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منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة للأمم  
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联合国  
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Food and  
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Продовольственная и  
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организация  
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Organización  
de las  
Naciones Unidas  
para la  
Alimentación y la  
Agricultura

## LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

### THIRTIETH SESSION

Tegucigalpa - Honduras, 25 -29 September 2017

**FAO's report on follow-up activities to the recommendations and requests of the 29th Session of the Commission**

**Secretariat note**

#### Forest resources assessment

*... stressed the importance of incorporating into Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) reports statistics on secondary forests, degradation and landscape restoration... forestry data should be linked with data on such aspects as population, health, food security and poverty, to improve the understanding of the general public and others... They recommended FAO to develop a specific chapter on analysis of FRA statistics to include these aspects. (Para. 10)*

The Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) received FAO support to implement the Global Forest Resources Assessment methodologies (FRA) to generate information related to: i) extent and loss of forest areas ; ii) protective function of forest (ecological integrity and biodiversity); iii) protective functions of forest (wood, fuelwood and other products); iv) forest ownership; v) other aspects associated to sustainable forest management. Final report will be published in October 2017.

FAO FRA, National Forest Monitoring and UN-REDD teams will provide technical assistance for strength national capacities on monitoring processes. The first event will take place in the Caribbean in Trinidad and Tobago in November 2017. FRA 2020 process will be launched in January 2018 in Mexico (See document LACFC/2017/6).

*...they recommended that FAO disseminate more widely the results of FRA and sustainable forest management, in conjunction with countries, in order to improve the sector's perceptions. (Para. 12) ... recommended that the Committee on Forestry (COFO) promote the debate on integrating the forest sector with other sectors that manage land use and various economic and productive activities... (Para. 68)*

During the intersessional period, FAO published the document "The State of the World's Forests (SOFO 2016). Forests and agriculture: challenges and opportunities related to land use." The document highlighted the experiences of Chile and Costa Rica in relation to the increase of forest area while increasing food security and nutrition of the country

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<p><i>... support for standardizing methods of forest inventory, carbon measurement, and forest degradation and quality assessment... (Para. 15)</i></p>	<p>A meeting was held on "Exchange of Experiences on National Forest Inventories in Latin America and the Caribbean", in Manaus, Brazil (July 25-27, 2017). The main objective was to provide the opportunity for exchanging experiences and encouraging the creation of networks of forestry experts and technologies that encourage the continuous improvement of national forest inventories in the countries. The meeting was jointly organized by the Brazilian Forest Service (SFB) and the CATIE (Tropical Agronomic Research and Teaching Center), with the support of the ONUREDD.</p>
<p><b>Forestry pest and diseases</b></p>	
<p><i>... recommended that FAO continue to work on pest management and forest health... (Para. 20).</i></p>	<p>FAO, the United States Forest Service and the German Agency for International Cooperation supported the process of preparation of the Central American Pest Management and Forest Health Strategy.</p>
<p><b>SFM criteria &amp; indicators</b></p>	
<p><i>... recommended that FAO continue to work on pest management and forest health, criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management... (Para. 20).</i></p> <p><i>... recommended that FAO promote the identification of at least one indicator that could be used to pinpoint the contribution of forests to national food and nutrition security. (Para. 50)</i></p> <p><i>... requested that work begin on preparing social, environmental and economic indicators to assess the impact of climate change on forests and forest management ... (Para. 69)</i></p>	<p>FAO and the Forestry Conservation Institute of Honduras held the Regional Workshop on "Indicators of Climate Change and Food Security and Nutrition associated to Sustainable Forest Management", which took place between October 19th and 20th, 2016. The objectives of the regional workshop were to present, analyze, discuss and consolidate proposals for indicators to assess the impact of climate change on forests and their contribution to food security and nutrition and to generate recommendations to support the implementation of these indicators at country level. A total of 35 participants from 14 different attend the meeting.</p>
<p><b>Forests and landscape restoration</b></p>	
<p><i>... discussed the need to promote intersectoral and intercountry agreements on forest degradation- and landscape restoration-related ... requested FAO's support for systematization and exchanges of experience and for standardization of the concepts mentioned. (Para. 33)</i></p> <p><i>... recomendaron que en el marco de la Comisión se analice la posibilidad de establecer mesas o comisiones para abordar este tema de manera regional... (Pár. 34)</i></p> <p><i>... it was pointed out that planted forest provides ecosystem services and socio-economic benefits to local communities. The Commission therefore recommended that FAO start analysing the services provided by planted forest. (Para. 61)</i></p>	<p>FAO is supporting countries on forest and landscape restoration. The Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism (FLRM) operates in Latin America at the regional level to support the 20x20 Initiative and at national level in Peru and Guatemala to support the preparation and implementation of National Action Plans for Forests and Landscapes. There is an increasing efforts to promote intersectoral collaboration around de matter. (See document LACFC / 2017/15)</p> <p>FAO supported the organization of the Regional Workshop "Restoration of forests and landscapes in Mesoamerica in respond to the Bonn Challenge: Preparing the way for action on a large scale" with the participation of about 50 people. In the framework of the workshop the importance of forest plantations for the recovery of ecosystem services was analyzed.</p> <p>FAO facilitated the South-South cooperation process to strengthen Bolivia's and Nicaragua's national forest financing mechanism, with the support of Chile, Guatemala, Brazil and Mexico. The objective of this cooperation was to transfer experiences between countries, for scaling</p>

	<p>up the establishment of forest plantations in the above mentioned countries.</p> <p>In Nicaragua, FAO cooperated with the National Forest Crusade, through the review and analysis of technical and socio environmental criteria of the forestry promoting mechanism used by INAFOR.</p>
<p><b>Climate change</b></p>	
<p><i>The delegates of the Caribbean recommended that FAO strengthen sustainable forest management in small islands as a means for promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation, reducing disaster risk, building sustainable livelihoods and conserving biodiversity. (Para. 21)</i></p> <p><i>The delegates of the Caribbean said that, as climate change adaptation is an existential issue... requested that FAO work to achieve this outcome, which will entail implementing programmes for building climate change resilience that would include the forest component. (Para. 59)</i></p>	<p>FAO organized a regional workshop on Opportunities to Access the Green Climate Fund in the Caribbean Countries. The meeting took place in Trinidad and Tobago on May 3rd and 4th.</p> <p>Also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FAO supported Guyana on the preparation a project under the “Readiness modality” that was presented to the Green Climate Fund in September 2017.</li> <li>• In Dominica FAO is working on Project Preparation Funding Application.</li> <li>• Haiti received a FAO mission for the preparation of a GCF proposal for the southern region of the island.</li> <li>• San Kitts and Nevis requested FAO support for the preparation of the project proposal under “Readiness modality”.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Gender</b></p>	
<p><i>... gender had become a pressing social and economic issue that needs be addressed, especially as a process of feminization of rural work is under way in some countries. They therefore recommended that FAO continue working on these issues. (Para. 40)</i></p> <p><i>... recommended that FAO systematize successful experiences in this area, particularly those relating to the empowerment of women in business value chains. (Para. 41)</i></p>	<p>In order to raise the political interest on gender issues and to mainstream this perspective in a regional and cross-sectoral context, FAO led the preparation process of the Gender Strategy for the Food Security and Nutrition Plan of the Community of the Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC). The Strategy aims to ensure that the implementation of the Plan guarantees the empowerment of women, with emphasis on rural women, for been engaged in productive systems including those related to the forestry sector and agroforestry. The strategy ensures also the conservation of the livelihoods and food and nutrition security</p> <p>On the basis of this Strategy, progress will be made with sectoral and multi-sectoral actions to ensure the implementation of the Strategy, including in the forestry sector.</p>
<p><b>Forests financing</b></p>	
<p><i>The Commission recommended that COFO continue the global dialogue on establishing a global forest fund to support countries in implementing international agreements on the issue. It also requested that synergies be sought between agreements and multilateral organizations working on environmental and forest issues. (Para. 71)</i></p>	<p>The Green Climate Fund (GCF) was consolidated during the LACFC intersessional period. The GCF explicitly incorporated into the mitigation area, the "forests and land use" subarea, and in the adaptation area, the "ecosystem and ecosystem services" subarea. This made available financial resources to support national forest programmes under the Paris Climate Agreement. FAO has been accredited to the Green Climate Fund in November 2016.</p>

<b>Law enhance and legal market</b>	
<p><i>... recommended that COFO promote fair trade in legal forest products, facilitating acceptance of national systems for the certification and traceability of such products... (Pára. 70)</i></p>	<p>The countries of the region are improving forest governance, with initiatives that promote the use of legal timber, recognition of customary rights in indigenous territories, improvement of the institutional structure, implementation of forest traceability and monitoring systems, generating spaces for dialogue and agreement, among others</p> <p>FAO through the EU FAO FLEGT programme supports to Ecuador in the design of the forest traceability system to be implemented at national level, Colombia in the generation of dialogue platforms such as departmental forest roundtables, Guatemala with the partnerships strengthening in southern Petén and in the negotiation of an agreement with Belize for forest resources governance, Guyana with the development of a pilot wood harvesting and monitoring model for small forest concessions with farmers associations, Honduras to promote small and medium forest owners to strengthen their local forest governance structures, Panama to develop a law that establishes an incentive program to recover the forest coverage, and Peru in the preparation of a forest transparency pilot plan. (See document LACFC/2017/10)</p>
<b>Inter- sectorial actions and the forestry management</b>	
<p><i>... recommended that the Regional Conference promote the development of cross-sector agendas that link agriculture/livestock issues with forestry/environmental issues, taking a holistic approach. (Pára. 74)</i></p> <p><i>... recommended that the Regional Conference analyze the economic and externality-related contribution of forests, including crop-livestock-forestry systems, to food security, family farming and territorial development, sustainable use of natural resources, climate change adaptation and risk management. (Para. 73)</i></p>	<p>The Regional Conference considered the following important policy issues for the region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food and nutrition security: from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</li> <li>• Transformation of the rural sector: rural territorial development, family farming, social and economic inclusion and innovation.</li> <li>• Sustainable use of natural resources, risk management and climate change adaptation in the new framework of SDGs.</li> </ul> <p>For each one FAO approved a specific working agenda with inter-sectoral actions that include the sustainable forest management (Seer document LACFC/2017/4)</p>
<b>Others</b>	
<p><i>The Commission recommended that FAO include in its programme of work: (Para. 75)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Implementing training processes for fire-fighting and fire management by local communities.</i></li> <li>• <i>Resuming work on defining and revising concepts and expanding the glossary of forestry terms.</i></li> <li>• <i>Continuing to implement programmes to help develop and improve the livelihoods of local</i></li> </ul>	<p>Cooperation processes were carried out at the national level and also it was promoted south - south cooperation between some countries: Mexico, Chile, Central American countries.</p> <p>This action is under the FRA planning regarding the preparation process of the next FRA 2020 report. (See document LACFC/2017/6)</p> <p>The Forests &amp; Farms Facility continues to be implemented and it is promoted its expansion to other countries in the region.</p>

<p><i>communities, including the</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Continuing with research into the issues of forest concessions and community business development</i></li></ul>	<p>National studies for impact assessment of forest concessions (Bolivia, Brazil, Guatemala, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela and Mexico) and regional workshop held in Brazil in 2016. The document "Voluntary guidelines for the sustainable management of public production natural forests in tropical countries through forest concessions in the context of the 2030 Agenda" (See document LACFC/2017/11)</p>
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