

ПОСТІЙНЕ ПРЕДСТАВНИЦТВО  
УКРАЇНИ  
ПРИ ОРГАНІЗАЦІЇ ОБ'ЄДНАНИХ  
НАЦІЙ



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# 4132/23-194/042-2009

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Forum on Forest Secretariat and has the honour to transmit herewith the information on soliciting views and proposals on the International Agreement on Forests (IAF) by State Forest Agency of Ukraine.

The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Forum on Forest Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.

*Attachment: 6 pages.*

15 November, 2013



**United Nations Forum on Forest Secretariat  
New York**

Country/Organization: Ukraine

Date of Submission:

**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.<sup>1</sup>
2. In preparation for UNFF11 in 2015, the Forum has made a number of decisions during the last fourteen years.<sup>2</sup> 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 IAF<sup>3</sup>.
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](mailto:unff@un.org), with copy to Mr. Hossein Moeini-Meybodi at: [moeini-meybodi@un.org](mailto:moeini-meybodi@un.org), and Ms. Thida Sam at: [sam2@un.org](mailto:sam2@un.org). All inputs should be sent to the UNFF Secretariat by **30 October 2013**.

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<sup>1</sup> 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>

<sup>2</sup> 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)

<sup>3</sup> 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:** State Forest Resources Agency of Ukraine

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**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) regional legally binding agreements on forests

- Keeping in mind that different countries have different attitude to legally binding agreement on all types of forests it will be beneficial to develop, negotiate and implement regional legally binding agreements on forests. Such agreements could influence on concrete region and in more extent consider demands and characteristics of sustainable forest management of such concrete region -  
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**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: Ukraine supports the practice of UNFF sessions every two years and sees that the Forum sessions provide an excellent opportunity to exchange experiences and views on the agenda. Materials for each session provide an excellent opportunity to monitor trends in forestry. But along with this it is worth to shorten length of the sessions up to one week.

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 2006/49<sup>4</sup>:

- UNFF is serving as a platform for discussion problems of sustainable forest management at global perspective.
- Under UNFF umbrella it was elaborated and adopted forest instrument and global objectives on forests.
- Under UNFF umbrella it is carried out important and useful studies, in particular on assessment of trends and ways of financial support to forestry, the role of forests in economic development etc.
- Under the initiative of UNFF it was organized and conducted the international year of forests and provided assistance in introduction of the International Day of the forest

B.3 Please provide your view on the future options for the UNFF: Continuation of the discussion of the main problems and challenges in forestry in a global perspective; promotion of relevant research; conduction of expert meetings.

B.4 Please describe the potential roles for UNFF in implementing the UN post-2015 development agenda and the SDGs: As a platform for discussion of problems and challenges of sustainable forest management in global perspective UNFF will further enhance the awareness of the major trends in sustainable forest management and provide the information support.

B.5 Please describe the role and impact of Country-Led Initiatives and ad hoc expert groups in the work of the UNFF: Both components of UNFF work are important and useful. Country-Led initiatives in most cases facilitate the exchange of experiences and raise awareness about certain issues of sustainable forest management at the regional scale. Expert Groups provide elaboration of proposals on the set of question involving a wide range of experts from around the world.

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: Involvement of major groups in UNFF work provides the best opportunity to involve the public in the discussion on challenges of the sustainable forest management.

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: We believe that the International Year of Forests and the annual celebration of the International Day of forests strengthens the status of forests and forestry in each country and provides additional drive information in the public aimed at raising awareness of the problems and challenges of forests and forestry.

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<sup>4</sup> Please see these documents at:

- [http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/2000\\_35\\_E.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/2000_35_E.pdf)
- [http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/iaf/2006\\_49\\_E.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/iaf/2006_49_E.pdf)

**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: Strengthening of implementation of forest instrument could be achieved on the one hand by increasing of financial support for forest sector, on the other hand be enhancing communication with governments and the public on the implementation of the main components of forest instrument.

C.3 Please indicate progress in achieving the GOFs:

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

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

GOF1 and GOF 2 - Enhancement of outreach with governments and society

GOF4 - Increasing volume of financial support not only for developing countries but also for other categories of countries, especially for countries with economy in transition.

C.5 Please explain how implementation of the forest instrument has contributed to the implementation of forest-related international conventions, and vice versa: Global objectives on forests intertwined with other international environmental conventions, in particular implementation of 3d global objective on forests has a direct link to the Convention on Biological Diversity

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: Global objectives on forests intertwined with other international environmental conventions and directly have an impact on improving the environment of the planet

**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:

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

D.3 Please provide suggestion(s) on how the Forum Secretariat's role, as a CPF member and as CPF secretariat, should be strengthened: Increased financial resources and strengthening of communication aimed at strengthening the role of the Secretariat

### 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: Members of CPF provide technical and partial financial support inter alia for conducting meetings of experts in the framework of UNFF

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: Continuation of technical work and increase financial support inter alia for participation in the UNFF activities

### 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:

We consider it appropriate to work on strengthening existing financial mechanisms for supporting sustainable forest management, which among other things should include:

- Simplification and harmonization mechanisms and approaches the allocation of financial support.
- Enlargement of directions and areas of allocation of financial support.
- More focus on the special needs of each country.

F.2 Please suggest concrete steps that UNFF, CPF members and other organizations should undertake to develop forest financing options:

1. Creating additional department under UNFF Secretariat that would be responsible for provision of methodological and technical support for countries aimed to explain the

opportunities, challenges and approaches for obtaining financial support.

2. Conduct of the survey to identify areas of required international financial support for sustainable forest management including the provision of experience exchange, technologies transfer and the acquisition of specialized equipment and machinery.

3. Targeting CPF members on the needs of countries.