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### Economic Commission for Europe Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry

#### Seventy-seventh session

Geneva, 4-7 November 2019

Item 5(a) of the provisional agenda

**FAO European Forestry Commission matters: Follow-up to  
the decisions of the thirty-ninth session of the European  
Forestry Commission**

### Food and Agriculture Organization European Forestry Commission

#### Fortieth session

Geneva, 4-7 November 2019

## Follow-up to the decisions of the 39th Session of the European Forestry Commission

### Note by the Secretariat

#### *Summary*

The 39th Session of the Commission made several requests and recommendations to FAO. This document presents the actions taken to implement these requests and recommendations. Implementation of recommendations on joint matters by FAO and ECE is not covered under this document and will be reported under the relevant joint EFC and COFFI items.

## EFC recommendations for the FAO Programme of Work in Forestry

<i>Area/action for FAO Programme of Work</i>	<i>FAO Strategic Objective</i>	<i>Follow-up activities by FAO</i>
<b>1. Global and regional context: ECE and FAO, within their existing mandates, to</b>		
1.1. Continue to support country implementation of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda as they relate to forests, and the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017-2030 in cooperation with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests members;	SO1-SO5	Most of FAO's activities are related to supporting the achievement of the SDGs. More specifically, FAO is currently supporting 72 countries strengthen the role of forests and trees in achieving multiple SDGs and in accelerating progress in this regard. As part of a UNGA resolution proclaiming 2021-2030 as the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, FAO was invited, together with United Nations Environment Programme, to lead the implementation of the Decade, and plays also a major role in the implementation of the UN Decade of Family Farming, offering further opportunities to promote SDG implementation. Regarding UNSPF point 10.6 and 10.7 should be consulted. In order to strengthen the linkages of its work to the UNSPF, FAO has recommended to categorize any action recommendation according to the Global Forest Goals (similarly how it is done in relation to the Strategic Objectives). A recommendation in this regard is presented in document FO:EFC/2019/22.
1.2. Update member States and other stakeholders on the forest-related global and regional policy developments, building also on the possible input from the ECE/FAO Network on Forest Policy, to contribute to the achievement of SDGs and the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017-2030 implementation and review process; and;	SO1-SO5	FAO provided a comprehensive overview of the developments under the Rio Conventions and other relevant international for a, with special emphasis on UNFF and the implementation of the UNSPF at the 24 <sup>th</sup> session of COFO and continues to do so at the current sessions of the Regional Forestry Commissions. FAO also reported to the 13 <sup>th</sup> and 14 <sup>th</sup> session of UNFF on relevant developments, including the outcomes of the deliberations of its governing and statutory bodies, and invited UNFF to consider broader use of FAO's analytical products in its review function.
1.3. Continue forest monitoring and outlook work in the region.	SO2	FAO has worked in close collaboration with FOREST EUROPE and UN ECE to jointly collect and review the data for pan-European reporting through the FRA reporting platform. FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia is also providing operational support to the countries for forest resources assessment including inventory, collection of reliable data etc.
<b>2. Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020 enhanced and streamlined international reporting:</b>		
The Commission requested FAO to:		
2.1 Continue supporting the development of the global core set concept and contribute to the collection of data for those indicators that are relevant for the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020;	SO2, SO5	The Global Core Set was presented to UNFF13, UNFF14 and COFO 24. Both fora welcomed the results, encouraged use of the Global Core Set and requested further work in particular on Tier 2 and Tier 3 indicators. Information has been collected for the agreed indicators through the FRA 2020 reporting process. An expert meeting was held at FAO in November 2018 to discuss the socio-economic indicators and another global meeting will be held in October 2019 to deal with Tier 2 and Tier 3 indicators and make a recommendation to the CPF Task Force for further work.
2.2. Continue the development and implementation of the new Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020 online platform to allow voluntary	SO2, SO5	FAO launched a new on-line reporting platform for the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020 in early 2018. The platform was developed to make reporting more efficient and to support countries for generating better data on key forest related variables.

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event-based submissions, reviews and annual reporting on SDG indicators 15.1.1 and 15.2.1		<p>Many automated functions for estimation and forecasting of forest area and calculation of biomass and carbon stock were introduced. In addition, developed automatic consistency checks helped the work of both the national correspondents and the report reviewers. Through the platform, a number of new geospatial tools, which facilitate generation of forest area and area change information from remote sensing data as well as accessing information on protected areas, fires and mangroves, were also made available to countries.</p> <p>FAO provided the countries with technical assistance and support throughout the FRA reporting process. A global technical meeting was held in Mexico in March 2018 to introduce the FRA 2020 scope and content and to provide training on the use of the new online Platform. It was followed by the ten regional and sub-regional workshops, which provided the FRA National Correspondents with the opportunity to address specific technical issues related to the use of the Platform and the compilation of the country reports and to review data and information already entered in the Platform.</p>
2.3. Further strengthen the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire and consider options for expanding it towards reporting with regional Criteria and Indicator processes;	SO2, SO5	<p>FAO has worked closely with the FOREST EUROPE and UN ECE, two of the CFRQ partners, to further streamline the data collection for the pan European region. The pan-European data collection has been carried out simultaneously with the FRA 2020 and using the questionnaires were made available through the on-line FRA Platform. In addition, the same set of reviewers was used for both data sets.</p>
2.4. Make the country-specific remote sensing datasets available for national validation and to provide the necessary tools and support for data analysis and management;	SO2, SO5	<p>FAO has developed innovative solutions for forest and land monitoring under the Open Foris initiative (openforis.org). Under this initiative, SEPAL offers anyone, anywhere unparalleled access to satellite data and supercomputing power from their mobile phone with modules for near-real time land cover disturbance, forest restoration monitoring, peatlands monitoring, and forest degradation monitoring. SEPAL has over 2,000 active users in 85 countries.</p>

FAO has also initiated FRA 2020 Remote Sensing Survey, which will focus on building country capacities in using remote sensing for forest resource monitoring as well as developing independent estimates for forest area and its changes at regional, biome and global levels. A regional workshop for Europe will be organized in late 2020.

### **3. Follow-up to the decisions of the thirty-eighth session of the European Forestry Commission**

The Commission requested FAO to:

3.1. Integrate adaptation activities to climate change works stressing the importance of the “no mitigation without adaptation” approach;	SO1 - SO5	<p>While major activities are being implemented in several parts of the world, more specific actions in the REU region included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Technical assistance to conduct a workshop/ seminar in Kiev, Ukraine in June 2019 on management of bark beetle outbreaks and other forest pests associated with climate change;</li> <li>2) Linkages between forest monitoring systems and evidence-based decision-making are being strengthened through a new publication on the topic expected during 2019 “Better data, better decisions – How forest information can co-create change”.</li> <li>3) The REDD+ team has been working with the World Bank the Basque Center for Climate Change to produce an infographic that</li> </ol>
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<i>Area/action for FAO Programme of Work</i>	<i>FAO Strategic Objective</i>	<i>Follow-up activities by FAO</i>
3.2. Renew the work with the Advisory Panel on Forest Knowledge (APFK) to provide guidance for modernizing forestry related education.	SO1 - SO5	provide information on the Katowice Climate Package, agreed during the Katowice Climate Conference held in 2018. This material seeks to serve as a resource for developing countries for the update, review and communication of NDCs, as well as for the reporting and accounting of their NDC commitments. FAO, in collaboration with IUFRO and ITTO and with support from the Government of Germany, initiated a major project on forest education. Within this project the APFK is expected to play a important advisory role and steps are being made for renewing the panel's membership and specify its contribution to the project.
<b>4.Forestry activities of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia</b>		
The Commission recommended FAO to:		
4.1. Prepare a background document for regional activities for the next session of the Commission, including the creation of an online information platform on project activities;	SO2 - SO5	Secretariat prepared a background document for the FAO forestry activities in the region. The secretariat will also present FAO forestry activities during the EFC session.  FAO REU and SEC keeps updated records of project activities in the Field Programme Management Information System (FPMIS) where information can be retrieved by member states at regional, sub-regional or country level ( <a href="https://extranet.fao.org/fpmis/index.jsp">https://extranet.fao.org/fpmis/index.jsp</a> ). Therefore, creating and maintaining a new platform would have been a duplication. In addition REU website provides regional activities <a href="http://www.fao.org/europe/programmes-and-projects/en/">http://www.fao.org/europe/programmes-and-projects/en/</a> and the sub regional activities are included in <a href="http://www.fao.org/europe/programmes-and-projects/fao-turkey/list-of-approved-projects/en/">http://www.fao.org/europe/programmes-and-projects/fao-turkey/list-of-approved-projects/en/</a>
4.2. Promote broader participation of the different stakeholders, in particular from forestry, in the FAO Country Programming process;	SO2 - SO5	The Country Programming Framework (CPF) defines priorities for collaboration between FAO and a Member country. Within its framework, every country develops together with FAO regional/sub-regional/country offices, outputs to be achieved in each cycle. These outputs are contributing to national priorities, regional priorities and corporate FAO results. In addition, the outputs are also setting the stage for required resources and partnerships. Each CPF cycle includes formulation and approval, implementation and monitoring, reporting and evaluation phases. FAO REU/SEC through the FAO country offices or representatives, support the stakeholder engagement of appropriate sectors (including foresters) in the country in formulation of CPF.
4.3. Support countries in developing strategies and measures aiming at prevention and control of transboundary forest pest and diseases, thus to increase vitality of forests in the context of climate change.	SO2 - SO5	Currently FAO is supporting Georgia for prevention and management of Red palm weevil, Chest nut blight, Brown Marmorated stink bug and restoration of box wood natural stands damaged by box wood moth. In light of the FAO successful experience in Turkey in management of transboundary pest of chestnut trees, FAO was invited investigate the possibility of formulating a project proposal to support Azerbaijan and Georgia on management of chestnut blight and increase capacity for improving forest health and vitality. In the context of pest outbreaks associated with impacts climate change FAO facilitated an expert meeting to support Belarus and Ukraine for management of bark beetle outbreaks.

<i>Area/action for FAO Programme of Work</i>	<i>FAO Strategic Objective</i>	<i>Follow-up activities by FAO</i>
<b>5. Establishment of Forest Invasive Species Network for Europe and Central Asia</b>		
The Commission recommended FAO to:		
5.1. Continue supporting the establishment and functioning of the platform of the Forest Invasive Species Network for Europe and Central Asia and the implementation of its activities;	SO2, SO5	5.1-5.5 FAO REU and SEC facilitated the following activities through REUFIS 2017-2018: 1) a capacity building workshop on identification of invasive bark and ambrosia beetles, 2) a second work shop to raise the awareness of regional and national legislations for prevention and management of forest invasive pathogens in the REU region & the role of nurseries. In autumn 2019, FAO is planning to conduct a capacity building workshop on sustainable management of invasive species of Chest nut trees and woody invasive plants. FAO also provided assistance to the REUFIS secretariat to develop the REUFIS website.
5.2. Facilitate the Forest Invasive Species Network for Europe and Central Asia in linking up and cooperation with the European Commission Joint Research Centre European Alien Species Information Network and other European initiatives;		The Network is currently conducting a survey to identify the countries status and trends on prevention and management of forest invasive species. The outcome of the survey is expected to use as the basis for the cross border and cross sectoral protection measures in line with the Regional Initiatives of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia defined under the FAO Strategic Framework and SDG.
5.3. Engage in cross-cutting and inter-departmental work, in particular through the relevant Major Areas of Work and/or Regional Initiatives of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia defined under the FAO Strategic Framework;		5.2 The REUFIS network through its website ( <a href="http://www.reufis.org">http://www.reufis.org</a> ) facilitate the members in linking up with regional (including European Commission Joint Research Centre European Alien Species Information Network) and international organisations working on forest invasive species. The secretariat of REUFIS attended Two EPPO meetings and European commission's COST action meeting and 3 IUFRO meetings on forest invasive species. In organising capacity building workshops REUFIS collaborated with EPPO and other research organisations in the region.
5.4. Support cross sectoral plant protection measures to contribute to biodiversity conservation, and climate change adaptation and mitigation, as well as the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources;		
5.5. Support country efforts to plan and implement activities within the scope of the Platform, in particular through training and capacity development work; and		5.6 In addition to the capacity building on invasive species FAO provided technical assistance to the countries to build the capacities on prevention and management of native bark beetle outbreaks which are causing severe damages in conifer forests and enhance the overall forest health and vitality in the region through projects (TCPTCP/RER/3701); GCP /GEO/18/001/01/99).
5.6. Provide technical support to manage forest pests, which are not necessarily considered as invasive species.		

**6.Forest and Landscape Restoration works under climate change conditions in the region**

The Commission recommended FAO to:

<i>Area/action for FAO Programme of Work</i>	<i>FAO Strategic Objective</i>	<i>Follow-up activities by FAO</i>
6.1. Support country efforts in the region to plan and implement activities related to the restoration of forests and other degraded lands, in particular through activities of the Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism, including national strategy and action plans, and also in the framework of the possible “European Forest and Landscape Restoration Initiative”;	SO2, SO5	6.1. FAO REU supported countries in designing (GCF Armenia, GEF Serbia, GEF Ukraine) and implementing (GEF Ukraine) following the FLR Mechanism approach. Specific projects are reported under Item 5(b) and activities documented under FPMIS, accessible under <a href="https://extranet.fao.org/fpmis/index.jsp">https://extranet.fao.org/fpmis/index.jsp</a> . FAO SEC supported countries through implementing projects on sustainable land management and restoration of forests and other degraded lands. These projects are funded through GEF and IKI and are all described in detail under Item 5(b). All projects were initiated within the framework of the Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism, including national strategies and action plans as reflected in respective project documents. The projects are focus on development of rehabilitation concepts, guidelines on rehabilitation techniques and related integrated forest management and capacity building activities such as M&E systems and establishment of demo sites for showcasing best practices.
6.2. Assist countries to develop consistent definitions for “degraded forest” in relation to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Aichi Targets;	SO2, SO5	6.2 FAO REU and SEC are ready to assist countries if support is requested
6.3. Seek further cooperation with regional partners to promote the restoration of degraded lands, in particular through direct involvement in global partnerships and initiatives, including the Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration, International Model Forest Network, and the Landscapes for People, Food and Nature initiative, as well as with the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests;		6.3 FAO REU seeks cooperation with regional partners beyond forestry to promote restoration of degraded lands as appropriate. In the field of forestry, the cooperation resulted in a co-financing partnership. FAO SEC is ready to facilitate further collaboration when appropriate, such as for example at project formulation stage, etc.
6.4. Engage in cross-cutting and inter-departmental work to support landscape approaches;		6.4 FAO REU and SEC are engaged in cross-cutting and inter-departmental work to support landscape approaches in all projects mentioned under Item 5(b). FAO REU has embarked in cross-cutting and cross-sectoral work in particular in project GCP/UKR/004/GFF and GEO/18/001/01/99. Specifically, FAOSEC is engaged in cooperation with various central and local units of relevant ministries.

Area/action for FAO Programme of Work	FAO Strategic Objective	Follow-up activities by FAO
<p>6.5. Pursue active engagement with multilateral, bilateral and private sector resource partners, including the Global Environment Facility, the Green Climate Fund and multilateral and regional development banks, to enable FAO to increase its support to member States and regional economic integration organizations in forest and landscape restoration activities.</p>		<p>6.5 FAO is accredited with the GCF as a grant-implementing entity for medium-sized projects (USD 50-250 million), has signed the GCF Readiness Framework Agreement and is currently negotiating the Accreditation Master Agreement (AMA). FAO is also accredited agency with GEF. Consequently, FAO REU/SEC is actively engaged in supporting REU/SEC countries to access GCF and GEF financing to build their capacity. This includes capacities (under GCF) for larger investments and sectoral transformation related to forestry and other land uses (intersectoral), notably on REDD+, adaptation, as well as resilience of forest ecosystems and forest-dependent communities, and (under GEF) on sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation and degraded forest rehabilitation. The engagement also includes private sector resource partners (e.g. Konya Seker in Turkey, Azerbaijan Greenery and Landscape Open Stock Company in Azerbaijan, AgroGeneration in Ukraine), NGOs (e.g. Doga Koruma Merkezi in Turkey, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Business Women Association and Makhallya Foundation in Uzbekistan, International Dialogue for Environmental Action in Azerbaijan, Michael Succow Foundation for the Protection of Nature for CADI, WWF in Armenia, Forest Chamber in Serbia) which gives leverage to increase FAO REU/SEC support to Member States in forest and landscape restoration activities.</p>
<p><b>7. Strengthening FAO's work on boreal and temperate forests</b></p>		
<p>7.1. The Commission recommended FAO to consider a more active cooperation with the existing mechanisms instead of creating any additional platform and encouraged these mechanisms to seek a stronger involvement from FAO and ECE as appropriate.</p>	SO2	<p>The Forestry Department established contacts with the International Boreal Forest Research Association (IBFRA) and the circumboreal cooperation group to explore future opportunities for joint work on boreal forests.</p> <p>The UNECE/FAO Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management had considered establishing a Teams of Specialists on Boreal Forests and discussed a draft terms of reference. Decision will be taken at the joint session of the UNECE Committee of Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission.</p> <p>REU is also providing operational support to the countries for forest resources assessment and monitoring, however so far this was focused more on temperate forests.</p>
<p>The Commission further encouraged FAO to continue building up its operational and information support to member States in the Region of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia in regard to both boreal and temperate forests</p>		
<p><b>8. Contributions of FAO's work in forestry to the implementation of the SDGs within the scope of Regional Initiatives of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia</b></p>		
<p>The Commission recommended FAO to:</p>		
<p>8.1. Strengthen the integration of specific forestry programmes (including the Forest and Farm Facility, Forest and Land Restoration, Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security, work on agro-forestry and urban</p>	SO1 – SO5	<p>FAO REU/SEC continues to support to strengthen the integration of specific forestry programmes such as Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land through the implementation of projects into existing and future Regional Initiatives of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, considering the multi-functional roles of forests. This is reflected in project documents of all respective projects listed under Item 5(b).</p>

<i>Area/action for FAO Programme of Work</i>	<i>FAO Strategic Objective</i>	<i>Follow-up activities by FAO</i>
forestry) and other operational forestry work into existing and future Regional Initiatives of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, taking into account the multi-functional roles of forests;		
8.2. Continue to support countries and territories upon request in strengthening of national policy, financing, incentives, taxation and governance frameworks and measures, including regulations, standards and monitoring for forest management interventions and practices, and support capacity development in this regard; and	SO1 – SO5	FAO REU/SEC continues to support countries and territories upon request in strengthening of policy, financing, incentives, and monitoring for forest management interventions and practices, and support capacity development in this regard through the projects listed under Item 5(b). This support includes development/revision of monitoring programmes (e.g. NFI in Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Belarus, Moldova, North Macedonia, Serbia), providing financial support and incentives (e.g. tents, solar panels, solar systems, walnut and almond saplings for income generation in Turkey, fruit trees for income generation in Uzbekistan, Ukraine and Armenia) forest certification (Turkey), assisting in development of monitoring and evaluation systems (e.g. Azerbaijan, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Serbia) and conducting capacity development activities such as trainings and study tours (e.g. Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, Armenia, Georgia, Kosovo <sup>1</sup> , Serbia).
8.3. Provide assessment tools, methodologies and data (including Geographic Information Systems and mapping) to evaluate the impacts of climate change and support the definition of policy and investment options and evidence-based planning and management of the forest resources.	SO1 – SO5	FAO REU/SEC provides support to access assessment tools, methodologies and data (including Geographic Information Systems and mapping) to support the assessment of land use and land use changes and support evidence-based planning and management of the forest resources. Specific examples include standard use of Collect Earth tool (e.g. Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, North Macedonia, Serbia), development of SFM criteria and indicators, development of guidelines on multifunctional forest management planning and development of integrated forest management plans as well as conservation plans (e.g. Armenia, Serbia, Ukraine).
<p><b>9. The Committee on World Food Security High-level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition study on sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition</b></p> <p>The Commission requested FAO to:</p>		
9.1. Support countries in enhancing the contributions of forests and trees to food security and nutrition, in particular in countries most in need;	SO1-SO5	FAO actively supported member countries in promoting the use of existing guidelines, compiling and disseminating best practices, developing cross-sectoral policies integrating forests, agriculture and food security and nutrition objectives and integrate them into SFM practices, and to enhance capacities in monitor and collect data and information on the contribution of forests to improving food security and nutrition. These activities were performed mostly outside the REU, focusing on member countries in Asia and Africa.
9.2. Support and promote the role of women in forestry and food security;		FAO finalized and published a community-based forestry (CBF) assessment framework to provide for a comprehensive review of various CBF tenure regimes existing in countries (including community and smallholder forestry), the enabling conditions associated with them, and the effectiveness for improving forest governance and livelihoods.

<sup>1</sup> References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

<i>Area/action for FAO Programme of Work</i>	<i>FAO Strategic Objective</i>	<i>Follow-up activities by FAO</i>
9.3. Identify, document and disseminate best practices regarding food security and nutrition mainstreaming in forestry;		<p>FAO finalized and published a complementary forest tenure assessment framework to strengthen understanding of government and non-government stakeholders into the tenure related strengths and limitations to sustainable forestry (particularly CBF) regimes in country.</p> <p>As noted under 9.1 relate activities were focused outside REU. Supported 3 countries (Equatorial Guinea, Sri Lanka and Peru) with their National Cross-sectorial Forestry and Food Security Policy assessment in 2018. The findings which included a set of key recommendations were disseminated to national key stakeholders for possible follow-up actions. Best practices of Sri Lanka as well as the case of Myanmar (study conducted in 2016) were shared with other countries. (e.g. with the 10 country government representatives who were attending the FAO-AFoCO Regional Workshop held in May 2019 in Myanmar).</p>
9.4. Develop guidelines for mainstreaming food security and nutrition objectives in forest and other related sectors' policies as well as in forest management policy and practices.		<p>Activities focused on regions other than REU. The use of CFS44 policy recommendations as well as relevant policy guidance notes were promoted at various occasions at national (Equatorial Guinea, Cambodia, Sri Lanka and Peru) and regional levels (through regional network meetings, regional training workshops etc.).</p>
<b>10.FAO contributions to the global process</b>		
The Commission requested FAO to:		
10.1. Assist countries in strengthening their capacity to monitor forest-related SDG indicators and in strengthening the wider contributions of forests to the SDGs;	SO1-SO5	<p>The training conducted in the context of FRA 2020 data collection and related Remote Sensing Survey have/will contribute to countries capacity to report on the SDG indicators 15.1.1 and 15.2.1 as well as use remote sensing for data collection in the future.</p> <p>Forest value chains sustainability assessment framework (developed during 2018-2019) aims to harness forest contributions to the SDGs by proposing a framework to reconcile forests' multiple functions (the so called "basket of forest value chains") through an integrated approach. The framework is formulated as a set of principles and indicators that builds strongly on the value chain approach, FAO approach to sustainable food systems, and existing work on forest governance. This framework can serve as a tool fit for customization to national/landscape circumstances that can support assessment and monitoring of forest capacity to deliver its different services and products.</p> <p>In the framework of CPF initiative Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World (SW4SW), achievement of dialogues at global, regional and national levels with a view to develop national roadmaps for sustainable wood value chains (policies, measures, legislation, sustainability assessment tool, forest financial hub) and for expanding sustainable wood-based bioeconomy. Contributions to SDG 1, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13 and 15.</p> <p>Support improvements in forest concessions regimes considering multiple uses and community engagement based on voluntary concession guidelines (FAO working paper 180, published in 2018). Projects in Guatemala and Mozambique. Contributions to SDG 1, 2, 7, 8, 13 and 15.</p>

<i>Area/action for FAO Programme of Work</i>	<i>FAO Strategic Objective</i>	<i>Follow-up activities by FAO</i>
<p>10.2. Continue contributing to the Global Climate Action Agenda and to promote forest related initiatives, projects and programmes at COP23 as well as support countries in the development of their forest and other land use related proposals for the Green Climate Fund;</p>		<p>Promoting poverty alleviation and assessment of social protection gaps of forest indigenous peoples and forest-dependent communities as they relate and participate in forest value chains. Policy tools developed by FAO and successfully implemented in Asia and Africa. Contribution to SDG 1, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10.</p> <p>To understand the full economic contribution of the forest sector a research project was conducted for FAO on the total economics impacts of the global forest sector in 2018. The study used an input-output (I-O) model approach to estimate the total economic contribution of the forest sectors for fifty-eight countries in 2011 and compared economic multipliers of the major indicators across country, SDG region, and forest subsector. The publication will summarize major findings of the 2018 economic contribution analysis and present country case studies to show in-depth analysis of how different forest subsectors contribute to national economies through their linkage to other sectors, with a focus on policy implications in these countries.</p> <p>FAO provided continued support to tropical forest countries in combating climate change through Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation and implementing specific actions in the forest sector and the land-use sector. Contributions are provided in the framework of the Paris Agreement and in support to the preparation and implementation of National Determined Contributions (for example Ecuador, Argentina). Human-based right approach and gender considerations have been mainstreamed in the work (for example Honduras, Myanmar). Countries has been supported in the preparation of their strategies and investment plans (for example Equatorial Guinea), in the identification of measures to enhance collaboration between agriculture and forest sector (for example Congo, Nepal), in strengthening the enabling environment for successful and sustainable impact of climate change mitigation actions (for example review of land-use regulations in Peru) and in implementing specific actions to reduce emissions (for example fire management in Chile, community-based forestry in Colombia, forest restoration in Guinea).</p> <p>FAO has supported countries in mobilizing REDD+ and climate change finance – for example with the approval of four GCF readiness projects, the preparation of full GCF projects for three countries and the collaboration with three countries for the preparation of proposal to the GCF REDD+ Results Based Payments pilot window.</p> <p>FAO has also supported countries in organizing events at COPs and is providing special support - in collaboration with UNDP and UN Environment - for the organization of the Nature Based Solution stream at the forthcoming UNSG CC Summit (September 2019)</p>
<p>10.3 Inform the FAO Committee on Forestry on plans and progress made in establishing the platform on mainstreaming biodiversity, as well as on FAO’s work in promoting the conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity;</p>		<p>The 24<sup>th</sup> session of COFO discussed, as a joint item with other FAO Technical Committees, under agenda item 5.3, the topic of mainstreaming biodiversity. COFO gave useful guidance which was taken into consideration in developing the FAO biodiversity strategy, which is expected to be adopted by the FAO Council in December 2019, and which, in line with the request of COFO, will also be presented to the Committee at its next session.</p>

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10.4. Support the appropriate inclusion of the role of forests in the Convention on Biological Diversity strategies beyond 2020;		FAO has continued its collaboration with the CBD Secretariat and provided various contributions to the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Furthermore, the State of the World's Forests 2020 will focus on people and biodiversity and FAO aims to launch it in May 2020 prior to SBSTTA-24 of the CBD so that the report will support the inclusion of the role of forests in further discussions on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
10.5. Explore ways and means to help further enhance the forest sector's contribution to the mainstreaming of biodiversity;		The preparation of the SOFO2020 report on people and biodiversity will also explore these ways and present examples of the forest sector's contributions to the mainstreaming of biodiversity. Furthermore, FAO has included activities on mainstreaming biodiversity in the forest sector in its biennial work planning for 2020-21. These activities are expected to be confirmed by the end of 2019.  Importance of conservation and restoration of biodiversity is also being boosted through the implementation of REDD+ process (with specific focus on carbon-rich ecosystems such as mangroves).
10.6. Support the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests including through analytical work, such as the State of the World's Forests and the Global Forest Resources Assessment; and assist countries, at their request, in developing voluntary national contributions;		Major inputs were provided to the 13 <sup>th</sup> and 14 <sup>th</sup> sessions of UNFF. A comprehensive account of all FAO actions would exceed the limits of this document. FAO activities were presented in detail in the following documents: E/CN.18/2019/2, E/CN.18/2019/3, E/CN.18/2019/5, E/CN.18/2019/6.
10.7. Strengthen its leadership in the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and work towards strengthening support to the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017-2030 including through presenting the Collaborative Partnership on Forests workplan and the recommendation for a global core set of forest-related indicators to UNFF13 and to the FAO Committee on Forestry in 2018.		CPF has decided to expand its membership by accepting the CITES secretariat as new member. The Partnership had a retreat in December 2018 and reviewed its capacities and mapped them against the Global Forest Goals and major SDGs. It has reviewed its workplan for the 2019-2022 period and presented it to UNFF14. CPF also launched a strategy development process with the intention of setting its new priorities for the next 4PoW of UNFF and beyond. The results of this process are expected to be presented to UNFF15 and COFO25 in 2020.  CPF launched new joint initiatives in support of the work of the Work of the Forum and members: GFEP has started its new study on forest and poverty; the SW4SW was adopted as a CPF Joint Initiative in 2018 while in 2019 the Green Finance for Sustainable Landscapes got similar status.  For information regarding the Global Core Set please consult point 2.1.

The Commission is invited to give further guidance on the follow up work done by FAO.