

Minutes of the First Meeting of the UNFF15 Bureau

30 May 2019 (ET 9:30 – 11:20)

(Via Teleconference)

Participation

Bureau Members: Mr. Boris Greguška (Slovak Republic), Mr. Javad Momeni (Iran) and Mr. Khalid Cherki (Morocco) attended the meeting; Mr. Rob Busink (The Netherlands) provided inputs in writing; Ambassador Sweeb (absent)

UNFF Secretariat: Mr. Hossein Moeini Meybodi, Ms. Yan Lang.

Summary of Key Actions/Decisions

- 1. The Bureau agreed that the High-Level Segments (HLS) of the UNFF15 would be held for one full day, on Thursday, 7 May 2020 with its outcome to be a concise Declaration.**
- 2. The Bureau decided to conduct intersessional activity in preparation for the HLS and its outcome, in close consultation with Members of the Forum.**
- 3. The Bureau agreed to hold its next meeting in person.**

Provisional Agenda
First Meeting of the UNFF15 Bureau
30 May 2019 (ET 9:30 – 11:20)
(Via Teleconference)

- 1- Adoption of the provisional agenda**

- 2- Preparations for UNFF15:**
 - a. Date and venue of UNFF15**

 - b. Date, duration and outcome of the UNFF15 High Level Segment**

- 3- Other matters**

1. Adoption of the provisional agenda

Mr. Boris Greguška, Chair of the UNFF15 Bureau, welcomed members of the Bureau and UNFF Secretariat to the meeting. The provisional agenda of the meeting was adopted.

2. Preparation for UNFF15

a. Date and venue of UNFF15

The Bureau noted that the Fifteenth Session of the Forum had been proposed to be held from 4 to 8 May 2020, at the UN-HQ, in New York.

b. Date, duration and outcome of the UNFF15 High Level Segment

The Secretariat briefed the Bureau on the date, duration and outcome of the official high level segments held in the past sessions of the Forum. Referring to the UNFF11 resolution and the 4PoW, in which Members of the Forum agreed to hold a High-Level Segment (HLS) at the UNFF15, the Secretariat informed the Bureau on the possible options to organize the UNFF15-HLS.

The Bureau considered different options and agreed that the UNFF15-HLS would be held for one full day, on Thursday, 7 May 2020. It was agreed that the outcome of the HLS would be a concise Declaration at the maximum of 2-3 pages, to be adopted in the afternoon of 7 May during the HLS.

Given the short duration of UNFF15 session and its heavy agenda, the Bureau considered it necessary to plan for preparatory intersessional work to facilitate smooth adoption of the Declaration at UNFF15. In this regard, it was agreed that the Chair, on behalf of the Bureau, send a letter to Members of the Forum, informing them on its decision on dates and the expected outcome of the UNFF15- HLS. Through this letter, Members of the Forum would be also invited to propose key elements or building blocks for inclusion in the Declaration by the end of October 2019. Based on these feedbacks, Bureau would prepare a concise zero draft Declaration and would share with Members of the Forum in advance of UNFF15 sometime in March 2020.

Bureau Members also highlighted some of the key issues that could be included in the Declaration, including enforcing implementation of the UNSPF, and advancing means of implementation. The Bureau also noted the importance of taking into account the outcome of other major forest-related conferences.

The Bureau decided to discuss organizational matters for the HLS in its future sessions, as part of its discussions on UNFF15 organization of work.

3. Other matters

The Secretariat informed that the Chair of the UNFF15 Bureau would be invited to make brief remarks during the ministerial segment of the High Level Political Forum on the Sustainable Development (HLPF) in July 2019.

The Bureau agreed its next meeting to be in person. In this regard, the Bureau Members considered positively the possibility of holding this meeting during the COP of UNCCD to be held from 2-13 September, in India. The Bureau also agreed to discuss its evaluation of UNFF14 and the development on DESA reform pertaining to UNFF at its next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.