

Agreed omnibus resolution_ 5pm_ 10 May 2024

The Economic and Social Council, (*ECOSOC*)

Recalling its resolutions 2015/33 on the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF) beyond 2015, 2020/14 on the outcome of the fifteenth session of the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF), 2021/06 on the programme of work of UNFF (PoW) for 2022-2024, and 2022/17 on the outcome of the seventeenth session of the UNFF,

Welcoming the progress and achievement made by the Forum, its members and Secretariat, Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN), the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and its member organizations, regional and subregional partners, major groups, and other relevant stakeholders towards the objectives of the IAF:

I. Midterm review of the effectiveness of the IAF in achieving its objectives

A. Actions related to the UNFF and its members

1. *Invites* UNFF and its members to:
 - a. Strengthen international cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, as well as public-private partnerships and cross sectoral cooperation at all levels to promote sustainable forest management.
 - b. Strive to advance means of implementation, including new, and additional finance from all sources for reversing the loss of forest cover, protecting and conserving forests, halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation, restoring degraded forests, enhancing technological collaboration, sharing best practices, and scientific exchange at all levels.
 - c. Involve political leaders and high-level officials in international forest-related decision-making processes to help implement the UNFI, UNSPF and achieve the GFGs, and increase efforts to sustainably manage forests, halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation.
 - d. Highlight the significant contributions of forests and trees outside forests in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular, in relation to poverty eradication, and food security.
 - e. Promote inclusive and participatory decision-making modalities at the national, and subnational levels to, inter alia, enable the effective engagement of Indigenous Peoples, local communities and other stakeholders, and promote gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls and mainstream a gender perspective in the implementation of sustainable forest management.
 - f. Strengthen the implementation of forest-related national legislation and the provision and mobilization of means of implementation from all sources for sustainable forest management (SFM), and the achievement of the GFGs, taking into account the specific challenges faced by developing countries.
 - g. Enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies on forest-related issues at all levels to support implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change¹ and the Paris Agreement², the Convention on Biological Diversity³ and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at its COP15, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification⁴, including the Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Programme in line with their respective mandates.
 - h. Promote science-policy dialogues to support science-based decision-making on forests at local, national, regional, and global levels.
 - i. Promote the effective consideration of traditional knowledge of Indigenous Peoples as well as local communities in decision-making processes at the local, national, regional, and global levels.

¹ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1771, No. 30822

² Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

³ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

⁴ Ibid, vol. 1954, No. 33480

- j. Continue facilitating and catalyzing access to technical, financial, and scientific resources to strengthen the capacity of Forum members to implement SFM, considering, in particular the specific challenges faced by developing countries.

B. Actions related to the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat

2. *Requests* the UNFF Secretariat to:
 - a. Submit an information paper containing information on its workload, needs, and gaps in advance of its 20th session in 2025 for final consideration at its 21st session in 2026.
 - b. Continue to use a hybrid/virtual format meeting, whenever the logistical arrangement is possible, for sharing information with Members of the Forum, CPF members, regional and subregional partners, and Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders and briefing them on the work and preparations for Forum's session during the intersessional period, taking into full account the need for inclusivity and transparency for virtual meetings.
 - c. Facilitate greater cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies and engage technical and financial organizations and other international cooperation mechanisms to enhance the implementation of SFM and the contribution of forests to address climate change, desertification, land degradation, biodiversity loss, pollution, water scarcity, poverty, and food insecurity, among others, considering different national circumstances and the relevant mandates of those organizations.
 - d. Improve and regularly share information with UNFF National Focal Points, and Permanent Missions in New York, through effective communication tools, to inform them on its activities, raise awareness on the multiple economic, social, and environmental values and benefits of forests.
 - e. Share information with UNFF members and partners about changes, accomplishments, as well as challenges affecting the implementation of the UNSPF and achievement of the GFGs.
 - f. Maximize participation, efficiency, and value of UNFF sessions and other meetings by effective allocation of time, resources, facilitation, and agenda development, including use of innovative approaches, as feasible.
 - g. Report to the Forum at each session on the progress made on the actions that UNFFS has been invited to undertake.
3. Invites the United Nations General Assembly, following the discussion at UNFF21 in 2026, to consider appropriate resourcing of the UNFF Secretariat to perform its responsibilities and mandates in an efficient, effective, and sustainable manner.

C. Actions related to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests

4. *Invites* Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and its member organizations to:
 - a. Continue to enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies, including through streamlining reporting and data sharing, as appropriate, on SFM and their forest agendas in a holistic and integrated manner, through addressing the interlinkages of climate change, biodiversity loss, desertification, and sand and dust storms, land degradation, pollution, drought, watershed management, poverty, and food insecurity among others, taking into account the respective mandate of its members.
 - b. Consider focusing the CPF workplan on supporting the implementation of the UNSPF and the achievement of its GFGs, as well as other multilaterally agreed forest-related goals, with clear priorities, actions, joint activities, resources, outputs, and indicators for assessing the progress, and in this respect, structure CPF reports on its workplan to UNFF around the GFGs.
 - c. Regularly undertake assessments of its completed joint initiatives to identify challenges, successes, lessons learned, and the contributions of the joint initiatives to the GFGs, and share those assessments with its members, members of the Forum, and other relevant stakeholders.

- d. Enhance interaction and communication, including through a hybrid format, with members of the Forum, regional and subregional partners, Major Groups, and other relevant stakeholders on its activities by organizing short briefing meetings.
 - e. Report to UNFF at each session on the progress made on actions that CPF has been invited to undertake.
 - f. Conduct an assessment of options to strengthen collaboration within the Partnership and send consistent and supportive messages on the work of the CPF to their respective governing bodies, and consider funding of the CPF activities, as appropriate.
 - g. Engage more actively in the work of the GFFFN.
5. Invites:
- a. The Forum and its Bureau to proactively reach out to the governing bodies of CPF member organizations to strengthen collaboration and support to the work of the CPF.
 - b. The governing bodies of the CPF members to integrate the UNSPF, GFGs and associated targets, to CPF members' plans and operational programmes of work in accordance with their respective mandates and to take mutually beneficial decisions on strengthening the Partnership.
 - c. Members of the Forum to support coordination and collaboration among national focal points of CPF member organizations.
6. *Encourages* non-UN members of the CPF, which may be better placed for receiving private sector and philanthropic contributions, to engage with those partners to generate support, including funding for the CPF activities.

D. Actions related to the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network

7. *Invites* members of the Forum to:
- a. **Strive to** strengthen the provision and mobilization of, and access to new and additional resources from all sources, given the importance of predictability for the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of forests, in particular for developing countries, including through innovative mechanisms.
 - b. Support effective realization of the GFGs, particularly in developing countries, including through promoting, developing, and using innovative financial mechanisms, including payments for ecosystem services, blended finance, sustainable financing policies, as appropriate, recognizing the importance of improved enabling environments for finance and investment.
 - c. Foster cooperation and public-private partnerships on science, technology in the forest sector, and engage sectors beyond the forest sector to unlock sustained finance and align financial flows to help support forest conservation, restoration and sustainable use and management goals.
 - d. Recognize, respect, and protect forest tenure and/or user rights of both men and women, provide support and foster inclusivity in accessing forest finance, as appropriate, among others, for smallholders, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and the private sector when investing in SFM.
 - e. Consider in national forest financing strategies the distinct needs and roles of different stakeholders.
 - f. Use the Clearing House website as a key source on forest financing, and share their lessons learned and best practices and success stories regarding forest financing for publishing on the Clearing House website.
 - g. Encourage and facilitate the exchange of experiences of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation's (GFFFN) assistance to countries to develop national forest financing strategies, particularly financing mechanisms used, and the results achieved.
8. *Invites* members of the Forum in a position to do so, and others to consider providing voluntary contributions to the UNFF trust fund to scale up the activities of the GFFFN, including its Clearing House on Forest Financing and staffing.
9. *Encourages* members of the Forum:
- a. To approach training in forest financing, including for halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation and restoring degraded forests, and supporting the conservation, restoration, and sustainable

management of all types of forests, as a long-term commitment that benefits from staff consistency and the periodic renewal of skills.

- b. When requesting GFFFN support to assist in facilitating their access to funding from various sources, such as the Adaptation Fund, Green Climate Fund (GCF) and Global Environment Facility (GEF), to promote country ownership and enhance cooperation, including by engaging, as appropriate, with relevant implementing agencies or accredited entities and national focal points and national designated authorities.

10. *Requests* the UNFF secretariat to:

- a. Continue to update and maintain the GFFFN Clearing House website and publicize the UNFF Clearing House on Forest Financing Quarterly Highlight more widely and prominently on the UNFF website.
- b. Make use of digital tools and innovative technologies, including artificial intelligence, to improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the GFFFN activities when feasible.
- c. Support Members of the Forum, upon their request to assist countries in mobilizing, gaining access to and enhancing the effective use of existing financial resources from all sources for sustainable forest management to enhance the achievement of the GFGs and targets, in line with their national forest priorities.

d. With a view to informing the forum at each session on the role, functions and funding of the proposed office of the GFFFN in Beijing, provide comprehensive written updates on the abovementioned items once agreed in line with the GFFFN mandate.

11. *Invites* the relevant multilateral funds, institutions, and their accredited entities such as the GEF and the GCF to enhance collaboration with the GFFFN, as appropriate and in line with their respective mandates, as a means of supporting and facilitating countries' access to forest finance.

12. *Encourages* members of the CPF who are accredited to the financing institutions to continue cooperation with the UNFF Secretariat in supporting the work of the GFFFN, including in the facilitation and preparation of the project proposals, and mobilization of resources to this end.

E. Actions related to the trust fund for the United Nations Forum on Forests

13. *Invites* members of the Forum, in a position to do so, to:

- a. Provide sustainable and consistent voluntary funds to the trust fund to enable the UNFF secretariat to perform its functions and activities in support of the work of the Forum, its members, and partners, including a balanced representation of developed and developing countries at Forum-related meetings.
- b. Explore options to attract further voluntary contributions to the trust fund.

F. Actions related to the implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030

14. *Invites* members of the Forum to:

- a. Accelerate implementation of UN Forest Instrument (UNFI), and the UNSPF, attach high priority to achieving all the GFGs and targets by 2030, and enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies with other forest-related MEAs and processes.
- b. Increase the visibility of Voluntary National Contributions (VNCs⁵) and sharing of successful SFM cases at all levels, including through online platforms and social networks.
- c. Enhance international cooperation to support developing countries' capacities to monitor, assess, and report on the implementation of the UNFI and UNSPF.
- d. Enhance inter-sectoral collaboration at the national level, as well as the contributions and roles of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, youth, Major Groups, private sector, and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the UNSPF and achieving its GFGs.

⁵ Please see paragraph 30 to 32 of the UNSPF.

15. Endorses the timeline for the next reporting cycle to UNFF for 2024-2026⁶ and establishes the advisory group on reporting to UNFF, in accordance with the terms of reference contained in the note by the secretariat to the eighteenth session of UNFF⁷, and decides to complete the work of the advisory group on reporting to UNFF in 2026.
16. Takes note of the amended format for national reporting and entrusts the UNFF Secretariat to finalize the format, in close consultation with the advisory group on reporting to UNFF and encourages Forum members to submit voluntary national reports using this format.
17. *Requests* the UNFF secretariat to:
 - a. Disseminate relevant information among members regarding the preparation of the Voluntary National Reports (VNRs) in a timely manner.
 - b. Consult with the Advisory Group on Reporting to UNFF to make use of information received in the next reporting cycle on the transparent development of a short, concise Global Forest Goals Report in close consultation with member organizations of the CPF, within existing resources.
 - c. Within existing resources, conduct capacity building activities, jointly with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and other partners, on facilitating the exchange of information related to monitoring, assessment, reporting on GFGs and provide assistance in preparing their national reports, and innovative techniques, technology, and knowledge management, utilizing virtual and hybrid means where feasible.
18. *Invites* CPF and its member organizations to:
 - a. Continue the ongoing work of the Global Core Set of Forest-related indicators, in particular all Tier 3 indicators.
 - b. Further enhance coordination, streamline reporting and data sharing activities, and make use of the existing global publications and reports on forests.
 - c. Organize a joint workshop on international reporting on forests for focal points of all relevant CPF member organizations to enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies in line with their respective mandates, and reduce the reporting burden on countries.

G. Actions related to the contributions of the Forum to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

19. *Invites* members of the Forum to:
 - a. Consider inclusion of forest experts in their delegations at the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) and to key meetings of the three Rio conventions and other relevant international intergovernmental bodies as appropriate.
 - b. Enhance coordination, including among their respective national UNFF and HLPF focal points and with Permanent Missions in New York to highlight SDG interlinkages in HLPF preparatory meetings and declarations.
 - c. Involve Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders in their VNR and Voluntary Local Report (VLR) preparation processes, as appropriate.
 - d. Provide timely, concise and impactful input to the UNFF Bureau to inform the UNFF message to the HLPF regarding the cluster of SDGs to be discussed at the following year's session of the HLPF.
 - e. Enhance coordination within governments and deliver consistent targeted messages on forests and SDG interlinkages across ECOSOC bodies, the Rio conventions, other CPF member organizations, and other relevant intergovernmental fora in which they participate, in line with national priorities, and in a manner consistent with relevant mandates.

⁶ Presented by the UNFFS during the UNFF Expert Group Meeting (EGM in June 2023 in United Nations Office in Nairobi Kenya) <https://www.un.org/esa/forests/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Note-EGM-reporting-timeline-online-tool.pdf>

⁷ See E/CN.18/2023/5.

20. *Invites* the UNFF Bureau, in a transparent and inclusive manner, and in consultation with the respective regions and Forum members to:

- a. Continue to provide, with the support of the UNFF Secretariat, timely inputs to the HLPF on SDG interlinkages on behalf of UNFF and focus extra effort on SDG Summit years and the years during which SDG 15 is under review, and ensure these inputs are concise, targeted, and actionable in the form of “key messages” that can be inserted “as is” into HLPF declarations, with supporting text attached as needed.
- b. Work closely with UNFF focal points in capitals and the Permanent Missions in New York to help ensure UNFF key messages are well-reflected in HLPF declarations.
- c. Engage with Forum members, Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders to take into account their views in the preparation of the input to the HLPF on behalf of the UNFF.

21. *Requests* the UNFF secretariat to:

- a. Assist and facilitate the UNFF Bureau and Forum members with respect to para 20 above.
- b. Continue to include in the documentation for UNFF sessions a brief analysis of the extent to which UNFF inputs were reflected in the previous year’s HLPF declaration.
- c. Engage early on with the UNFF focal points of members conducting HLPF Voluntary National Reviews in a given year to encourage the highlight of SDG interlinkages.
- d. Enhance collaboration with DESA/OISC and the secretariats of the UN regional economic commissions to inform forest-related intergovernmental inputs to the HLPF, including for their regional forums on sustainable development and regional VNR workshops.
- e. Enhance collaboration on achieving the SDGs with the secretariats of the three Rio conventions and other relevant bodies and conventions on forest-related issues of mutual interest, in line with respective mandates.
- f. Prepare a concise report and/or targeted communication products suitable for a variety of audiences to highlight the contributions of forests to the SDGs under review each year, their interlinkages, especially those with SDG15, and the critical importance of achieving target 15.b to fully realize these contributions, drawing on the FRA, the Global Forest Goals Report, and relevant scientific studies.

22. *Invites*:

- a. CPF and its members to coordinate on “topline” key messages to the HLPF on forest interlinkages to the SDGs under review each year, including benefits of, challenges and threats to forests.
- b. Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders to share SDG interlinkages by engaging early on in their countries’ VNR and VLR preparation processes and working closely with the “organizing partners” of their corresponding HLPF stakeholder group in preparing inputs to the HLPF process.
- c. UN regional economic commissions to promote forest-SDG interlinkages, both benefits and challenges, including through their regional forums on sustainable development.

23. *Invites* the Secretariat of ECOSOC, under the guidance of the President of the Council, to streamline and focus the annual template for intergovernmental inputs to HLPF to facilitate concise, targeted, and actionable inputs for inclusion in HLPF declarations.

H. Actions related to the communication and outreach strategy of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030

24. *Invites* Forum members, the UNFF secretariat, CPF and its members, regional and sub-regional organizations and Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders to continue their work in implementing the Communication and Outreach Strategy (COS) of the UNSPF, recognizing the importance of communication in actions related to education, awareness, and advocacy, which cannot be reduced to the dissemination of information.

25. *Requests* the UNFF secretariat to:

- a. *Strengthen* cost-effective use of available resources and existing and emerging communication options, including innovative and interactive methods, such as collaborations with influencers, surveys, and contests.
 - b. Upgrade the structure and content of the UNFF website within existing resources.
 - c. Develop a communication and outreach plan to set out its proposed short-term and medium-term activities in support of implementing the COS-related objectives, messages, and communication channels for different audiences, together with metrics for monitoring and evaluation, and share this directly with members for inputs.
 - d. Develop, with CPF support, short, sharp policy briefs on the thematic priorities of the Forum and continue its GFG report to highlight the benefits that forests and trees outside of forests bring for other global priorities and to raise awareness in sectors beyond forestry and among high level decision makers.
 - e. Make greater use of its convening power to widen participation in the Forum's high-level round tables to strengthen engagement beyond the forest sector.
 - f. Prominently post the UNFF Bureau's annual key messages to HLPF on the UNFF home page and provide accompanying infographics and other relevant communication products.
 - g. Develop communication products to raise awareness on the multiple social, economic and environmental values and benefits of forests in a balanced and integrated manner and on the important role of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women and girls and people in vulnerable situations.
 - h. Raise the visibility of the GFGs by exploring development of short, memorable titles, in consultation with UNFF members, in a fully transparent and inclusive manner, for each of the six GFGs similar to those used for the SDGs icons.
 - i. In coordination with CPF members and their existing educational and youth-oriented programmes, promote educational and youth outreach activities, both formal and informal, to help younger generations understand the multiple social, economic, and environmental values and benefits of forests and trees outside forests and learn about the UNSPF and its GFGs.
 - j. Strengthen advocacy, for example by widening participation in the Forum's high-level round tables and other actions that help high-level decision-makers and senior government officials to understand better the contribution that forests and trees can make towards achieving wider policy goals.
26. *Invites members of the Forum to* explore options for identification of effective forest-related projects and interventions that contribute to the implementation of UNSPF and share them through communication materials.
27. *Encourages* CPF members engaged in the Global Forest Education Initiative and Forum members to make full use of the opportunities it presents to raise awareness of the importance of forests and trees outside forests, and the role of SFM, through elementary (primary) and secondary school curricula, as well as promoting forest-related studies at the tertiary level.
28. *Invites* regional and sub-regional organizations to consider the possibility of developing regional communication and outreach plans with messages that reflect regional priorities and needs regarding forests and SFM.
29. *Invites* Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders to continue to use their voices to highlight concerns and propose practical solutions to problems associated with forests.

I. Actions related to the involvement of regional and subregional partners

30. *Invites* the regional and subregional partners to:
- a. Sustain support to countries in their respective regions to prepare them for UNFF and related sessions under other relevant conventions and frameworks.
 - b. Pursue engagement of regional or subregional financial institutions, such as regional development/investment banks, to expand collaboration on issues related to forests and to attract funding for their forest-related activities and participation in relevant meetings.
 - c. Explore options to organize regional/subregional partner-led initiatives to provide inputs to the Forum and implement regional, subregional, and transboundary forestry initiatives leading to the achievement of GFGs.

- d. Consider incorporating the contribution to the GFGs in their respective strategies, plans, programs, and strategies, as appropriate.
- e. Strengthen collaboration across sectors and facilitate partnerships to promote sustainable forest-based bioeconomy approaches and restoration of ecosystems, contributing to improved livelihoods, including through building capacities of women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities, underlining the need to ensure sustainable patterns of consumption and production.
- f. Engage major groups and other relevant stakeholders in their forest-related activities.

31. *Invites* the Forum to:

- a. Consider ways to enhance support to the regional/subregional partners, such as UN regional economic commissions and fora, including by organizing capacity development workshops on issues such as monitoring and reporting on the GFGs and the SDGs, and training workshops on resource mobilization.
- b. Consider including in its technical sessions, specific meetings to regions, on a rotating basis, to share their experiences and issues related to the implementation of UNFI and the UNSPF.
- c. Engage more actively with regional financial institutions/development banks to build relationships and networking.
- d. Promote cross-regional collaboration and information-sharing on success stories and best practices on the implementation of the UNFI, UNSPF and the GFGs and include regional perspectives in potential future issues of the Global Forest Goals Report.
- e. Promote interaction between relevant regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations with CPF, Major Groups, and other relevant stakeholders.

32. *Invites* the Forum to enhance equitable representation of regional and sub-regional organizations from developing countries' regions in the work of UNFF.

33. *Invites* the Forum to consider ways and means to enhance the GFFFN's ability to cooperate with relevant intergovernmental regional and sub-regional organizations and their member countries, while respecting the GFFFN guidelines and mandate.

34. *Requests* the UNFF secretariat to continue collaboration with regional and subregional partners to better understand the needs of countries in those regions and identify actions to address the related gaps and problems.

J. Actions related to the involvement of Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders

35. *Invites* the Forum, the UNFF secretariat, and UNFF Bureau to:

- a. Promote the engagement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the work of the Forum.
- b. Use UNFF sessions as a platform for the exchange of ideas and best practices on how stakeholders could better capture action opportunities from forest-related instruments, processes, commitments, and goals and track the progress therein.
- c. Support countries with collecting data on best practices promoted by Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, and youth, on the implementation of the UNSPF, including tree planting in line with SFM principles and ecosystem restoration.
- d. Consider organizing a capacity building workshop, subject to funding availability, on fundraising for Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders to implement the UNSPF and achieve the GFGs, ensuring equitable geographic representation.

36. *Invites* Forum members to:

- a. Engage Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders in advancing SFM and sustainable forest-based bioeconomy approaches and restoration of ecosystems in a more holistic, multisectoral, livelihoods-oriented approach, underlining the need to ensure sustainable patterns of consumption and production.
- b. Include and consider the contribution of Major Groups and other stakeholders in all relevant forest-related instruments, processes, commitments, and goals and Global Forest Goals Reports.

- c. Support Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders in mobilizing increased financial resources from all sources and at all levels to facilitate their engagement in the implementation of the UNSPF.
- d. Consider ways to facilitate initiatives led by Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders to prepare their inputs to the UNFF sessions.

37. *Invites* the CPF to engage in dialogue and examine joint activities with Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders to promote the implementation of the UNSPF.

38. *Welcomes* the establishment of the IAF Major Groups Internal Coordination Mechanism for implementation of UN Strategic Plan for Forests and interaction and participation in the Forum.

39. *Invites* Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders to:

- a. Provide information regarding their existing internal coordination mechanism, and their suggestions and options for effectively improving their internal coordination for consideration to UNFF.
- b. Use the UNFF sessions and related intersessional events as opportunities to explore ways for retaining the practice of intra-Major Groups and other relevant stakeholders' consultation, without compromising the pace of processes or action.
- c. Ensure their internal coordination mechanism allows for a balanced representation of subject matter experts based on transparent and inclusive processes for effective participation in the UNFF.
- d. Develop a joint strategy and update their workplans in support of both UNFF policy dialogue and implementation of UNSPF.
- e. Communicate their contributions to the UNSPF with their constituencies and the Forum.
- f. Seize opportunities and secure resources for dialogue or action, including generating new and additional funding for SFM by enhancing the visibility of its benefits in different global agendas.
- g. Facilitate the adequate and equitable representation of Major Groups and other stakeholders from developing countries, including people in a vulnerable situation, in the work of UNFF.
- h. Explore means to promote partnership with the large-scale forest industry groups.

II. Quadrennial Programme of Work of the Forum for 2025-2028

40. *Decides* to adopt the quadrennial programme of work of the Forum for 2025-2028, as contained in annex to this resolution.

Annex: Quadrennial Programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for 2025-2028 (4PoW)

General guidance⁸

1. The quadrennial programmes of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests (4PoW) represent its contribution to implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 (UNSPF) and achieving the global forest goals (GFGs) and associated targets and provide a framework for setting the agendas for annual sessions within the quadrennium.
2. The quadrennial programme of work of the Forum for the period 2025–2028 includes two thematically linked bienniums: 2025–2026 (twentieth, and twenty first sessions of the Forum) and 2027–2028 (twenty second, and twenty third sessions). Thematic priorities for each biennium will be based on the GFGs and targets, taking into account the programme of the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) and relevant international forest-related developments. The thematic priorities cover all six GFGs, starting with GFGs 1, 3 and 5 for the first biennium 2025-2026 and GFGs 2, 4, 6 for the second biennium 2027-2028.
3. The twentieth and twenty second sessions of the Forum in 2025 and 2027 will be technical session that will include an interactive exchange of experiences and lessons learned on thematic priorities among members of the Forum, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and its member organizations, regional and subregional organizations and processes, and major groups and other relevant stakeholders. The interactive exchange will include consideration of the science-policy interface and cross-sectoral and emerging issues and will take into account youth, gender and regions perspectives.
4. The output of the twentieth and twenty second session will be a concise Chair's summary that may include proposals for consideration at the Forum's policy session in 2026, and 2028. The tables below outline the general work programme for the twentieth, twenty first, twenty second and twenty third sessions of the Forum.

⁸ The general guidance is similar to the agreed guidance by the ECOSOC on the programme of work of the Forum in paragraph 1 to 4 of annex to ECOSOC resolution 2020/14 at:

<https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/n20/192/44/pdf/n2019244.pdf?token=m2RhNmFc4dgJ9UCLex&fe=true>

Minor adjustments are made to reflect the reference to Forum's sessions and related years.

Table 1: Twentieth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, 2025 (technical session)

1. Priorities in support of implementation of the UNSPF: Thematic priorities for the biennium 2025-2026 are GFGs 1, 3 and 5.
2. Other technical session items
 - a) Contributions of members of the Forum to implementing the UNSPF: progress in the implementation of the outcomes of the IAF midterm review (IAF-MTR), report on the outcomes of the Country-Led Initiatives (CLIs), new announcements of voluntary national contributions, updates on voluntary national contributions and their follow-up related to the thematic priorities,
 - b) Contributions of and enhanced cooperation with partners to achieving the thematic priorities
 - i. Contributions of the CPF, its member organizations and the United Nations system to achieving the thematic priorities; progress on the workplan of the Partnership
 - ii. Contributions of regional and subregional organizations and processes to achieving the thematic priorities
 - iii. Contributions of major groups and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and philanthropic community, to achieving the thematic priorities; progress on major group workplans
 - k. Interlinkages between the global forest goals and targets and the Sustainable Development Goals under review by the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2025 and 2026, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change⁹ and the Paris Agreement¹⁰, the Convention on Biological Diversity¹¹ and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at its COP15, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification¹², including the Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Programme, and other international forest-related developments
 - c) Implementation of the communication and outreach strategy of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, including activities regarding the International Day of Forests 2025
 - d) Means of implementation, including operations and resources of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network
 - e) Monitoring, assessment, and reporting: voluntary national reports; capacity building for reporting; global core set of forest-related indicators; next Global Forest Goals Report,
3. Forum trust fund
4. Emerging issues

⁹ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1771, No. 30822

¹⁰ Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

¹¹ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

¹² Ibid, vol. 1954, No. 33480

Table 2: Twenty-first session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, 2026 (policy session)

1. Priorities in support of implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017 –2030: Thematic priorities for the biennium 2025-2026 are GFGs 1, 3 and 5
2. Other policy session items and consideration of relevant proposals contained in the Chair’s summary from the twentieth session
 - a) New announcements of voluntary national contributions
 - b) Progress in the implementation of the outcomes of the IAF-MTR
 - c) Report on the outcomes of the CLIs
 - d) Updates by stakeholders and partners on activities in support of the thematic priorities
 - i. Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its workplan
 - ii. Regional and subregional organizations and processes
Major groups and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and philanthropic community.
 - e) Interlinkages between the global forest goals and targets and the Sustainable Development Goals under review by the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2025 and 2026, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change¹³ and the Paris Agreement¹⁴, the Convention on Biological Diversity¹⁵ and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at its COP15, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification¹⁶, including the Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Programme, and other international forest-related developments
 - f) Implementation of the communication and outreach strategy of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, including activities regarding the International Day of Forests 2026
 - g) Means of implementation, including operations and resources of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network
 - h) Monitoring, assessment and reporting: voluntary national reporting on progress in implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, the United Nations Forest instrument and voluntary national contributions,
3. Forum Trust Fund
4. Initial discussions on the final review of the effectiveness of the IAF in achieving its objectives
5. Emerging issues

¹³ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1771, No. 30822

¹⁴ Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

¹⁵ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

¹⁶ Ibid, vol. 1954, No. 33480

Table 3: Twenty-second session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, 2027 (technical session)

1. Priorities in support of implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017 –2030: Thematic priorities for the biennium 2027-2028 are GFGs 2, 4 and 6
2. Other technical session items
 - a) Contributions of members of the Forum to implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030: progress in implementation of the outcomes of the IAF-MTR, report on the outcomes of the CLIs, new announcements of voluntary national contributions, updates on voluntary national contributions and their follow-up related to the thematic priorities,
 - b) Contributions of, and enhanced cooperation with, partners to achieving the thematic priorities
 - i. Contributions of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, its member organizations and the United Nations system to achieving the thematic priorities; progress on the workplan of the Partnership
 - ii. Contributions of regional and subregional organizations and processes to achieving the thematic priorities
 - iii. Contributions of major groups and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and philanthropic community to achieving the thematic priorities; progress on major group workplans
 - c) Interlinkages between the global forest goals and targets and the Sustainable Development Goals under review by the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2025 and 2026, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change¹⁷ and the Paris Agreement¹⁸, the Convention on Biological Diversity¹⁹ and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at its COP15, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification²⁰, including the Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Programme, and other international forest-related developments
 - d) Implementation of the communication and outreach strategy of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, including activities regarding the International Day of Forests 2027
 - e) Means of implementation, including operations and resources of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network
 - f) Monitoring, assessment and reporting: voluntary national reporting; global core set of forest-related indicators
3. Forum Trust Fund
4. Emerging issues

¹⁷ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1771, No. 30822

¹⁸ Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

¹⁹ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

²⁰ Ibid, vol. 1954, No. 33480

Table 4: Twenty-third session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, 2028 (policy session)

1. Priorities in support of implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017 –2030: Thematic priorities for the biennium 2027-2028 are GFGs 2, 4 and 6
2. Other policy session items and consideration of relevant proposals contained in the Chair’s summary from the twenty-second session
 - a) New announcements of voluntary national contributions
 - b) Progress in the implementation of the outcomes of the IAF-MTR
 - c) Report on the outcomes of the CLIs
 - d) Updates by stakeholders and partners on activities in support of the thematic priorities
 - i. Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its workplan
 - ii. Regional and subregional organizations and processes
 - iii. Major groups and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and philanthropic community
 - e) Interlinkages between the global forest goals and targets and the Sustainable Development Goals under review by the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2025 and 2026, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change²¹ and the Paris Agreement²², the Convention on Biological Diversity²³ and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at its COP15, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification²⁴, including the Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Programme, and other international forest-related developments
 - f) Implementation of the communication and outreach strategy of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, including activities regarding the International Day of Forests 2028
 - g) Means of implementation, including operations and resources of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network
 - h) Monitoring, assessment, and reporting: voluntary national reporting on progress in implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, the United Nations Forest instrument and voluntary national contributions,
3. Forum Trust Fund
4. Preparations for the final review in 2030 of the effectiveness of the International Arrangement on Forests in achieving its objectives
5. High-level segment
6. Adoption of the programme of work of the Forum for the biennium 2029-2030
7. Emerging issues

²¹ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1771, No. 30822

²² Adopted under the UNFCCC in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

²³ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

²⁴ Ibid, vol. 1954, No. 33480