23rd Session of COFO/5th World Forest Week

Seventy-fourth session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry
18-20 October 2016, Geneva, Switzerland
COFO/WFW in numbers

A. Date: 18-22 July 2016

B. Participation
   – 659 participants
   – 15 vice-ministers and ministers
   – 125 countries + 1 Member Organization
   – 15 UN system, 19 IGOS and INGOs

C. Events
   – 9 COFO sessions
   – 6 WFW main events (incl. 2 high level round tables)
   – 56 satellite- and side events
Key issues

– Item 4  SOFO – land use opportunities and challenges for AG and FO
– **Item 5.1** FAO’s work on SDGs and the role of forests
– Item 5.2 Indicators, monitoring and reporting progress on the SDGS
– **Item 6.1** FAO’s corporate CC strategy and the role of forests
– Item 6.2 Funding opportunities for forests
– Item 7 Progress in implementation
  • Item 7.2 Voluntary Guidelines on NFM
  • Item 7.3 Establishment of a WG on Drylands
  • **Item 7.4 Follow up to ICN2**
  • Item 7.6 Statutory bodies
– Item 8.1 Follow up to the outcome of WFC XIV
– Item 8.2 Strengthening FAO contribution to the IAF
– Item 9 FAO's work in forestry under the FAO Strategic Framework
– Item 10 Multi-Year Programme of Work for the Committee 2016-19
COFO decisions

COFO:

- Established a WG on Drylands and Agrosilvopastoral Systems
- Adopted the Voluntary Guidelines on National Forest Monitoring
- Decided that FAO elaborate a new strategic document fully aligned with the FAO Strategic Framework and SP/IAF
- Adopted its MYPOW 2016-2019
- Made 34 policy recommendations for Member Nations
- Decided on 52 actions to be included in the PWB
- Sent invitations to UNFF, CPF members, other technical committees
Selected highlights

SOFO

– Sustainable management of both forests and agriculture, and their integration in land-use plans, contribute strongly to achieving the SDGs, ensuring food security and helping to tackle climate change

– More than 20 countries increased food security and forest area

– Members to improve coordination between policies on forests, agriculture, food, land use and rural development

– FAO to support countries in integrated land use planning; enhancing governance of land use; sharing of best practices
Selected highlights

SDGS

– Members to strengthen dialogue with agriculture, fisheries and other relevant sectors on joining efforts for a transformative change towards the achievement of the SDGs

– FAO to:
  • continue and enhance collaboration on implementation of the 2030 Agenda across FAO’s technical committees
  • continue active role within the international forest related dialogue
  • strengthen its work in the area of boreal and temperate forests

SDG monitoring

– Members to strengthen forest data collection; design national level forest related SDG indicators

– FAO to support countries, align FRA Strategy as needed, work with CPF members to streamline global reporting – [OLI]
Selected highlights

CC Strategy

– strengthen institutional frameworks and processes to ensure sound forestry and integrated, cross-sectoral approaches to climate change

– FAO to support countries in governance, policy development, integration of forestry to NDCs, MRV, REDD+ readiness, update guidelines, work with COP13

Funding opportunities for forests

– Members to improve governance and institutions, strengthen investments in forests for climate change, P-P partnerships, simplify procedures

– FAO to strengthen partnerships to help countries’ access to international climate finance, including from bilateral sources and multilateral institutions such as the World Bank, GCF and GEF, as well as NGOs and the private sector
For more information please visit
http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/cofo/en/
or contact peter.csoka@fao.org