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Item 3(e) of the provisional agenda

FAO European Forestry Commission matters**The New Strategic Framework for FAO****Note by the secretariat****I. Background**

1. FAO has reviewed its Strategic Framework 2010-19 as part of the established planning, programme and budget system. The review and preparation was guided by the Strategic Thinking Process introduced by the Director-General upon taking office in January 2012 to determine the future strategic direction of the Organization. This document presents the reviewed Strategic Framework, in particular FAO's Vision, Global Goals and Strategic Objectives – which have been endorsed by the 38th Session of the FAO Conference in June, 2013 (Annex).

2. The reviewed Strategic Framework provides the overarching strategic direction for the Organization. As compared to the Strategic Framework in force through 2013, with its eleven (11) Strategic Objectives, the reviewed Strategic Framework identifies five new Strategic Objectives, which represent the main areas of work on which FAO will concentrate its efforts in striving to achieve its Vision and Global Goals:

1. Eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.
2. Increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner.
3. Reduce rural poverty.
4. Enable more inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems at local, national and international levels.
5. Increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises.

3. The reviewed Strategic Framework has guided the formulation of the Medium Term Plan 2014-17 and Programme of Work and Budget 2014-15.

4. The present document is to be seen in conjunction with document FO:EFC/2013/7: Strategic Evaluation of FAO's role and work in forestry: Management Response, which, together with FO:EFC/2013/8: Contribution to FAO Governance: Input to the Committee on Forestry and the Regional Conferences, provide the basis for the Commission to provide its views on future priorities for the FAO Forestry Programme.

5. Given the transition to a new, more integrated and cross-cutting Strategic Framework, the Commission is requested to kindly provide its views on priorities, wherever possible, in relation to the proposed five new Strategic Objectives.

II. Points for consideration

6. The Commission is invited to take note of the five new Strategic Objectives and provide its views. In particular, the Commission may wish to focus its guidance on:

- Areas of cross cutting work where it believes the Organization should strengthen the integration of the Forestry dimension to better contribute to the goals of food security and poverty reduction;
- Other key priority areas of work to strengthen in further elaborating the action plans for the five new proposed Strategic Objectives;
- Emerging issues of priority for the FAO Forestry programme at regional and global scales;
- The need to revise the Forestry Strategy in the light of the evolving new Strategic Framework of the Organization.