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United Nations Forum on Forests

Twenty-first session

11–15 May 2026

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda and annotations

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Policy discussions on the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, including consideration of relevant proposals contained in the Chair's summary from the twentieth session:
 - (a) Progress in the implementation of the outcomes of the midterm review of the international arrangement on forests;
 - (b) Contributions of members of the Forum to implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030:
 - (i) Report on the outcomes of the country-led initiatives;
 - (ii) New announcements of voluntary national contributions;
 - (iii) Updates on voluntary national contributions and their follow-up related to the thematic priorities;¹
 - (c) 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;

¹ In accordance with the programme of work of the Forum for the period 2025–2028, the thematic priorities for the twentieth and twenty-first sessions of the Forum, in 2025 and 2026, are global forest goals 1, 3 and 5.

- (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;
- (d) 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 2026 and 2027, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change² and the Paris Agreement,³ the Convention on Biological Diversity⁴ and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,⁵ including the Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Programme, and other international forest-related developments;
- (e) 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;
- (f) Means of implementation, including operations and resources of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network;
- (g) 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.

4. Initial discussions on the final review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests in achieving its objectives.
5. Trust fund for the United Nations Forum on Forests.
6. Emerging issues.
7. Dates and venue of the twenty-second session of the Forum.
8. Provisional agenda of the twenty-second session of the Forum.
9. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its twenty-first session.

Annotations

1. Election of officers

Rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council provides that, at the commencement of the first meeting of a regular session, the United Nations Forum on Forests shall elect, from among the representatives of its members, a Chair and such other officers as may be required (see [E/5975/Rev.1](#)). In accordance with Council resolution 2000/35, by which the Forum was established, the Bureau of the Forum shall consist of a Chair and four Vice-Chairs, one of whom shall also act as Rapporteur, in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

³ Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

At the 1st meeting of its twentieth session, on 10 May 2024, the Forum elected İsmail Belen (Türkiye) as Chair and Abderrahim Houmy (Morocco), Javad Momeni (Islamic Republic of Iran), Andrés Napuri Pita (Peru) and Maria Sokolenko (Russian Federation) as Vice-Chairs of the Forum at its twentieth and twenty-first sessions. At its 2nd plenary meeting on 5 May 2025, the Forum appointed Maria Sokolenko (Russian Federation) as Vice-Chair/ Rapporteur of the twentieth and twenty-first sessions.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

In accordance with rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Forum shall, at the beginning of the session, adopt the agenda and organization of work for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations (E/CN.18/2026/1)

3. Policy discussions on the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, including consideration of relevant proposals contained in the Chair's summary from the twentieth session

In accordance with the quadrennial programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for the period 2025–2028 (Economic and Social Council resolution [2024/15](#), annex), the Forum, at its twenty-first session, will hold policy discussions on its thematic priorities in support of the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, including consideration of relevant proposals contained in the Chair's summary from the twentieth session. By the same resolution, the Council decided that the thematic priorities for the twentieth and twenty-first sessions of the Forum, in 2025 and 2026, will be global forest goals 1, 3 and 5.

At its twentieth session, the Forum held technical discussions on the above-mentioned thematic priorities. A summary of the discussions of the Forum and the Chair's proposals for transmission to and consideration by the twenty-first session of the Forum are contained in the summary by the Chair of the twentieth session, contained in the official report of the session (E/2025/42, annex).

(a) Progress in the implementation of the outcomes of the midterm review of the international arrangement on forests

Under agenda item 3(a), the Forum will consider the progress in the implementation of the Council resolution concerning the outcome of the midterm review of the international arrangement on forests (E/RES/2024/15). As this is a cross-cutting agenda item relevant to all elements of the International Arrangement on Forests, updates on the implementation of this resolution are reflected throughout the Notes by the Secretariat for the twenty-first session, under the respective relevant agenda items or areas of work.

(b) Contributions of members of the Forum to implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030:

- (i) Report on the outcomes of the country-led initiatives**
- (ii) New announcements of voluntary national contributions**
- (iii) Updates on voluntary national contributions and their follow-up related to the thematic priorities**

Under agenda item 3(b), the Forum will consider contributions of members of the Forum to the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, including reports on country-led-initiatives, new announcement of and updates on voluntary national contributions related to the thematic priorities. During the intersessional period, three country led initiatives were organized by the Government of Morocco, Türkiye and Austria respectively. Relevant information on the CLIs and updates regarding voluntary national contributions are contained in the Note by the Secretariat for agenda item 3(b).

(d) 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 2026 and 2027, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change⁶ and the Paris Agreement,⁷ the Convention on Biological Diversity⁸ and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,⁹ including the Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Programme, and other international forest-related developments

Under agenda item 3 (d), the Forum will discuss the 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 2026 and 2027. The initial input of the Forum to the HLPF session in 2026 is contained in the Chair's summary of discussions during the twentieth session of the Forum, contained in document E/2025/42, annex. The Forum will also consider the outcomes of the conferences of the parties of the three Rio conventions as applicable, as well as other international forest-related developments since its twentieth session.

(e) 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

Under agenda item 3 (e), the Forum will discuss the implementation of the communication and outreach strategy of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, including the implementation of the provisions of section H of Economic and Social Council resolution 2024/15, and the activities regarding the International Day of Forests in 2026.

4. Initial discussions on the final review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests in achieving its objectives

Under agenda item 4, the Forum will hold its initial discussion on the final review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests in achieving its objectives. Members of the Forum are expected to share their initial ideas and thoughts on this subject. This discussion shall be in full compliance with the relevant provisions of ECOSOC resolution 2015/33, the UN strategic plan for forests, and other relevant decisions of the Forum. In accordance with paragraph 2(a) and 3 of ECOSOC resolution 2024/15, the Forum is also expected to give final consideration to the information paper on the workload, needs and gaps of the UNFF Secretariat, discussed during its twentieth session, and to invite the General Assembly to consider

⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

⁷ Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

⁹ *Ibid.*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

appropriate resourcing of the Forum secretariat to perform its responsibilities and mandates in an efficient, effective and sustainable manner.

6. Emerging issues

Under agenda item (6), the Forum will discuss emerging issues and challenges of global significance that are related to and/or have an impact on forests and sustainable forest management. In the absence of a specific topic for consideration under agenda item 6 proposed by the Bureau, and members of the Forum for discussion at the twenty first session of the Forum, the discussion on item 6 will be held jointly with item 3(b)(i) to provide additional opportunity for discussion on the important topics and outcomes of the Country-Led Initiatives held in Morocco, Türkiye, and Austria.

The note by the Secretariat contains an update on relevant activities and information since the twentieth session of the Forum on items 3(a)(b)(d)(e), 4 and 6.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on policy discussions on the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030: including consideration of relevant proposals contained in the Chair’s summary from the twentieth session (E/CN.18/2026/2)

3. Policy discussions on the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, including consideration of relevant proposals contained in the Chair’s summary from the twentieth session

(c) 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

The contributions of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its member organizations, regional and subregional partners and major groups and other relevant stakeholders to achieving the thematic priorities of the twenty-first sessions of the Forum will be considered by the Forum under agenda item 3 (c). Relevant information and updates on the activities and contributions of these partners during this intersessional period are included in the Secretariat Note for this agenda item.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the contributions of, and enhanced cooperation with partners to achieving the thematic priorities (E/CN.18/2026/3)

(f) Means of implementation, including operations and resources of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network

Under agenda item 3(f), the Forum will discuss the means of implementation, including operations and resources of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network. The note by the Secretariat for this agenda item provides an overview of

key global developments related to the means of implementation for sustainable forest management, a summary of the activities of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network since the twentieth session, and availability of resources for the operation of the Network. It also includes information on the clearing house and the progress in analytical work of the Secretariat to enhance access to comprehensive and reliable data on forest financing flows opportunities, knowledge and best practices, including the possible option of a global hub, as well as an update on the proposed office in Beijing.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the means of implementation, including operations and resources of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (E/CN.18/2026/4)

(g) 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

In section F of its resolution 2024/15, the Economic and Social Council endorsed the timeline for the next reporting cycle to the Forum for the period 2024–2026 and established the advisory group on reporting to the Forum. In the same section of the resolution, the Council took note of the amended format for national reporting, entrusted the Forum secretariat with finalizing the format, in close consultation with the advisory group on reporting to the Forum and encouraged Forum members to submit voluntary national reports.

The same resolution also requested the Forum secretariat to make use of information received in the next reporting cycle for the transparent development of a short, concise Global Forest Goals Report in close consultation with member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, within existing resources.

Under this agenda item, the Forum will discuss the outcomes of the 2024–2026 reporting cycle, the Global Forest Goals Report 2026 and provide recommendations and proposals on how to further improve national reporting to the UNFF during its final cycle.

Information regarding the main activities conducted within the reporting cycle to the Forum for the period 2024–2026 is contained in the note by the Secretariat under this agenda item.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on 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 (E/CN.18/2026/5)

5. Trust fund for the United Nations Forum on Forests

Under agenda item (5), the Forum will consider the operation of the Forum trust fund for the year 2025. The report by the Secretariat on the operation of the fund in 2025 is contained in the note by the Secretariat under this agenda item. The discussions on this agenda item also provide an opportunity for interested members of the Forum to announce pledges and contributions to the Trust Fund.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the trust fund for the United Nations Forum on Forests
(E/CN.18/2026/6)

7. Dates and venue of the twenty-second session of the Forum

The Forum shall recommend to the Economic and Social Council the dates and venue of its twenty-second session.

8. Provisional agenda of the twenty-second session of the Forum

The Forum shall recommend to the Economic and Social Council, for adoption, a provisional agenda for the twenty-second session.

9. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its twenty-first session

In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Forum shall submit to the Council a report on the work of its session.