



Niamey, le 02 DEC. 2013

REPUBLIQUE DU NIGER

MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT, DE LA SALUBRITE
URBAINE ET DU DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

DIRECTION GENERALE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT
ET DES EAUX ET FORETS

LE DIRECTEUR GENERAL

00595

N° _____/MESU/DD/SG/DGE/EF/DAF/R/RT

A

Madame la Directrice du
Secrétariat du Forum des Nations
Unies sur les Forêts

Objet : Avis et propositions sur l'Arrangement
International sur les Forêts

Madame la Directrice,

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire parvenir ci-joint, le document portant avis et propositions du Niger sur l'Arrangement International sur les Forêts.

En vous souhaitant bonne réception, je vous prie de bien vouloir agréer mes salutations distinguées.



Ampliation

CAB/ME/SU/DD1 a.t.c

Country/Organization: NIGER REPUBLIC

Date of Submission: November, 2013

**UNFF Intersessional Activities on the International Arrangement on Forests
Format for Soliciting Views and Proposals on the International Arrangement on Forests
United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat
July 2013**

1. According to the multi-year programme of work adopted in 2007, the overall theme of the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF11) in 2015 will be “Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward for the international arrangement on forests (IAF).” At this session, the Forum will review the effectiveness of the IAF and decide on its future.¹
2. In preparation for UNFF11 in 2015, the Forum has made a number of decisions during the last fourteen years.² Most recently, Member States through Resolution 10/2 of UNFF10 decided to undertake several intersessional activities to ensure UNFF11 has a strong basis to review the effectiveness of the IAF and make a decision on the future of the IAF.
3. One of the three components of the intersessional activities on the IAF, as outlined in Resolution 10/2 of UNFF10, is to solicit views from Member States and other relevant stakeholders on the IAF. Specifically, the Resolution invites countries, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, its member organizations, other relevant organizations, relevant regional and subregional forest-related mechanisms, institutions, instruments, organizations and processes, major groups and other stakeholders to submit views and proposals to the Forum’s Secretariat on the six key issues set out in paragraph 5 of the same resolution, and the full range of options on the future international arrangement on forests. The UNFF Secretariat should provide the compilation of these views and proposals to the first meeting of the ad hoc expert group (AHEG1) on the IAF³.
4. This format has been prepared by the Forum’s Secretariat to facilitate submission of the inputs on the IAF to AHEG1. The electronic version of this format is available at: (<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/docs/Views-on-IAF.doc>). Member States and other relevant stakeholders are invited to download this format and use it to submit their views and proposals in English. The explanation in each box should not exceed 150 words. Member States and other stakeholders are kindly requested to submit the original copy of the completed format in word processing software, with a scanned copy of the official letter from their respective organization/ministry/mission, via email to: unff@un.org, with copy to Mr. Hossein Moeini-Meybodi at: moeini-meybodi@un.org, and Ms. Thida Sam at: sam2@un.org. All inputs should be sent to the UNFF Secretariat by **30 October 2013**.

¹ Resolution 1 of UNFF7 and its annex (E/2007/42), please see:

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N07/349/31/PDF/N0734931.pdf?OpenElement>

² ECOSOC Resolutions 2000/35 and 2006/49, Resolution 1 of UNFF7 and its annex (E/2007/42) and Resolution 2 of UNFF10 and its annex (E/2013/42)

³ OP 5 and 6 of Resolution 2 of UNFF10 and paragraph 2 of its annex- Please see:

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N13/321/90/PDF/N1332190.pdf?OpenElement>

**Format for Soliciting Views and Proposals on the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF)
July 2013**

Ministry / Organization: ministry of Environment, Urban Sanitation and Sustainable Development

Name of official submitting the views: HAMADOU MAMOUDOU

Address: General Director of Environment Water and Forestry

Phone/Fax: Tél: (227) 20 72 37 55

E-mail: tinni2013@yahoo.com; dgeef@intnet.ne

Section A: Full range of options for the IAF

A.1 Please select (with X in front of the options below) and explain the preferred option for the future of the IAF:

- A legally binding instrument on all types of forests
- Strengthening of the current IAF
- Continuation of the current IAF
- Other options (please describe) -

Section B: Performance of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and its processes since 2000, and future options for UNFF

B.1 Please explain if you consider the current UNFF structure and its biennial sessions as sufficient to take necessary actions and to provide policy advice and guidance on all issues related to all types of forests and at all levels: the current UNFF have to be reviewed so that the Forum Secretariat should have Regional representations in a way that it can better influence and provide orientation at different level of decision making.

The biennial session's of the Forum may be sufficient at a point, but it's may be complemented by Regional Sessions in the image of the forestry and wildlife Regional Commission of the FAO. Also to include in the biennial session the Ministries Segments for larger information for political decisions makers

B.2 Please describe the UNFF's performance and list its key achievements in implementing its principal functions, as stated in ECOSOC resolutions 2000/35 and 2006/49⁴: The implimentation of the Facilitative Process of sustainable forest management financing have strenghtening the visibility of the Forum in many countries. Also the studies carried out have shown the

⁴ Please see these documents at:

- http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/2000_35_E.pdf
- http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/iaf/2006_49_E.pdf

differencies and disparities at regional level in term of financial access. The formulation of the Strategy for financing the Sustaniable Forests Managements in Low Forest Cover Countries and Small Island Developping States have also great importance for these countries.

B.3 Please provide your view on the future options for the UNFF: For the future, there is a need for a Legally Binding Instrument integrating all types of forests, with a Forest Fund open and accessible to all types of forest. The establishment of a dedicated fund for forests will reduce the fragmentation and dispersal of funds for forests at all levels

B.4 Please describe the potential roles for UNFF in implementing the UN post-2015 development agenda and the SDGs: The Forum could advocate for the definition of a specific objective for Forests and trees among the objectives of Sustainable Development.

B.5 Please describe the role and impact of Country-Led Initiatives and ad hoc expert groups in the work of the UNFF: The ad hoc expert groups offert members States the oppportunity for deeping their thinking; and the discussions on differrents subjectsareas allow the Forum to put together differrent profils for greater achivement.

B.6 Please indicate how effective you consider the engagement of major groups in the work of the UNFF and provide suggestions on their further engagement:

B.7 Please explain the role and impact of the International Year of Forests and the International Day of Forests in promoting greater awareness and strengthening political and public commitment for forests: International Year of Forests and the International Day of Forests can contribute to increase the awareness and commitment of stakeholders, including policy makers by organizing information sessions and awareness (media Conferences , day of parliamentary information , ..) . For example, in Niger , as part of the festivities marking the International Year of Forests , a conference debate was held August 3, 2011 on the contribution of forest ecosystems to food security . The conference was attended by three Ministers , researchers, academics and civil society particular

Section C: The Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (Forest Instrument) and the four Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs)

C.1 Please indicate progress in the implementation of the forest instrument:

- Adequate
- Inadequate
- Not sure

C.2 Please provide suggestions on how to improve progress:(i) improve the financial access of disponible fund for all countries (ii)reduction of the scattering of the sustaible management. of forest funds (iii) ceate a nother specific account for forests at the GEF(iv) continue the sensitization and creating awareness for stakaholders in particular political actors in the importances of trees and Forests, (v) help countries in the elaboration of theirs own national strategies on sustainable Forests management. and forest financing,(vi) Define a specific objective for the forests in relation to the post 2015 objectifs for sustainable development. (vii) increase the transectorial collaborations.

C.3 Please indicate progress in achieving the GOFs:

	Adequate	Inadequate	Not sure
GOF1:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GOF2:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GOF3:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GOF4:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.4 Please provide suggestions on how to improve progress:see above

C.5 Please explain how implementation of the forest instrument has contributed to the implementation of forest-related international conventions, and vice versa:

C.6 Please describe how the forest instrument and the GOFs can contribute to the post-2015 UN development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals: Through efficient and active participation of forests sectors in the international fora particularlyly at regional level. The Forum Secretariat can initiate and facilitate these meetings and fora to help and allow the forests sectors to be well prepared to the process and elaboration of the post 2015 agenda.

Section D: The Forum's Secretariat

D.1 Please indicate if you consider the structure, human and financial resources of the compact Secretariat of the UNFF adequate to fulfill its mandates:

- Adequate
- Inadequate
- Not sure

Additional explanation: the Forum Secretariat can be more efficient in it's missions if it have representatives at regional and sub- regional level and who are very active in sustanable forests management.

D.2 Please provide suggestion(s) on strengthening the Secretariat of the Forum to enable it to fulfill its functions more effectively: See above

D.3 Please provide suggestion(s) on how the Forum Secretariat's role, as a CPF member and as CPF secretariat, should be strengthened:

Section E: CPF and CPF Member Organizations

E.1 Please explain the impacts and sufficiency of the programs and actions taken by CPF and CPF member organizations in implementing resolutions and supporting the work of UNFF since its inception:

E.2 Please describe how the CPF and its member organizations can further contribute to the work of the UNFF, and how to ensure availability of necessary resources for its activities in support of the work of the Forum:

Section F: Financing options and strategies

F.1 Please provide views on financing options and strategies, including the creation of a voluntary Global Forest Fund, to generate resources from all sources for sustainable management of all types of forests and trees outside forests: The establishment of a Global Forest Fund can help reduce fragmentation of funding for the forestry sector. But this fund must be flexible , accessible and open to all types of forests and trees outside forests. However, the Forum should encourage States to adopt National Forest Fund and allocate a percentage of their National Investment Fund for the financing of Sustainable Forest Management

F.2 Please suggest concrete steps that UNFF, CPF members and other organizations should undertake to develop forest financing options: first define the main objectif dedicated to the forests in the Sustainable development objectives and organise a high level meeting regrouping finances ministers and those in charge of forests.