The UN Development Agenda
Beyond 2015:
Sustainable Development Goals

Eduardo Rojas-Briales, Assistant Director-General,
Forestry Department
Rio+20: Launch of a process to develop a set of sustainable development goals (SDGs)

SDGs should:
- be action-oriented, limited in number, aspirational and easy to communicate
- address all three dimensions of sustainable development
- be coherent with and integrated into the UN development agenda beyond 2015
Process

- Constitution of an Open Working Group (OWG) of 30 countries
- Submission of a proposal for SDGs to the 68th Session of the General Assembly in 2014 by the OWG
- Discussion on forests by the OWG in February 2014 based on a Forest Issues Brief to be prepared by an Interagency Technical Support Team for Forests coordinated by the UNFF Secretariat, with inputs from the CPF
The SDGs and Forests

• Forests one of the key topics of “The future we want” (Rio+20 outcome)

• Multi-functionality of forests and their full contributions to all three dimensions of sustainable development not recognized in MDGs

Need to raise the profile of forests in SDGs
Options

1. An SDG specifically on forests, recognizing all contributions of forests to sustainable development
2. An SDG considering forests jointly with other natural resources
3. Targets/indicators on forests integrated in all SDGs
The way forward

Importance of defining an SDG on forests, with inclusive targets and indicators to:

• raise the profile of forests in the SDG debate – raise attention

• reflect the multi-functionality of forests and all three dimensions of SFM

• build on global objectives on forests and existing C&I
Governance mechanism

Demand driven downstream flow of goods and services provided by forests

Enabling upstream flow of return to ensure sustainable delivery of goods and services including restauration
Points for consideration

The Commission may wish to consider:

• Encouraging countries to actively engage in discussions on a forest-related SDG through the members of the Open Working Group

• Encouraging countries to analyze the different approaches to a forest-related SDG and to clearly articulate their preferences

• Requesting FAO to support the development of a forest-related SDG, by providing technical inputs to the Forest Issues Brief and the discussion of forests by the Open Working Group
THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION