FAO’S WORK ON BIODIVERSITY

Item 5(f)
2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development puts biodiversity at the center of economic activities, calling for integration of biodiversity into planning, development process and poverty reduction strategies.

The 2016 UN Biodiversity Conference called for «mainstreaming biodiversity across agricultural sectors», including forestry (CBD/COP/DEC/XIII/3).
«Mainstreaming» biodiversity is the process of embedding biodiversity considerations into policies, strategies and practices of key public and private actors that impact or rely on biodiversity, so that it is conserved and sustainably and equitably used both locally and globally.

Upscale the implementation of sustainable forest management

Strengthen biodiversity considerations in sustainable forest management

Promote integrated approach across landscapes to

- demonstrate the benefits of forest biodiversity to other agricultural sectors
- identify opportunities for embedding biodiversity considerations into relevant policies, strategies and practices across agricultural sectors
The only intergovernmental body specifically addressing all components of biodiversity of relevance to food and agriculture.

Main objective is to ensure:

- sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity for food and agriculture
- fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from its use for present and future generations
17th Regular Session, Rome, 30 Jan - 3 Feb 2019

The Commission welcomed *The State of the World’s Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture* as an important milestone for the UN Decade on Biodiversity and as a valuable contribution to the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
On the **Global Plan of Action on Forest Genetic Resources** (adopted by FAO Conference in 2013)
- The Commission took note of the 1st Report on the implementation of the Global Plan of Action
- Requested FAO to continue coordinating its implementation

On **The Second Report on the State of the World’s Forest Genetic Resources** (to be launched in 2023)
- The Commission adopted the outline of the Second Report and its preparatory process
- Encouraged countries to initiate the preparation of country reports and submit them by 30 June 2020
The 2016 UN Biodiversity Conference welcomed FAO’s initiative.

In 2017, FAO Conference endorsed the call to mainstream biodiversity across agricultural sectors.

Steps taken to develop the Strategy

- In 2018, FAO’s Technical Committees considered the outcomes of the Dialogue and expressed support for mainstreaming biodiversity across their sectors.
- FAO Council endorsed the development of the Strategy in Dec 2018.
- In April 2019, the Programme Committee considered the progress made.
- In June 2019, the FAO Conference mandated the Council to consider and adopt the Strategy before 2020.
- FAO Council is expected to adopt the Strategy in Dec 2019.
Draft strategy proposes four outcomes:

1. Support provided to Members, at their request, to enhance their capacity to mainstream biodiversity
2. Biodiversity mainstreamed across FAO’s policies, programmes and activities
3. Role of biodiversity for food security and nutrition globally recognized
4. Coordination and delivery of FAO’s work on biodiversity strengthened

FAO will develop an action plan for the implementation of the Strategy for consideration by the Technical Committees and approval by the Council
The Commission may wish to invite member countries to:

- mainstream biodiversity across agricultural sectors
- provide feedback on the draft biodiversity strategy;
- implement international agreements relevant to biodiversity and forests, as well as the Global Plan of Action on forest genetic resources;
- initiate the preparation of their country reports for *The Second Report on the State of the World’s Forest Genetic Resources*, and to submit them to FAO by 30 June 2020.
The Commission may wish to request FAO to:

- initiate, upon the adoption of the FAO Strategy on Biodiversity, appropriate follow-up actions including a plan to mainstream biodiversity in the forest sector and report on progress made

- continue to report on forest-relevant work of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the implementation of the Global Plan of Action on forest genetic resources and the preparation of *The Second Report on the State of the World’s Forest Genetic Resources*
Thank you!

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