

Explanatory Notes on the Forum's 4POW for 2017-2020

- The Forum will carry out its core functions on the basis of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030. The Forum's 4POWs will represent the Forum's contribution to implementing the Plan and set the agenda for each Forum session within the quadrennium.
- Each 4POW will identify thematic and operational priorities and the resources needed by the Forum to take forward priority actions.
- The 4POWs will reflect the linkage between odd-year and even-year sessions of the Forum. As a general rule:
 - Odd-year sessions will focus on implementation and technical advice, including the science-policy interface, with inputs from CPF members and regional, subregional and non-governmental partners.
 - Even-year sessions will focus on policy dialogue, development and decision-making, taking into account the discussions and proposals of the previous session.
 - Odd- and even-year Forum sessions for a given biennium will be thematically linked. Themes for each biennium will be identified by the Forum based on the Global Goals and targets contained in the UNSPF, taking into account the annual themes and SDGs under review by the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).
- UNFF12 and UNFF 14 will focus on technical advice, and UNFF 13 and UNFF 15 will focus on policy dialogue, development and decision making.
- Since UNFF 12 in 2017 is the first session of the Forum following adoption of ECOSOC Resolution 2015/33 and the UN Strategic Plan for Forests, the session is transitional in nature and may take decisions on matters called for in ECOSOC resolution 2015/33 as needed to facilitate the Forum's work.

UNFF 4POW 2017-2020 (UNFF 12-15)

2017 – UNFF 12

UNFF Session	Priority Actions	Resource Needs
	1. Implementation of the UNSPF ¹ <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Technical discussion and exchange of experiences on the priority thematic areas for 2017-2018 (TBD) b. Announcement of the VPCs c. Enhancing involvement of stakeholders d. Other issues related to the UNSPF 	<i>to be added</i>
	2. Guidelines for operation of GFFFN and availability of resources (6.f.iv) ²	<i>to be added</i>
	3. Guidelines for CLIs and similar initiatives to enhance their contribution to the Forum’s work (6.e)	<i>to be added</i>
	4. Forum’s contribution to HLPF 2017 theme of “eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world” and review of SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14	<i>to be added</i>
	5. Cycle and format for national reporting on the UNFI (16.c)	<i>to be added</i>
	6. Actions taken by CPF to strengthen its operations in support of the UNSPF and 4POW 2017-2020	<i>to be added</i>

¹ This standing item will also cover the discussions on the priority thematic areas for all sessions of the Forum for the 2017-2020. The priority thematic areas will be identified in the 4POW at the Special Session in January 2017.

² Citations in parenthesis refer to the relevant paragraphs in E/2015/33 and the UNSPF

2018 – UNFF 13

UNFF Session	Priority Actions	Resource Needs
	1. Implementation of the UNSPF a. Policy dialogue on the priority thematic areas for 2017-2018 (TBD) b. Announcement of the VPCs c. Enhancing involvement of stakeholders d. Other issues related to the UNSPF	<i>to be added</i>
	2. Progress on implementation of the UNFI and VPCs	<i>to be added</i>
	3. Measures to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the GFFFN (14.a)	<i>to be added</i>
	4. Report on the UNFF Trust Fund	<i>to be added</i>
	5. Forum's contribution to HLPF 2018 theme of "transformation toward sustainable and resilient societies" and review of SDGs 6, 7, 11, 12 and 15;	<i>to be added</i>
	6. Progress in implementation of the ECOSOC resolution 2015/33 (56)	<i>to be added</i>
	7. CPF report on its activities in support of the UNSPF and 4POW 2017-2020	<i>to be added</i>

2019 – UNFF 14

UNFF Session	Priority Actions	Resource Needs
	1. Implementation of the UNSPF a. Technical discussion on the priority thematic areas for 2019-2020 b. Announcement of the VPCs c. Enhancing involvement of stakeholders d. Other issues related to the UNSPF	<i>to be added</i>
	2. Report on the GFFFN and availability of resources (6.f.iii & iv)	<i>to be added</i>
	3. Enhancing global forest policy coherence and a common international understanding of SFM (6.f.ii)	<i>to be added</i>
	4. Forum's contribution to HLPF 2019 theme of "empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality" and review of SDGs 4, 8, 10, 13 and 16	<i>to be added</i>
	5. Measures to better synchronize data collection and reduce reporting burdens (16.b)	<i>to be added</i>

2020 – UNFF 15

UNFF Session	Priority Actions	Resource Needs
	1. Implementation of UNSPF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Policy dialogue on priority thematic areas for 2019-2020 b. Announcement of the VPCs c. Enhancing involvement of stakeholders d. Other issues related to the UNSPF 	<i>to be added</i>
	2. Progress on implementation of the UNFI and VPCs	
	3. Report on the GFFFN and availability of resources(14.a) and its priority actions and resource needs for the 4POW 2021-2024	<i>to be added</i>
	4. Report on the UNFF Trust Fund	<i>to be added</i>
	5. Forum’s contribution to HLPF 2020 theme and SDG review	<i>to be added</i>
	6. CPF report on its activities in support of the UNSPF and 4POW 2017-2020	<i>to be added</i>
	7. UNFCCC report on implementation of Paris Agreement	<i>to be added</i>
	8. CBD report on the Aichi Biodiversity Targets	<i>to be added</i>
	9. High Level Segment including Forest Partnership Forum with CPF and NGO/private sector CEOs (6.d)	<i>to be added</i>
	10. Adoption of 4POW 2021-2024	<i>to be added</i>