



PREPARATIONS FOR THE 25TH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY AND THE XV WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS

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**Forêt2019 – Joint Session of the ECE Committee on Forests and
the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission
4-7 November 2019, Geneva, Switzerland**



- **Forestry is the only area in FAO with complete regional coverage**
- **Regional Forestry Commissions provide input to**
 - COFO
 - Regional Conferences
 - Global processes (Rio Conventions, UNFF)
 - FAO's Programme of Work
- **RFC input is sought for:**
 - advice on global policy and regulatory matters
 - strategy and priority setting
 - budgetary planning

INPUT TO THE COFO AGENDA

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- **The COFO agenda is built on:**
 - Biennial theme decided by the FAO Conference
 - **Recommendations of the RFCs**
 - Coordination with other technical committees
 - Prior decisions of COFO and other governing bodies
- **RFCs are to specify:**
 - Topics to be discussed by COFO
 - Expected outcome of the discussions
 - Possible follow-up activities
- **RFCs coordinate their recommendation directly and through the COFO Steering Committee**

INPUT TO THE REGIONAL CONFERENCES

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- **Key regional delivery mechanisms: RIs and CPFs**
- **Proper recognition of forest issues require regional discussion:**
 - “food security, agriculture and forestry can no longer be treated in isolation”
- **Regions differ strongly in approach to discuss forest issues**
- **COFO24 requested strengthened attention to forests in RCs**
- **RFCs could consider recommending:**
 - topics with strong cross-sectoral dimensions
 - synergies and possible common items with other technical commissions
- **Executive Committees/secretariat to help channel input to RCs**

INPUT TO FAO'S PROGRAMME OF WORK IN FORESTRY

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- **RFCs are to:**
 - Recommend activities to be undertaken at various levels
 - Set clear priorities
 - Link recommendations with:
 - FAO's Strategic Objectives
 - Global Forest Goals

- **Prioritization should address:**
 - Areas of new or emerging priorities
 - Areas of de-emphasis
 - Continuation of work as lower priority
 - Discontinuation of work

PREPARATIONS FOR THE XV WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS

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- **Planned to be held in 2021**
- **Regional Forestry Commissions are invited to provide input to priority themes**
- **For WFCs, FAO provides administrative and technical support and prepares the technical programme**
- **The outcome of WFC may be brought to the attention of COFO and FAO Council or Conference**
- **Korean Forest Service is expected to appoint Secretary-General and the Associate Secretary-General is appointed by FAO Director-General**



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POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION

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- **The Commission may wish to:**
 - develop recommendations for the RC, COFO and the PWB priorities and transmit these to other Commissions and the respective secretariats;
 - invite the Chairperson of the RC to give adequate attention to the recommendations of the Commission in the agenda of the Conference.

- **The Commission may wish to:**
 - invite countries to support the XV World Forestry Congress and to encourage the widest possible attendance and participation from all sectors within the Region;
 - based on priority issues in the Region, propose themes and topics that could form the basis of technical sessions at the Congress;
 - encourage members, if appropriate, to support the Congress financially, especially participation from developing countries.



Thank you!

