



TENTATIVE PROGRAMME as of 16/03/2018

**MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLE ON FOREST LANDSCAPE
RESTORATION AND THE BONN CHALLENGE IN THE CAUCASUS
AND CENTRAL ASIA**

21-22 June 2018 | Astana | Kazakhstan

THURSDAY 21 June

9:00-17:00 **Field trip to the Green Belt of the city of Astana**

- Overview of the Green Belt plantations
- Excursion to the Akkayin tree nursery
- Visit to the pheasant breeding center
- Tree planting ceremony
- Excursion to the Akkol tree nursery

15:00 *Traditional lunch in a yurt*

FRIDAY 22 June

09:00 Registration of participants

09:30 Opening Session

- Welcoming speech by high-level representative of Kazakhstan (TBC)
- Opening remarks by Umirzak Shukeyev, Deputy Prime Minister – Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- Opening remarks by Norimasa Shimomura, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in the Republic of Kazakhstan (TBC)
- Opening remarks by Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, UNECE
- Opening remarks by Vladimir Rakhmanin, Assistant Director-General, FAO
- Keynote speech by Svenja Schulze, Minister of the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety of Germany

10:30 *Coffee Break and Group photo*

11:00 **First Session**

High-level Discussion 1: Achieving Forest Landscape Restoration – National/regional Experience

- Kick-off presentation on restoration opportunities, Niels Thevs, ICRAF

Ministers will be invited to contribute their domestic experiences in identifying restoration opportunities and addressing the challenges to implementation.

Ministers may wish to address some of the following issues:

- How are restoration opportunities identified and prioritised?
- What are the challenges in moving from assessing restoration opportunities, to developing concrete restoration plans, to implementing these plans?
- What is the role of national and provincial/state governments in providing an enabling policy environment or facilitating and incentivising for restoration?
- How do inter-institutional and inter-sectoral coordination mechanisms contribute to advancing a comprehensive agenda on FLR?



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- How do challenges and opportunities differ based on the specific national context – policies, regulation the role of the private sector, etc.?

12:30 *Lunch*

13:30 **Second Session**

High-level Discussion 2: Financing Restoration

- Kick-off presentation on financing Forest Landscape Restoration

Ministers will be invited to speak about their experience in accessing funding for restoration activities, costs per hectare, returns achieved, challenges and opportunities.

Ministers may wish to address some of the following issues:

- How can the Bonn Challenge serve as a platform to facilitate greater access to financing for restoration?
- What motivates different actors to engage in and finance restoration?
- What results are they seeing in line with these motivations/expectations?
- How can domestic resources be mobilized or redirected to better support restoration of forest landscapes (e.g. current fiscal or tax incentives that could support activities compatible with restoration)?

15:00 *Coffee Break*

16:30 **Third Session**

High-level Discussion 3: Pledges and Commitments

Ministers will be invited to speak about national goals on forest restoration, national and regional restoration potentials and experience in monitoring efforts.

Ministers may wish to address the following issues:

- How will the Bonn Challenge pledge and FLR implementation support national goals? How can it be integrated into your country's international commitments on climate change, biodiversity and desertification?
- How can new areas for restoration be identified and existing plans and restoration efforts be aligned with the Bonn Challenge?
- Would a regional declaration and call for action be feasible, to complement national pledges?
- How can progress on implementation of the Bonn Challenge commitments be effectively monitored and reported upon? What indicators, tools and approaches are currently used by countries that can also be used to monitor restoration?
- How can this be done in a way that is credible yet does not impose an additional burden? Is it possible to build on existing reporting frameworks (e.g. domestic arrangements, Aichi Biodiversity Targets, UNFCCC NDCs, SDGs, etc.)?
- How can bottlenecks to implementation be identified so that technical and financial support can be unlocked to address these?

17:00 **Commitments and Pledges/Press Conference**

Keynote announcement on new restoration commitments and pledges to the Bonn Challenge (national or sub-national pledges, regional declaration or call to action), speeches of the leaders of the countries.

17:30 **Concluding Remarks and Closing of the Meeting**

Closing of the Meeting by Umirzak Shukejev, Deputy Prime Minister – Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan

19:00 *Official dinner*



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