decision making processes;
- support countries in establishing and strengthening cross-sectoral multi-stakeholder platforms which promote coordination between agriculture, forestry and other natural resource sectors.

33. Consistent with the Strategic Framework, the Committee urged FAO to continue to work on forests and family farming to achieve concrete outputs from the International Year of Family Farming beyond 2014 and to strengthen the links between forests and family farms.

### **Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) and Forest Financing**

34. The Committee invited countries to strengthen their efforts to promote PES and other innovative financing mechanisms and to scale up successful initiatives that can generate significant positive environmental, social and economic outcomes.

35. The Committee invited FAO, in cooperation with the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and others, to strengthen their efforts to promote PES, facilitate sharing of knowledge and lessons learned and scale-up successful initiatives.

36. The Committee recommended that FAO support Members in:

- enhancing the effectiveness of current PES programmes, including progressive establishment of markets for PES;
- creating an enabling environment to introduce PES and cooperate with other agencies and countries in this regard;
- strengthening necessary capacities of forestry institutions engaged in PES to enable them to develop successful PES initiatives;
- developing better understanding of the concept related to the implementation of PES, building on already existing information;
- sharing knowledge on best practices and lessons learned and foster necessary cooperation to promote PES;
- awareness-raising about the value of forest ecosystem services and potential for PES;
- valuing contributions of forests to the national economies and developing national accounting systems for supporting the effective implementation of PES.

## V. CONTRIBUTION TO GLOBAL PROCESSES AND INITIATIVES

### Forests and the Sustainable Development Goals

37. The Committee expressed appreciation for the work of FAO and the CPF in highlighting the role of forest in sustainable development and to develop proposals for related goals, targets and indicators and ways for their inclusion in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
38. The Committee took note of the workshops organized by the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and FAO on forests and SDGs.
39. The Committee recommended that countries:
- coordinate and collaborate at national, regional and international level to ensure adequate consideration and visibility of forests in the SDGs and the post-2015 Development Agenda;
  - actively contribute to the development of the SDGs through the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and the UN General Assembly, by promoting the inclusion of goals, targets and indicators that recognize the multi-functionality of forests and their contribution to the three pillars of sustainable development.
40. The Committee recommended that FAO:
- continue to provide, in collaboration with CPF members and others, technical support to the development of appropriate targets and indicators on forests in the SDGs. To the extent possible, these should be based on existing forest-related goals, targets, indicators and data, including from existing Criteria and Indicator processes;
  - work with partners to develop improved indicators for the socio-economic benefits of forests in the context of the SDGs, especially as they relate to poverty reduction and food security.

### The Zero Hunger Challenge

41. The Committee invited countries to:
- strengthen their response to the Zero Hunger Challenge by developing evidence-based and inclusive forest policies as well as integrated cross-sectoral approaches to national food security and nutrition strategies and programmes that take into account the role of forests for food security and nutrition;
  - strengthen rights of access to, and sustainable management of forest resources by forest-dependent and local communities by applying the Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security;
  - manage forest ecosystems, rangelands and wildlife habitats sustainably and adopt practices that will enhance the resilience of food-production systems in the face of changing ecological, economic, social or political conditions;
  - promote policies that increase productivity of small-holders to fully tap the potential of forests and trees outside forests and hence improve their incomes, food security and nutrition in the context of sustainable forest management.
42. The Committee recommended that FAO, in the context of its new Strategic Framework, initiate actions to upscale its capacities for monitoring the contribution of forests to address the Zero Hunger Challenge at regional and global level, and to further support countries in:
- increasing understanding and knowledge of how forests and trees outside forests can address the Zero Hunger Challenge through adopting more inclusive, cross-sectoral national policies;
  - facilitating the sharing of experiences in upcoming global *fora*, including the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2), Expo Milano 2015, World Parks Congress 2014 and the World Forestry Congress 2015;
  - promoting an integrated approach taking into consideration an appropriate balance between conservation and management of forests and agricultural lands;

- promoting the vital contributions that forests and forest food make in addressing hunger and malnutrition;
- supporting efforts and investments in agroforestry and sustainably managed land in order to contribute to increased land productivity to reduce pressure on forests;
- developing mechanisms to improve data collection, monitoring and reporting related to the role of forests in food security and nutrition, including through future Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) data collection;
- strengthening the capacity to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate evidence-based forest policies, investments and programmes taking into consideration the role of forests in addressing the Zero Hunger Challenge as well as the role of women in food security.

43. The Committee requested FAO to present the contribution of forests to food security to the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) for its consideration.

### **The Zero Illegal Deforestation Initiative**

44. The Committee welcomed the document on Zero Illegal Deforestation Challenge highlighting the need for a coordinated approach across national, regional and international efforts to combat illegal deforestation and forest degradation, including through the UN-REDD Programme.

45. The Committee noted that the combat of illegal deforestation can involve a large number of tools and strategies, and encompass a wide range of institutions and stakeholders. Therefore, it should be underpinned by strong political will from national governments and be accompanied by the provision of the correspondent means of implementation, such as financing, capacity building and knowledge sharing. In this regard, international cooperation can play an important role in supporting planning and implementing initiatives to combat illegal deforestation.

46. The Committee invited countries to:

- work actively towards achieving zero illegal deforestation, drawing attention to the need to protect, conserve, restore and sustainably manage forest resources worldwide, in the framework of developing sustainable and more integrated land use policies, taking into due consideration the needs of the poor and potential effects on other stakeholders, including local communities, as well as the need to enhance agricultural productivity and the involvement of stakeholders;
- step up efforts to reduce deforestation and forest degradation and to invest in afforestation, reforestation and forest restoration;
- design and implement policies and programmes in support of achieving zero illegal deforestation, consistent with goals and targets previously set by other internationally agreed instruments related to forests and biodiversity, such as the Non-legally binding instrument of all types of forests, noting that it is upon countries to define illegal deforestation occurring in their national territories in accordance with their national laws;
- advocate at national and international level for zero illegal deforestation.

47. The Committee requested FAO to:

- assist countries, within the context of the Strategic Framework and Medium Term Plan-Programme of Work and Budget, to strengthen their efforts and capacities in policy and planning, information exchange and dialogue, as well as access to funding with a view to achieving zero illegal deforestation and strengthening sustainable management of natural resources;
- support countries in strengthening governance frameworks and enhancing law enforcement including by clarifying legal framework for land use planning, promoting coherence between land use policies and promoting transparency, participation and public access to information on land use matters and decisions;

- support countries in their efforts to develop capacity to monitor and assess forest resources, including causes of deforestation and forest degradation and overall land use change patterns, to support policy development and planning;
- organize a joint meeting of agriculture and forestry experts on integrated land use governance and sustainability issues before the next session of the Committee, aiming at supporting countries in their endeavours to find a balance between forestry and agriculture in an integrated way, subject to availability of extra-budgetary resources;
- continue its active participation in the work and further development of UN-REDD.

48. The Committee invited member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to enhance collaboration in this area.

### **Review of the Effectiveness of the International Arrangement on Forests**

49. The Committee took note of the update of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) Secretariat on the on-going process for the review of the effectiveness of the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF).

50. The Committee appreciated FAO's role as Chair of the CPF and encouraged FAO to contribute actively to the review of the International Arrangement on Forests.

51. The Committee also recognized that the CPF had made valuable contributions in support of UNFF, and in furthering forest issues within and outside the United Nations system.

52. The Committee invited Members to:

- consider further strengthening the CPF as a broad inter-agency coordination mechanism, in any future international arrangement on forests;
- actively coordinate across government agencies to guarantee that consistent messages are sent to the CPF member organizations, so that CPF activities are integrated in the respective programmes of work of CPF members;
- make sure that experts attending the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Open and Intergovernmental Ad Hoc Expert Group on the International Arrangement on Forests (AHEG) are fully informed of the outcome of the Committee's considerations.

53. The Committee encouraged governing bodies of CPF member organizations to:

- support the participation of their respective organizations in the work of the CPF through appropriate guidance to strengthening the efficiency, effectiveness and responsiveness of the CPF;
- facilitate inter-agency collaboration by allocating adequate resources.

54. The Committee invited UNFF to consider the State of the World's Forests 2014 as a major input to the review of the effectiveness of the IAF.

55. The Committee took note with appreciation of FAO's accomplishments in contributing to the IAF and requested FAO to:

- support the Secretary-General in preparing the analytical consolidated reports stipulated in UNFF resolution 7/1;
- continue its leadership role in the CPF, including, with the full participation of CPF members, consider new ways of strengthening the CPF and develop a vision for the future of the Partnership as an input to the review of IAF;
- increase efforts to disseminate the results and achievements of CPF to all stakeholders;
- continue incorporating fully the work under CPF in the Strategic Framework of the Organization, including the provision of adequate resources;
- report on the outcome of the review of IAF to the Committee at its 23<sup>rd</sup> Session.

## **The Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources**

56. The Committee welcomed the first report on the State of World's Forest Genetic Resources and the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources (FGR), acknowledging the importance of FAO's work in this area and confirming its urgency, especially for resources under threat at the global level.

57. The Committee recommended that countries:

- take action, as appropriate, to ensure the implementation of the Global Plan of Action;
- address the conservation and sustainable use of Forest Genetic Resources (FGR) through sustainable forest management, especially for resources under threat at the global level;
- improve the availability of, and access to, information on FGR;
- devote adequate resources to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, including in the context of technical cooperation and the framework of Official Development Assistance programmes.

58. The Committee recommended that FAO:

- support the effective implementation of the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources, including facilitating regional coordination and experience exchange and collaboration with CPF members in this regard;
- finalize the draft implementation strategy for review by the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) and report on the progress at the next session of the Committee;
- encourage continued cooperation, including through the regional forestry commissions and with relevant partners, such as Bioversity International, in addressing the global priorities of the plan of action;
- support countries as appropriate to address the Strategic Priorities for action of the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources, including finance and research in international, regional and national forest-related policy frameworks.

## **Forests and Gender Equality**

59. The Committee invited countries to increase efforts, including national coordination related to the Open Working Group and the UN General Assembly, to ensure adequate consideration of:

- gender issues in forestry in the deliberations of the UN Commission on the Status of Women at "Beijing +20";
- gender equality in the post-2015 Development Agenda;
- mainstream gender in national forestry policies, programmes and institutions and reorient these policies and programmes towards priorities and needs of forest users, especially the poorer majority of rural producers, with a clear focus on women and girls as producers and users of forests;
- increase the availability, access and use of gender-disaggregated data specifically in the forest sector to ensure that women's contributions are adequately recognized and reported;
- promote national networks of women in forestry;
- make provisions for gender-specific research within the forest sector.

60. The Committee recommended that FAO support countries by:

- strengthening capacity and providing technical support for gender mainstreaming and the collection of gender-disaggregated data in the forest sector;
- supporting the economic empowerment of women including access to, and control over, resources in the forestry value chain through enterprise development;
- applying gender analysis in forest-related projects and programmes;

- establishing a network of national focal points for sharing experiences and lessons learned on fostering gender equality in the forest sector; and promote collaboration among women networks at various levels;
- reporting back to the next session of the Committee on progress made on these recommendations.

61. The Committee recommended that gender and forestry be one of the themes for the XIV World Forestry Congress 2015.

## **VI. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF PAST SESSIONS OF THE COMMITTEE AND OTHER FAO GOVERNING BODIES**

### **Progress Report on the Implementation of the Recommendations of Past Sessions of the Committee and the Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW)**

62. The Committee welcomed the Report on progress in implementing the recommendations of past sessions and requested FAO to continue incorporating fully the Committee's recommendations in the Strategic Framework, noting that the Committee does and should play a critical role in influencing the programme priorities of FAO's work in forestry.

63. The Committee recommended to:

- maintain its overall objectives to conduct periodic reviews of the situation of forests and forestry worldwide, with a view to advising Member Nations and the Organization on forest issues with emphasis on integrating all environmental, economic and social aspects and the promotion of sustainable forest management, as well as the Council on matters pertaining to the priorities, programmes and budgets of the Organization, and to the Conference on global policy and regulatory matters, in its areas of mandate;
- include ways and means in its next MYPOW to increase interaction and coordination with other Technical Committees and the Regional Conferences so that forest issues are better integrated in the Strategic Framework of the Organization;
- maintain and develop further its coordination mechanism with the Regional Forestry Commissions and aim to better focus and identify priorities and topics at Regional Forestry Commissions;
- maintain and strengthen the method of developing the draft agenda for its sessions based on its coordination mechanism with the Regional Forestry Commissions and through a consultation with Members by the Chairperson of the Committee and the Steering Committee;
- invite the Steering Committee to maintain its active role in the inter-sessional period, including in developing the next draft MYPOW for the Committee;
- develop the next MYPOW on the basis of Terms of Reference in a more action-oriented manner, outlining clearly the areas of priority and distribution of work between Headquarters and Regional Offices, and use the MYPOW for monitoring and evaluation;
- maintain and enhance strong coordination with other FAO Governing Bodies in the course of the development of the MYPOW;
- request the Steering Committee to proactively facilitate such coordination, aiming at a MYPOW that is focused on forest issues, and consider linkages with non-forest sectors;
- invite Regional Forestry Commissions and other key regional and international forestry organizations to contribute to the shaping and development of the MYPOW, in order to facilitate policy and programme coordination between the global and regional levels;
- pay due attention to interaction between the Committee on Forestry and the civil society organizations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders in the next MYPOW;
- consider and evaluate the recommendations of the Independent Review of Governance Reforms to be conducted in 2014 to evaluate the relevance and usefulness of MYPOWs, and prepare relevant recommendations for the next session of the Committee;



- consider the issue of innovative funding as a topic to be put on the agenda of its next session, and to include a multi-stakeholder dialogue, engaging ministries of planning and zoning, and to address and build a strong case for REDD as a tool in the UNFCCC context to achieve SFM.

64. The Committee requested the Secretariat to develop a draft MYPOW on the basis of Terms of Reference and the above guidance, and in consultation with the Steering Committee, so that it could be presented for consideration and adoption by the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of COFO.

### **Sustainable Forest Management Toolbox**

65. The Committee welcomed the progress in the development of the Sustainable Forest Management Toolbox and invited countries to:

- actively participate in the testing, further development, finalization and use of the Toolbox;
- discuss how the Toolbox can contribute to SFM implementation considering the diverse country contexts and situations.

66. The Committee recommended that FAO:

- finalize the Toolbox, taking into account diverse country and user contexts, and make it available for pilot testing in countries;
- disseminate, promote and facilitate the use of the Toolbox by countries and institutions working on SFM, in cooperation with other CPF members;
- utilize the Toolbox in its own work to promote a comprehensive approach to SFM;
- report on progress at the next session of the Committee.

67. The Committee encouraged FAO to assess, in coordination with other CPF members, the demand and opportunity for developing a set of voluntary guidelines for multipurpose forest management planning, taking into account the requirements of the SFM principles and country capacities for using them, as well as already existing SFM guidelines.

### **Voluntary Guidelines on National Forest Monitoring**

68. Noting the importance of national forest monitoring for sustainable forest management and the development of forest policies, the Committee amended and endorsed the first two sections of the voluntary guidelines on national forest monitoring.

69. The Committee invited and encouraged Members, resource and technical partners to support FAO in the development and dissemination of the voluntary guidelines on national forest monitoring.

70. The Committee requested that FAO:

- complete the development of the voluntary guidelines for final endorsement by the next session, noting that the guidelines should specify the minimum basic information that should be collected for the monitoring of forests and trees outside forests, along with some of the most suitable techniques for measuring relevant variables, and that the scope of the guidelines should focus on information that can be actually collected;
- support the exchange of knowledge and information between countries about national forest monitoring.

### **Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism**

71. The Committee affirmed the importance of addressing different land-uses through more integrated approaches across the landscape and by strengthening inter-sectoral cooperation; and encouraged countries to support actions towards the achievement of the Bonn Challenge.

72. The Committee recommended that FAO

- support country efforts to plan and implement forest landscape restoration, through activities of the Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism (FLR) in collaboration with other global

partnerships and initiatives, such as the Global Partnership for Forest Landscape Restoration, International Model Forest Network, the Landscapes for People, Food and Nature initiative and members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests;

- engage in more cross-cutting and inter-departmental work under the new Strategic Framework, to support integrated approaches across the landscape to achieve greater food security, poverty alleviation, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and conservation and sustainable use of natural resources;
- continue resource mobilization activities in support of forest landscape restoration to ensure that the FLR Mechanism is fully funded through external support and operational as early as possible, and to report on countries progress towards meeting the Bonn Challenge at the next session of the Committee.

### **Enhancing Forest Communication**

73. The Committee welcomed FAO's work in communication and efforts made so far to build capacity and facilitate exchange of information through forest communicators' networks.

74. The Committee invited countries to:

- enhance communication capacities, including through active participation in and supporting the work of the regional forest communicators' networks, and to enhance information dissemination on forest issues;
- strengthen communication to raise the profile of forests including through the celebration of 21 March, the International Day of Forests.

75. The Committee requested that FAO:

- continue supporting the regional forest communicators networks, including through providing coordination at the global and regional levels;
- build on their contributions to future global forest-related events, including the World Forestry Congress;
- continue its efforts in the development of the forest communication toolkit;
- dedicate funding in projects and programmes to facilitate communication of progress and results.

### **Strengthening the Coordination and Cooperation between FAO Global Technical Committees**

76. The Committee welcomed this agenda item as a main vehicle for facilitating the cross-sectorial collaboration and stressed the benefits of including the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in these collaborative efforts.

77. The Committee:

- encouraged countries to strengthen collaboration of agriculture, fisheries, forestry and other land use sectors to promote the application of integrated approaches across the landscape;
- invited the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Fisheries to explore opportunities for collaboration with the Committee.

78. The Committee requested FAO to:

- continue promoting cross-sectoral collaboration within the FAO's Strategic Framework and its Objectives;
- promote the application of integrated approaches across the landscape, noting that this should not be done at the cost of sufficient focus and critical mass in tackling forest issues and sustainable forest management;
- elaborate, in consultation with the respective bureaux, a detailed proposal for collaboration, for the consideration of the Technical Committees in their forthcoming sessions; and
- report on progress at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Committee.

## Progress in Statutory Bodies and Key Partnerships

### *Advisory Committee on Sustainable Forest-Based Industries (ACSF)*

79. The Committee:

- recognized the role of the ACSFI as an important mechanism to channel the knowledge and solutions of the private sector into FAO Forestry Programme, and strengthen its delivery;
- encouraged FAO to support the ACSFI's new cross-sectoral initiative on Bio-Based Packaging: a Green Food Saver, as a way to reduce food loss and waste by strengthening collaboration between food producer groups, global food and forest product industries, brand owners, retailers, bio-based packaging manufacturers, and Research and Development institutions in Member Countries.

### *Advisory Panel on Forest Knowledge (APFK)*

80. The Committee welcomed the initiative and the steps taken towards the establishment of a global Advisory Panel on Forest Knowledge (APFK), endorsed the draft operational guidelines of the APFK and invited countries to support this initiative.

81. The Committee requested that the Panel:

- be time-bound and funded from extra-budgetary resources;
- have a broad scope and focus on technical, human and social issues of forest knowledge.

82. The Committee requested that FAO:

- continue enhancing the forestry-related knowledge base and, in collaboration with other partners, disseminating this knowledge, *inter alia*, by including education and research initiatives in FAO's regional activities under FAO's Strategic Objectives;
- report back on progress on the development and the work of the Advisory Panel on Forest Knowledge (APFK) at the Committee's 23<sup>rd</sup> Session.

### *Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions Silva Mediterranea*

83. The Committee:

- welcomed the first edition of the State of Mediterranean Forests (SoMF);
- took note of the Strategic Framework on Mediterranean Forests and the Tlemcen Declaration adopted by Silva Mediterranea members during the Third Mediterranean Forest Week;
- welcomed Strategic Lines and related actions proposed in the Strategic Framework on Mediterranean Forests and recommended for their implementation by Silva Mediterranea members;
- welcomed the results of the evaluation report prepared by the Independent Panel on the Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions-Silva Mediterranea;
- encouraged the members of Silva Mediterranea to take into account key recommendations proposed by the Independent Panel during their extraordinary session on 27 June 2014;
- encouraged countries and stakeholders to contribute to the work of Silva Mediterranea.

### *International Poplar Commission (IPC)*

84. The Committee took note of the reform process of the IPC and:

- invited countries to strengthen their agriculture and forest sectors by considering membership in the International Poplar Commission;
- invited Members to strengthen their national poplar commissions in line with the proposed IPC reform;
- encouraged the Executive Committee to continue the reform process of the International Poplar Commission;
- encouraged the IPC to seek additional members and broaden its scope to include equivalent species in different regions and include tropical and sub-tropical regions;

- recommended to take into account the existing networks and initiatives dealing with forest tree species, as well as their outcomes and deliverables to develop synergies with those networks and initiatives.

#### *Forest and Farm Facility (FFF)*

85. The Committee:

- welcomed the progress made in the operationalization of the Forest and Farm Facility and commended countries for supporting these efforts;
- noted the growing interest in several countries to collaborate with the Facility and invited Members in a position to do so to make financial or in kind contribution to the Facility to help meet growing demands.

#### *Mountain Partnership*

86. The Committee took note of the report on the Mountain Partnership and invited countries to:

- engage in or strengthen their presence in the Mountain Partnership;
- strengthen their capacities in sustainable mountain development;
- make financial or in kind contributions to support the work of the Partnership.

### **Decisions and Recommendations of FAO Bodies of Interest to the Committee**

87. The Committee took full account of the recommendations and decisions of bodies of interest to the Committee and considered them when addressing relevant agenda items of this Session.

## **VII. FAO'S PROGRAMME OF WORK IN FORESTRY UNDER THE REVIEWED STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

88. The Committee appreciated the clear synthesis of FAO's programme of work in Forestry in the context of the Organization's reviewed Strategic Framework, the key trends and issues that have been identified, and the recommendations of the Regional Forestry Commissions. It emphasized the need to consider FAO's work in forestry in the broader context of FAO's Strategic Framework, including its implications for food security, rural livelihoods, bioenergy, land use and other key areas of cross-sectorial cooperation.

89. The Committee expressed its appreciation for the Regional Forestry Commissions as a unique vehicle of regional – global collaboration and programme and policy coordination. It encouraged the Regional Forestry Commissions to provide guidance on areas of regional priority in forestry that inform and contribute to FAO's Strategic Objectives.

90. The Committee advised on the trends and emerging issues identified in Section III of the document and supported the comprehensive programme of work in forestry mainstreamed under and contributing to each of the Strategic Objectives. The Committee also highlighted the need to allocate sufficient financial resources to the work on forestry.

91. The Committee reiterated the importance of several topics and work areas including monitoring and assessment, forest ecosystem services, REDD+, urban and community forestry, integrated land use and landscape management, governance, gender, wood energy, forest biodiversity, innovation in forest products, and education. The Committee further noted the need for enhanced cross-sectorial collaboration including in the area of water, agriculture and fisheries; and for innovative approaches like the Rovaniemi Action Plan for the Forest Sector in a Green Economy adopted by the FAO European Forestry Commission and the UNECE Committee of Forests and the Forest Industry.

92. The Committee stressed the need for the Organization as a whole and the forestry programme in particular to continue to prioritize its activities in support of the new Strategic Framework. In that regard, the Committee emphasized the importance of ensuring that FAO's work in forestry was realistic to implement.

93. The Committee invited countries to ensure that the Country Programming Frameworks integrate government priorities in forestry to enhance country-level impact.

### **VIII. REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM DEFORESTATION AND FOREST DEGRADATION, AND THE CLIMATE SUMMIT 2014**

94. The Committee invited countries to:

- elevate the REDD+ discussions to the highest political level in the countries, regions and globally;
- support the forest initiative that will be launched at the UNSG Climate Summit in September 2014, including through indications of heightened commitments for reducing deforestation and forest degradation and for increasing forest restoration, as consistent with the Bonn Challenge and the Convention on Biological Diversity's Aichi Target 15;
- consider synergy between climate change mitigation and adaptation in their forest sector strategies and plans, and reflect this in their national climate change strategies (including National Adaptation Plans and REDD+ strategies) and related forestry strategies;
- strengthen mechanisms for intersectoral coordination and stakeholder consultation with the aim of improving land use policies and plans, addressing drivers of deforestation, and optimizing linkages between agriculture and forestry to achieve effective climate change adaptation and mitigation;
- simplify REDD+ programmes so as to be comprehensible and inclusive for all stakeholders.

95. The Committee took note that some countries expressed the need for establishing predictable, adequate and accessible financing mechanisms for developing countries to implement REDD+ strategies, while other countries recalled that negotiations on REDD+ are taking place under the UNFCCC.

96. The Committee recognized FAO's active and varied support to countries on forests and climate change mitigation and adaptation to date and requested that FAO:

- continue to provide assistance to countries for undertaking forest and climate change adaptation and mitigation actions, and for establishing and strengthening national forest monitoring systems to provide data and information needed for policy formulation, planning purposes and international reporting;
- provide support to countries to integrate forests and trees outside forests into their National Adaptation Plans and Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions;
- commensurate with FAO's mandate, expertise and resources and in synergy with the Zero Illegal Deforestation Challenge, as well as various relevant programmes, work in partnership with other organizations, including members of the CPF and UN-REDD, to support the launch of the forest initiative at the UNSG's Climate Summit and subsequently assist countries in implementing the initiative;
- increase the level of its support to countries for implementation of their REDD+ strategies and forest adaptation efforts (including capacity building, information, and intersectoral collaboration), both through its regular programme and expanded efforts made possible through mobilization of additional financial resources;
- contribute to clarifying the inter-relation between Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+;
- continue to support regional approaches and to foster regional collaboration on forests and climate change adaptation and mitigation, including related forest monitoring efforts;
- assist countries to strengthen links between agriculture, forestry and fisheries to foster comprehensive approaches to achieve food security and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

## IX. ENHANCING WORK ON BOREAL FORESTS AND DRYLAND FORESTS

### Enhancing Work on Boreal Forests

97. The Committee appreciated FAO's work in highlighting the importance of the world's boreal forests, and recognized the important role that boreal forests play in regulating global climate and in providing environmental, social and economic benefits.

98. The Committee invited interested countries to foster cooperation within the existing initiatives working on boreal forests, such as the informal Circumboreal Working Group through *inter alia* joint data collection and sharing information on boreal forests.

99. The Committee requested that FAO:

- scale up its support to countries on boreal forests, in accordance with its new Strategic Objectives and subject to available resources;
- address the specificities of boreal forests in the normative and field work of FAO, especially those related to forest protection, forest fires, wildlife management and carbon monitoring;
- continue exploring further possibilities for enhancing interdisciplinary work on boreal forests for consideration by the Committee at the next session.

### Enhancing Work on Dryland Forests

100. The Committee welcomed FAO's work on dryland forests and associated agrosilvopastoral systems, including the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and Sahel Initiative and other projects and initiatives, and recommended that this work to be scaled up.

101. The Committee invited countries to:

- work with FAO for the formulation of a global capacity development programme on sustainable management and restoration of dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems for scaling up existing good practices and approaches, and help identify partners and funding opportunities;
- support the work on dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems, including through providing extra budgetary contributions and seconding experts to FAO.

102. The Committee requested that FAO:

- undertake, within the framework of the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) and contingent upon the availability of extra-budgetary funding, a global assessment of the extent and status of drylands forests, rangelands and agrosilvopastoral systems to inform the countries and the working group proposed in the next paragraph about the identification of priority areas of work;
- undertake, in collaboration with partners and interested countries, an analysis of resilience strategies and practices in dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems, contributing to the achievement of FAO Strategic Objectives 2 and 5, and to a lesser extent, to FAO Strategic Objectives 3 and 1.

103. The Committee considered the relevance and benefits of establishing a working group on dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems and requested FAO to:

- collaborate with other partners and stakeholders including the Teheran Process Secretariat for Low Forest Cover Countries the work on dryland forests agrosilvopastoral systems;
- organize an *ad hoc* preparatory meeting to consider the draft terms of reference, modalities and other relevant arrangements for a working group on dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems;

- present a recommendation to the Committee for the establishment of the working group on dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems, for consideration and possible adoption at its next session.

#### **X. DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION**

104. Noting the need for the timing of Technical Committee sessions to enable the Programme and Finance Committees to take into consideration their reports in formulating advice to the Council, the Committee recommended that its next session be held in 2016 and suggested that the final date be decided by the FAO Secretariat in consultation with the COFO Steering Committee, following review of the FAO Calendar of Governing Body Sessions for the next biennium by the Council.

#### **XI. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

105. The Committee adopted the Report by consensus.

#### **XII. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION**

106. The Chairperson closed the session at 16.00 hours on Friday, 27 June 2014.

**APPENDIX A**  
**AGENDA for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of COFO**

1. Opening of the Session
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Election of Officers and Designation of the Drafting Committee
4. State of the World's Forests 2014: Enhancing the socio-economic benefits from forests
  - 4.1. Policy measures to sustain and enhance benefits
  - 4.2. Innovations in the forest products sector and promoting products from sustainably managed forests
  - 4.3. Income, employment and livelihoods
  - 4.4. Forests and family farming
  - 4.5. Payment for ecosystem services and forest financing
5. Contribution to global processes and initiatives
  - 5.1. Forests and the Sustainable Development Goals
  - 5.2. The Zero Hunger Challenge
  - 5.3. The Zero Illegal Deforestation Initiative
  - 5.4. Review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests
  - 5.5. The Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources
  - 5.6. Forests and gender equality
6. Implementation of the recommendations of past Sessions of the Committee and other FAO Governing Bodies
7. FAO's work in forestry under the reviewed Strategic Framework
  - 7.1. Program priorities
  - 7.2. Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, and the Climate Summit 2014
  - 7.3. Enhancing work on boreal forests and dryland forests
8. Date and place of the next Session
9. Adoption of the Report
10. Closure of the Session



**APPENDIX B**  
**LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

<b>Document symbol</b>	<b>Title</b>
COFO/2014/2	Provisional Agenda
COFO/2014/3	Election of Officers
COFO/2014/4	State of the World's Forests 2014
COFO/2014/4.1	Policy Measures to Sustain and Enhance Forest Benefits
COFO/2014/4.2	Innovations to Promote the Use of Wood-Based Products from Sustainably Managed Forests
COFO/2014/4.3	Income, Employment and Livelihoods from Forests
COFO/2014/4.4	Forests and Family Farming
COFO/2014/4.5	Payment for Ecosystem Services for Forests (PES) and Forest Financing
COFO/2014/5.1	Forests and the Sustainable Development Goals
COFO/2014/5.2	The Zero Hunger Challenge
COFO/2014/5.3	The Zero Illegal Deforestation Challenge
COFO/2014/5.4	Review of the Effectiveness of the International Arrangement on Forests
COFO/2014/5.5	The State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources and the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources
COFO/2014/5.6	Gender and Forestry
COFO/2014/6.1	Progress Report on the Implementation of the Recommendations of Past Sessions of the Committee and the Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW)
COFO/2014/6.2	Sustainable Forest Management Toolbox
COFO/2014/6.3	Voluntary Guidelines on National Forest Monitoring
COFO/2014/6.4	Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism
COFO/2014/6.5	Enhancing Forest Communication
COFO/2014/6.6	Strengthening the Coordination and Cooperation between FAO Global Technical Committees
COFO/2014/6.7	Progress in Statutory Bodies and Key Partnerships
COFO/2014/6.8	Decisions and Recommendations of FAO Bodies of Interest to the Committee
COFO/2014/7.1	FAO's Programme of Work in Forestry under the Reviewed Strategic Framework
COFO/2014/7.2	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, and the Climate Summit 2014
COFO/2014/7.3a	Enhancing Work on Boreal Forests
COFO/2014/7.3b	Enhancing FAO Work on Dryland Forests

**Information documents**

COFO/2014/Inf.1	Provisional Timetable
COFO/2014/Inf.2	List of Documents
COFO/2014/Inf.3	List of Participants
COFO/2014/Inf.4	Statement of Competence and Voting Rights Submitted by the European Union (EU) and its Member States
COFO/2014/Inf.5	Annotations for the Provisional Agenda