

REPORT

Lima,
Peru,
9 – 13 November,
2015

Latin American and Caribbean Forestry Commission

Twenty-ninth Session



PREVIOUS SESSIONS OF THE COMMISSION

1 st Session	Río de Janeiro, Brasil	23 May 1949
2 nd Session	Lima, Peru	14 November 1949
3 rd Session	Santiago, Chile	11 December 1950
4 th Session	Buenos Aires, Argentina	16-23 June 1952
5 th Session	Caracas, Venezuela	4-15 October 1955
6 th Session	Antigua, Guatemala	4-15 November 1958
7 th Session	Mexico City, Mexico	3-6 August 1960
8 th Session	Santiago, Chile	13-19 November 1962
9 th Session	Curitiba, Brazil	5-12 November 1964
10 th Session	Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago	4-9 December 1967
11 th Session	Quito, Ecuador	11-21 November 1970
12 th Session	Havana, Cuba	2-7 February 1976
13 th Session	Pátzcuaro, Michoacán, Mexico	18-22 February 1980
14 th Session	Lima, Peru	15-18 November 1982
15 th Session	San José, Costa Rica	6-10 October 1986
16 th Session	Kingston, Jamaica	18-22 April 1988
17 th Session	Ciudad Guayana, Venezuela	18-22 February 1991
18 th Session	Maldonado, Uruguay	6-10 December 1993
19 th Session	Ciudad de Panama, Panama	17-21 June 1996
20 th Session	Havana, Cuba	10-14 September 1998
21 st Session	Santa Fe de Bogota, Colombia	4-8 September 2000
22 nd Session	Buenos Aires, Argentina	7-11 October 2002
23 rd Session	San José, Costa Rica	18-22 October 2004
24 th Session	Santo Domingo, Dominican Rep.	26-30 June 2006
25 th Session	Quito, Ecuador	29 September-3 October 2008
26 th Session	Guatemala City, Guatemala	24-28 May 2010
27 th Session	Asunción, Paraguay	5-9 March 2012
28 th Session	Georgetown, Guyana	9-13 September 2013

REPORT

of the

TWENTY-NINTH SESSION

of the

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

Lima, Peru
9 - 13 November, 2015

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
2015

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SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUESTS

1. The delegates stressed the importance of incorporating into Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) reports statistics on secondary forests, degradation and landscape restoration. They also noted that 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 therefore recommended that FAO develop a specific chapter on analysis of FRA statistics to include these aspects. (Para. 10)
2. The delegates explained the problems their countries faced in securing strong perceptions of the deforestation issue and stressed the importance of sustainable forest management as a means for raising public awareness of efforts being made around the world to halt and reverse – rather than cause – deforestation. As they acknowledged FAO to be a neutral organization with credibility on statistical data, 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)
3. The delegates of the Caribbean requested FAO support for standardizing methods of forest inventory, carbon measurement, and forest degradation and quality assessment, as well as for building capacity to develop management plans in small island states of the subregion. (Para. 15)
4. The delegates recommended that FAO continue to work on pest management and forest health, criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management, and forests and the green economy, including economic, social and environmental aspects. (Para. 20)
5. 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)
6. The delegates discussed the intersectoral coordination required for landscape restoration and the division of responsibilities that complicates action and hampers such coordination in most countries. However, they added that it provides an opportunity to gain a more comprehensive view of restoration processes. In this connection, the delegates discussed the need to promote intersectoral and intercountry agreements on forest degradation- and landscape restoration-related concepts. The delegates requested FAO's support for systematization and exchanges of experience and for standardization of the concepts mentioned. (Para. 33)
7. The delegates pointed to the need to promote land-use planning as the basis for coordinated interagency planning and action for forest and landscape restoration. The delegates recommended that the possibility be studied, within the Latin American and Caribbean Forestry Commission (LACFC) framework, of establishing working groups or committees to address this issue on a regional basis. This could be promoted through online communication mechanisms. (Para. 34)
8. The delegates stated that, owing to the migration of men, women and youth to urban centres, 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)
9. The delegates said that, as most countries have mainstreaming policies to encourage women's participation, they recommended that FAO systematize successful experiences in this

area, particularly those relating to the empowerment of women in business value chains. (Para. 41)

10. The delegates were told that, while the profile of food and nutrition security had been raised in the Regional Strategic Programme for Forest Ecosystem Management of Central America and the Dominican Republic (PERFOR), no specific indicator had been provided for monitoring it. They therefore 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)

11. The delegates of the Caribbean said that, as climate change adaptation is an existential issue for small island states, they will not accept less effort to limit the increase in the global average temperature to 1.5°C above the pre-industrial average. They therefore 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)

12. On the subject of sustainable development, 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)

13. The Commission 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, as part of a process of social inclusion for development without deforestation, and that COFO promote a higher profile for the contribution of forests to food security and to hunger and poverty eradication. In this connection, it recommended furthering discussions on forests and the green economy. (Para. 68)

14. The Commission recommended that COFO continue the debate on climate change and forests, particularly on the issues of forest health, wildfires and intensification of natural disasters. To this end, it requested that work begin on preparing social, environmental and economic indicators to assess the impact of climate change on forests and forest management. It also requested that FAO develop toolkits for valuing forest ecosystem services. (Para. 69)

15. The Commission recommended that COFO promote fair trade in legal forest products, facilitating acceptance of national systems for the certification and traceability of such products, without resorting to complex international certification systems that undermine the food security of local communities. (Para. 70)

16. 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)

17. The Commission recommended that COFO identify funding sources to ensure and broaden the participation of delegates from developing countries and small developing island states in meetings of the Commissions, Committee and other international fora for dialogue on forest issues. It also urged the Secretariat to promote face-to-face and online meetings during the intersessional period and to establish special working groups on priority technical issues. (Para. 72)

18. The Commission recommended that the Regional Conference analyse 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)

19. The Commission 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. It also recommended that the Regional Conference facilitate the access of sustainably produced agricultural and livestock products to international markets. (Para. 74)

20. The Commission recommended that FAO include in its programme of work: (Para. 75)

- Developing methodologies for assessing the contribution of planted forest to the production of environmental goods and services for sustainable development and food security.
- Implementing training processes for fire-fighting and fire management by local communities.
- Resuming work on defining and revising concepts and expanding the glossary of forestry terms.
- Continuing to build national and subregional capacity in the areas of forest health and invasive species control, as well as setting up cooperation mechanisms.
- Continuing to implement programmes to help develop and improve the livelihoods of local communities, including the forest component.
- Relationship between forests and the green economy.
- Continuing to support the forest inventories being developed by countries, and the REDD+ (reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation) mechanism.
- Continuing with research into the issues of forest concessions and community business development as input for the formulation and reformulation of public policies.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Latin American and Caribbean Forestry Commission (LACFC) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) held its 29th Session from 9 to 13 November 2015 in Lima, Peru, at the kind invitation of the Government of the Republic of Peru. The Session was attended by delegates from 20 member countries and representatives from 12 organizations, including United Nations agencies and international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, attending as observers. The Agenda is provided in *Appendix A*, the List of Participants in *Appendix B*, the List of Documents submitted to the Commission in *Appendix C*, and the Workplans of the Subregional Groups of the Commission for the period 2016-2017, including recommendations to the Committee on Forestry (COFO), the Regional Conference and the FAO Programme of Work, in *Appendix D*.

2. Mrs Fabiola Muñoz Dodero, Executive Director of Peru's National Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR), began the opening session by welcoming the participants on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Peru. Mr Eduardo Mansur, Director of the FAO Forest Assessment, Management and Conservation Division, welcomed the participants on behalf of Mrs Maria Helena M.Q. Semedo, FAO Deputy Director-General for Natural Resources and Officer in Charge of the FAO Forestry Department in Rome. Mr John Preissing, FAO Representative in Peru, then addressed the participants. Following this, Her Excellency Ambassador Lilian Ballón Sánchez de Amézaga, Director for Environment at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru, addressed the participants before formally opening the session. In the absence of Mr James Singh, Chair of the Commission, who had been unable to attend the event, Mr Aarón Cavieres Cancino, Executive Director of Chile's National Forest Corporation (CONAF) and Vice-Chair of the Commission's Southern Cone Subregional Group, concluded the opening session.

3. Mrs Muñoz pointed to the importance of fora such as LACFC for discussing forestry matters in the region and affirmed Peru's commitment to the issues of forests, food security and livelihoods. Mr Mansur thanked the Government of the Republic of Peru for its generous offer to host the Session and for the excellent organization of the event. She went on to discuss FAO events in connection with global agenda 2015, referring to recently released statistics from the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA). Finally, he urged the Commission to provide recommendations to the FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in February 2016, and to the FAO Committee on Forestry, to be held in July 2016. Mr Preissing discussed FAO's five Strategic Objectives and the relationship between forests and each of the objectives. Ambassador Ballón Sánchez de Amézaga noted that Peru is rich in biodiversity and genetic resources associated with its indigenous peoples, adding that Peru is the country with the world's second largest area of Amazon rainforest, the fourth largest forest area in Latin America and the ninth largest forest area in the world. She concluded her address by formally opening the Session. Mr Cancino presented his compliments to the delegates on behalf of Mr Singh before formally concluding the opening session.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (Item 1)

4. The Agenda was adopted without amendments.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS (Item 2)

5. In accordance with Articles II-1 and II-5 of its Rules of Procedure, the Commission elected a Chair, three Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur. The following members of the Commission were elected unanimously:

- Chair: Fabiola Muñoz Dodero (Peru), Amazon Subregional Group
- Vice-Chairs: Donna Lowe (Jamaica), Caribbean Subregional Group
Gilbert Canet (Costa Rica), Mesoamerican Subregional Group
Aarón Cavieres (Chile), Southern Cone Subregional Group
- Rapporteur: Liliana Corinaldesi (Argentina)

6. Mr Jorge Meza, Senior Forestry Officer at the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, acted as Secretary.

FRA 2015 AND THE STATE OF THE FOREST SECTOR IN THE REGION (Item 3)

7. The LACFC Secretariat presented document FO:LACFC/2015/2 entitled “FRA 2015 and the state of the forest sector in the Region”.

8. The Secretariat reported on the results of FRA 2015 relating to 234 countries and territories, including 155 reporting countries. It described the new format published by the FRA, which summarizes key findings concerning the status and trends of the world’s forests and contains 120 variables.

9. The Secretariat noted that 46 percent of the land area of Latin America and the Caribbean is forested, which corresponds to 23 percent of the world’s total forest area. The Secretariat reported that FRA results had shown a decrease in deforestation in the region from 4.45 million hectares per year in 1990-2000 to 2.18 million hectares per year in 2010-2015. This slow-down stems mainly from reduced deforestation in Brazil. The Mesoamerican and Southern Cone subregions also show a reduction in the rate of annual forest loss, while the Caribbean subregion shows an increase in forest coverage.

10. The delegates stressed the importance of incorporating into FRA reports statistics on secondary forests, degradation and landscape restoration. They also noted that 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 therefore recommended that FAO develop a specific chapter on analysis of FRA statistics to include these aspects.

11. The delegates stated that the use of better forest measurement methods and tools had provided FRA 2015 with more accurate information. They pointed out that, as countries are responsible for sending information, this improvement in the quality of information collected reflects the countries’ efforts to this end.

12. The delegates explained the problems their countries faced in securing strong perceptions of the deforestation issue and stressed the importance of sustainable forest management as a means for raising public awareness of efforts being made around the world to halt and reverse – rather than cause – deforestation. As they acknowledged FAO to be a neutral organization with credibility on statistical data, 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.

13. The delegates expressed the need to improve perceptions by publicizing the role of planted forest, both from a production standpoint (improving the local and national economy and generating social development) and from an environmental standpoint (e.g. enabling more carbon sequestration and generating ecosystem services). The delegates said that the causes of deforestation had been confirmed as largely external to the forest sector.

14. The Commission acknowledged the importance of FAO's historical data, which can be used to develop trends that show the forest sector's efforts in reducing deforestation and increasing forest cover.

15. The delegates of the Caribbean requested FAO support for standardizing methods of forest inventory, carbon measurement, and forest degradation and quality assessment, as well as for building capacity to develop management plans in small island states of the subregion.

16. The Commission acknowledged that significant progress had been made in reducing deforestation owing to efforts to promote sustainable forest management and to the implementation of natural resource conservation policies in other sectors. It said that, as the rate of deforestation remains high despite this progress, it recommended that countries pursue these efforts to reduce it.

FAO'S REPORT ON FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUESTS OF THE 28TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION (Item 4)

17. The LACFC Secretariat presented document FO:LACFC/2015/3 entitled "FAO's report on follow-up activities to the recommendations and requests of the 28th Session of the Commission".

18. The Commission was informed on the follow-up to the 28th Session of the Commission and, in particular, actions arising from the recommendations and requests made at the meeting.

19. The delegates recognized the work achieved by FAO over the intersessional period and said that it was important to continue promoting exchanges of experience and cooperation among countries. In addition, the delegate of Argentina highlighted the importance of bilateral cooperation and country-to-country assistance as a means for strengthening the sector in the region. In this connection, the delegates pointed to the benefit of establishing expert working groups on issues of importance to countries, which could also hold online meetings.

20. The delegates recommended that FAO continue to work on pest management and forest health, criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management, and forests and the green economy, including economic, social and environmental aspects.

21. 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.

22. The delegate of Brazil requested further information on the European Union (EU)-FAO Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Programme, to be assessed internally by his country before it considers providing support. With regard to the recommendation in paragraph 34 of the document, the delegate of Brazil said that, as further discussion is needed internally about developing new guidelines on the legal aspects of tenure, valuation of ecosystem services, land-use planning and responsible management of land for forest, agricultural and livestock use, Brazil is not in a position to follow the recommendation (paragraph 34 of document FO:LACFC/2015/3). With regard to the online Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) Toolbox, Brazil would like to have more information on the selection of content for the platform before using and disseminating it, and reiterated the suggestion to create a module on available resources for sustainable forest management.

23. The delegate of Honduras said that the EU-FAO FLEGT process is important for the country's forestry development, emphasizing that the biggest challenge is the implementation process and private-sector involvement.

GLOBAL ITEMS OF RELEVANCE TO THE REGION (Item 5)

Global political processes: United Nations Forum on Forests, Sustainable Development Goals, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Item 5.1)

24. The LACFC Secretariat presented document FO:LACFC/2015/4 entitled “Global political processes: United Nations Forum on Forests, Sustainable Development Goals, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change”.

25. The Secretariat reported on: the outcomes of the Eleventh Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests with regard to the Ministerial Declaration and the Resolution on the International Arrangement on Forests beyond 2016; the arrangements and discussions of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 21); and the importance of forests for implementing Sustainable Development Goals. The representative of the United Nations Forum on Forests made an address on the subject.

26. The delegates felt that lack of a global forest fund could hinder the implementation of agreements on the matter, although it was pointed out that a global network does exist to promote project development and the identification of funding sources. In response, the delegate of Mexico said that his country is working to achieve zero deforestation by 2030, for which it is implementing the requisite public policy actions.

27. The delegate of Brazil requested removal of the final paragraph in the document, from “including through, inter alia ...” until “climate change mitigation (i.e. REDD+) and adaptation” because the list of sectors is not exhaustive, in addition to which Brazil has particular difficulties with the concept of climate smart agriculture. The delegate of Brazil was of the opinion that agriculture and livestock should be addressed under the imperative of ensuring food security and adaptation of production systems to climate change impacts, in line with the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Article 2 thereof.

Outcome of the XIV World Forestry Congress (Item 5.2)

28. The LACFC Secretariat presented document FO:LACFC/2015/5 entitled “Outcome of the XIV World Forestry Congress”.

29. The Secretariat summarized the three outcome documents of the congress: Durban Declaration – 2050 vision for forests and forestry; Message from the XIV World Forestry Congress to the United Nations General Assembly Summit for the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and Message from the XIV World Forestry Congress on Climate Change to COP 21.

30. The delegate of Brazil said that the outcome documents and considerations are important for the future work of both the Commission and FAO, adding that the documents have not been officially endorsed by countries because the World Forestry Congress is not an event for intergovernmental negotiations. The Secretariat replied that the outcome documents were only intended to contribute to the Commission’s discussions.

Forest and landscape restoration (Item 5.3)

31. The LACFC Secretariat presented document FO:LACFC/2015/6 entitled “Forest and landscape restoration”.

32. The Secretariat reported on opportunities for forest and landscape restoration worldwide and on the scope of the challenge and major global initiatives in this area. It also mentioned the main mechanisms developed by FAO for cooperation with countries, describing the related concepts and approaches.

33. The delegates discussed the intersectoral coordination required for landscape restoration and the division of responsibilities that complicates action and hampers such coordination in most countries. However, they added that it provides an opportunity to gain a more comprehensive view of restoration processes. In this connection, the delegates discussed the need to promote intersectoral and inter-country agreements on forest degradation- and landscape restoration-related concepts. The delegates requested FAO's support for systematization and exchanges of experience and for standardization of the concepts mentioned.

34. The delegates pointed to the need to promote land-use planning as the basis for coordinated interagency planning and action for forest and landscape restoration. The delegates recommended that the possibility be studied, within the LACFC framework, of establishing working groups or committees to address this issue on a regional basis. This could be promoted through online communication mechanisms.

35. The delegate of Uruguay stressed the importance of promoting research into such areas as sustainable forest management (native forest dynamics, forest genetics, etc.), and believed that restoration should be tackled from the productive, economic and ecological standpoints.

36. The delegates emphasized that the restoration process could create income opportunities for the private sector and communities. The delegate of Colombia said that this mechanism could also help to settle disputes in the territories.

37. The delegate of Brazil believed that, as no definition for the term "landscape approach" had been agreed in multilateral fora, use of this term should not pave the way for manipulation of the concept for trade protection purposes, or for legitimization of subsidies based on the "multi-functionality of agriculture". He stated that Brazil is not part of either the Bonn Challenge, the Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration, the International Model Forest Network or the Landscapes for People, Food and Nature initiative.

Gender, youth and education for the promotion of sustainable forest development (Item 5.4)

38. The LACFC Secretariat presented document FO:LACFC/2015/7 entitled "Gender, youth and education for the promotion of sustainable forest development".

39. The delegates reiterated the need to enhance information on the importance of forest resources and to expand education strategies and programmes to highlight their benefits. They added that this would help to create a society ever more mindful of the protection and proper use of natural resources. They said there is a pressing need to build social and human capital for this.

40. The delegates stated that, owing to the migration of men, women and youth to urban centers, 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.

41. The delegates said that, as most countries have mainstreaming policies to encourage women's participation, they recommended that FAO systematize successful experiences in this area, particularly those relating to the empowerment of women in business value chains.

42. The delegates of the Caribbean reported that, in some small island states, there is little forestry education and that young people have no opportunities for vocational forestry education, which has had an adverse impact on succession planning in the forestry sector. Furthermore, basic traditional knowledge is being lost owing to young people's indifference, low wages and limited job opportunities in the sector. The delegate of Colombia reported that the mechanism of forgivable loans for higher education in agriculture and forestry encourages young people to remain in rural areas and to develop productive activities in these sectors.

43. The delegates stressed the importance of diversifying the forestry production sector to promote the creation of alternative employment for young people and women in rural areas.

IN-SESSION SEMINARS (Item 6)

Food security and nutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean (Item 6.1)

44. The LACFC Secretariat presented document FO:LACFC/2015/8 entitled "Food security and nutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean".

45. The Secretariat reported that the Latin American and Caribbean region had achieved two Millennium Development Goal targets relating to hunger and poverty and the World Food Summit target of halving the number of undernourished people. It added that forests had helped both directly and indirectly to achieve these targets.

46. The national delegates made the following presentations: Ecuador on diversification of forest production and the contribution of planted forest to the national economy; Guatemala on incentives for planted forest and smallholder agroforestry systems; and Brazil on forest concessions. The Secretariat also made a presentation prepared by Guyana on community forestry and forest concessions to local communities.

47. The delegates said that forests contribute to food and nutrition security, not only because they provide food but also because managing and harvesting them generates the income needed to buy food. They emphasized the importance of forests in providing livelihoods for people in rural areas.

48. The delegate of Uruguay said that governments should ensure that forest-derived goods and services benefit the poorest rural populations, preventing the market from becoming the only way for redistributing income from forest harvesting.

49. The delegate of Mexico noted that, while the poorest and most vulnerable people live in forested areas, fighting hunger among them goes beyond the forest sector alone. He said that forests make a major contribution to government efforts to reduce poverty and food insecurity. He added that it was important to emphasize the contribution of forests, not only in terms of food but also in improving people's quality of life, which is why, as well as being considered a priority strategic sector, the forest sector should also be considered as a sector of national security.

50. The delegates were told that, while the profile of food and nutrition security had been raised in the Regional Strategic Programme for Forest Ecosystem Management of Central America and the Dominican Republic (PERFOR), no specific indicator had been provided for monitoring it. They therefore 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.

51. The delegates stated that appropriate funding is needed to contribute optimally to the hunger reduction effort via the forest component. In this regard, they acknowledged that states are investing in the forest sector as a viable way of fighting poverty and improving living standards.

52. The delegates noted that, without proper management, the effort to link food production with forest management could lead to forest degradation as a result of the intensification of certain associated crops and of extractive activities. The delegate of Dominica warned that strategies need to be developed to mitigate this and also the effects of mining and other extractive activities, such as illicit crops.

53. The delegate of Jamaica said that, to address the above issue, it is important to promote participatory development processes involving communities, for which local forest management committees are becoming an important initiative in Jamaica, providing valuable lessons for the region. He added that land-use planning needed to highlight the importance of forest resources in a landscape context.

54. The delegates also discussed the risk of pressure from the use of forested areas to increase food production, which would lead to a loss of biodiversity in existing natural resources, as well as to the loss of forest-based water regime regulation and clean water production. This would diminish the capacity to produce such food, resulting in a negative outcome.

55. The delegates went on to discuss forest concessions as a means for improving forest governance and protection, even over extensive areas. In this regard, they considered that, in accordance with conditions in individual countries, communities should be included in this type of harvesting.

Sustainable development and rural innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean (Item 6.2)

56. The LACFC Secretariat presented document FO:LACFC/2015/9 entitled “Sustainable development and rural innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean”.

57. The Secretariat noted that rural poverty eradication, sustainable management of natural resources, and the social and economic transformation of rural areas needed for the rural economy’s sustainable development are challenges that require the participation and empowerment of the rural population, innovative solutions and the commitment of society as a whole.

58. The delegates made the following presentations: Jamaica on local forest management committees as a consultation mechanism for participatory forest management; Costa Rica on the relationship between climate change and forest-based resilience building; Uruguay on experience of climate change and its impact on forest health; and Chile on innovation for wildfire management, prevention, control and monitoring.

59. The delegates of the Caribbean said that, as climate change adaptation is an existential issue for small island states, they will not accept a reduction in effort to limit the increase in the global average temperature to 1.5 °C above the pre-industrial average. They therefore requested that FAO work to achieve this outcome, which will entail implementing programmes for building climate change resilience that would include the forest component.

60. The delegates said that strengthening institutions with respect to climate change and sustainable forest development remains an important issue for the region. They added that the promotion of linkages between the forest sector and other sectors calls for comprehensive planning processes, in the form of development plans agreed at subnational government level.

61. On the subject of sustainable development, 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.

62. The delegates from countries of the Southern Cone subregion attending the Session (Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay) requested that the Commission inform the Southern Cone Plant Health Committee (COSAVE) of the importance of effective implementation of the regional forest health strategy, regional action plan, technology platform for detection and early warning and intraregional cooperation mechanism for sharing knowledge and developing common solutions, as part of the subregional initiative to establish a forest health system in Southern Cone countries and Bolivia.

63. The delegates highlighted the importance of continuing to share fire-management experience and expertise and of investing in wildfire prevention, in view of the high costs involved in controlling wildfires.

64. The delegate of Brazil suggested that the final point for consideration in the Secretariat's document should include financial support for small-scale producers with view to incentive ecosystem conservation, promote social inclusion, increase living standards, raise the incomes of people living in extreme poverty, and promote natural resource conservation in rural areas. She also suggested that one of the additional points for consideration in the document should be the importance of integrated fire management and its benefits for local communities, biodiversity conservation, greenhouse gas reduction and sustainable development generally.

ACTIVITIES OF THE SUBREGIONAL GROUPS OF THE COMMISSION (Item 7)

Formulation of work plans of the Subregional Groups of the Commission for the period 2016-2017 (Item 7.1)

65. The Subregional Groups of the Commission formulated their work plans for the period 2016-2017. The proposals are included in *Appendix D*.

66. The main issues identified by the delegates for their work plans were:

- The role of forests in food security and poverty alleviation.
- Responsible consumption of legal forest products and sustainably produced agricultural products.
- Environmental services in integrated production systems.
- Forest protection: wildfires, forest health and invasive species.
- Forestry outreach, communication, education and training.
- Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.
- Forest resources assessment (inventory and monitoring).
- Participation and governance.
- Landscape restoration.

Formulation of regional priorities for the FAO forestry programme, to be considered by the Committee on Forestry (COFO) and the 34th FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean (Item 7.2)

67. The LACFC Secretariat presented document FO:LACFC/2015/10 entitled “Formulation of regional priorities for the FAO forestry programme, to be considered by the Committee on Forestry (COFO) and the 34th FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean”.

68. The Commission recommended that COFO promote the debate on integrating the forest sector with other sectors that manage land use and various economic and productive activities, as part of a process of social inclusion for development without deforestation, and that COFO promote a higher profile for the contribution of forests to food security and to hunger and poverty eradication. In this connection, it recommended furthering discussions on forests and the green economy.

69. The Commission recommended that COFO continue the debate on climate change and forests, particularly on the issues of forest health, wildfires and intensification of natural disasters. To this end, it requested that work begin on preparing social, environmental and economic indicators to assess the impact of climate change on forests and forest management. It also requested that FAO develop toolkits for valuing forest ecosystem services.

70. The Commission recommended that COFO promote fair trade in legal forest products, facilitating acceptance of national systems for the certification and traceability of such products, without resorting to complex international certification systems that undermine the food security of local communities.

71. 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.

72. The Commission recommended that COFO identify funding sources to ensure and broaden the participation of delegates from developing countries and small developing island states in meetings of the Commissions, Committee and other international fora for dialogue on forest issues. It also urged the Secretariat to promote face-to-face and online meetings during the intersessional period and to establish special working groups on priority technical issues.

73. The Commission recommended that the Regional Conference analyse 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.

74. The Commission 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. It also recommended that the Regional Conference facilitate the access of sustainably produced agricultural and livestock products to international markets.

75. The Commission recommended that FAO include in its programme of work:

- Developing methodologies for assessing the contribution of planted forest to the production of environmental goods and services for sustainable development and food security.
- Implementing training processes for fire-fighting and fire management by local communities.

- Resuming work on defining and revising concepts and expanding the glossary of forestry terms.
- Continuing to build national and subregional capacity in the areas of forest health and invasive species control, as well as setting up cooperation mechanisms.
- Continuing to implement programmes to help develop and improve the livelihoods of local communities, including the forest component.
- Relationship between forests and the green economy.
- Continuing to support the forest inventories being developed by countries, and the REDD+ (reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation) mechanism.
- Continuing with research into the issues of forest concessions and community business development as input for the formulation and reformulation of public policies.

INFORMATION ON REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL FORESTRY MEETINGS (Item 8)

76. The Commission was informed of the following:

- National seminar on sustainable forest management, to be held on 1, 2 and 3 December 2015 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.
- Events to be held at the Peru Pavilion in Paris on 2 and 3 December 2015, as part of the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 21), on the subjects of Peru's national pact for legal timber and of agroforestry systems and nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs).
- COP 21 side event on forest landscape restoration, to be held by Costa Rica in Paris on 5 December 2015.

77. Regional workshop on legal timber trade, customs, plant health and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), to be held by the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Centre (CATIE) in coordination with other organizations, in March 2016 in Turrialba, Costa Rica.

OTHER BUSINESS (Item 9)

78. The Secretariat informed FAO and requested its comments regarding the concept note on preparing voluntary guidelines for the development and implementation of the biosecurity plan for natural and planted forests, which proposes activities to build countries' planning and response capacity to prevent the spread of pests. It also reported on the availability of a platform to facilitate consultation of forest policy and programme documents at FAO, which links together three FAO databases: that of the FAO Forestry Department; that of the Food and Agriculture Policy Decision Analysis (FAPDA) programme; and the FAOLEX database of national legislation on food, agriculture and renewable natural resources.

79. The delegate of Ecuador read a statement addressed to LACFC from the International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR), describing the contribution of bamboo to seven of the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and urged Commission members to take part in the Global Assessment of Bamboo and Rattan for Green Development (GABAR).

80. The delegate of Saint Lucia requested the support of LACFC members in promoting the position of the Caribbean countries for the forthcoming COP 21, as described in paragraph 59 of this report.

81. The delegate of Peru and Chair of LACFC expressed her interest in acknowledging, within the framework of the forthcoming COP 21, FAO's extensive work on forest issues in the region, in cooperation with countries.

82. The Secretariat reported that the Bahamas had told FAO that, in the near future, it would be concluding the necessary formalities to become an official member of LACFC.

DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION OF THE COMMISSION (Item 10)

83. The Secretariat reported on the procedure for deciding the venue of the next session of the Commission. The delegate of Colombia expressed his country's interest in hosting the next session of LACFC. The delegate of Costa Rica, on behalf of the delegate of Honduras, also expressed the interest of Honduras in hosting the forthcoming LACFC session. The delegate of Guatemala said that the Forest Technical Group of the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD), which comprises eight Central American countries and the Dominican Republic, had decided to support the nomination of Honduras. The delegate of Mexico said that his country also supported the nomination of Honduras.

84. The Commission provisionally agreed that the next session of LACFC should be held from 6 to 10 November 2017.

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND CLOSING OF THE SESSION (Item 11)

85. After reviewing and making appropriate adjustments to the draft report presented by the Rapporteur, the Commission adopted the report unanimously.

86. The Session was closed by Mrs Jazmine Casafranca on behalf of FAO, and by Mrs Fabiola Muñoz on behalf of the Republic of Peru.

APPENDIX A**AGENDA****Items**

1. Opening of the Session and adoption of the Agenda.
2. Election of Officers.
3. FRA 2015 and the State of the Forest Sector in the Region.
4. FAO's report on follow-up activities to the recommendations and requests of the 28th Session of the Commission.
5. Global items of relevance for the Region:
 - 5.1 Global political processes: United Nations Forum of Forests, Sustainable Development Goals, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
 - 5.2 Outcome of the XIV World Forestry Congress.
 - 5.3 Forest and landscape restoration.
 - 5.4 Gender, youth and education for the promotion of sustainable forest development.
6. In-session Seminars:
 - 6.1 Food and nutrition security in Latin America and the Caribbean.
 - Diversification of forest production and contribution to the national economy: the case of ecosystem services.
 - Incentives for forest plantations (protection, production and energetics) and agroforestry systems for small land owners.
 - Forest concessions and other practices for the multifunctional use of forests for local people.
 - 6.2 Sustainable Development and Rural Innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean.
 - Governance for sustainable forest management.
 - Climate change and strengthening of resilience through forests.
 - Wildland fires, fire management, prevention, monitoring and control.
7. Activities of the Subregional Groups of the Commission:
 - 7.1 Formulation of workplans of the Subregional Groups of the Commission for the period 2016-2017.
 - 7.2 Formulation of regional priorities for the FAO forestry programme, to be considered by the Committee on Forestry (COFO) and the 34th FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean.
8. Information on regional and subregional forestry meetings.
9. Other business.
10. Date and place of the next Session of the Commission.
11. Adoption of the Report and closing of the Session.

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APPENDIX C**LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

Agenda Item	Code	Title
1	FO:LACFC/2015/1	Provisional Agenda
3	FO:LACFC/2015/2	FRA 2015 and the State of the Forest Sector in the Region
4	FO:LACFC/2015/3	FAO's report on follow-up activities to the recommendations and requests of the 28 th Session of the Commission
5.1	FO:LACFC/2015/4	Global political processes: United Nations Forum of Forests, Sustainable Development Goals, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
5.2	FO:LACFC/2015/5	Outcome of the XIV World Forestry Congress
5.3	FO:LACFC/2015/6	Forest and landscape restoration
5.4	FO:LACFC/2015/7	Gender, youth and education for the promotion of sustainable forest development
6.1	FO:LACFC/2015/8	Food and nutrition security in Latin America and the Caribbean
6.2	FO:LACFC/2015/9	Sustainable development and rural innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean
7.2	FO:LACFC/2015/10	Formulation of regional priorities for the FAO forestry programme, to be considered by the Committee on Forestry (COFO), and the 34 th FAO Regional Conference for Latin America and the Caribbean

Information documents:

FO:LACFC/2015/Inf.1	Information Note for the Participants
FO:LACFC/2015/Inf.2	Provisional Timetable
FO:LACFC/2015/Inf.3	List of Documents

APPENDIX D

**WORK PLANS OF THE SUBREGIONAL GROUPS OF THE COMMISSION
FOR THE PERIOD 2016-2017**

SOUTHERN CONE SUBREGIONAL GROUP

Programme of work for the biennium			
<i>Issue</i>	<i>Anticipated outcome</i>		<i>Lead country</i>
Forest health	Application of outputs delivered by the project for a regional forest health system in Southern Cone countries and Bolivia: regional forest health strategy; regional action plan; technology platform for detection and early warning; intraregional cooperation mechanism for sharing knowledge and developing common solutions		Uruguay
Wildfires	Protocol for mutual support among countries in the subregion to share assistance and supplies for controlling wildfires. Harmonized fire control protocol. Harmonized protocol for setting up early warning systems against potential cross-border fires.		Chile
Outreach and education	Promoting a subregional discussion, with a communication objective, to integrate the various views on planted forest and its positive and negative aspects.		Chile
REDD+	Sharing progress among countries in the region on REDD+ and exchanges		Paraguay
RFC recommendations for the attention of COFO (issues to be considered for inclusion in the Agenda)			
<i>Priority issues for COFO's consideration</i>	<i>Anticipated outcome (information/discussion/decision)</i>	<i>Possible follow-up activities for COFO and FAO</i>	<i>Reference to other RFC recommendation</i>
Social, environmental and economic indicators to assess the impact of climate change on forests and forest management	Decision to start work on preparing and reaching global agreement on these indicators	Establishment of a working group with country delegates	
Traceability of legal forest products under sustainable forest management	Global discussion	Preparation of a side event at COFO	
Developing specific data on the link between forests and other sectors that generate positive impacts on various sectors	Discussion	Case studies	
RFC recommendations for the attention of the Regional Conference			
<i>Priority issues for consideration by the Regional Conference</i>	<i>Anticipated outcome (information/discussion/decision)</i>	<i>Possible follow-up activities for FAO</i>	
Analysis of the economic and externality-related contribution of forests to the three priority issues of the Regional Conference, taking into account subregional and national circumstances	Information/study	Preparation of the aforementioned study for policy discussion by the ministers at Conference level	

RFC recommendations for the FAO Programme of Work in Forestry related to the Agenda of the current session				
<i>Area/action for FAO Programme of Work</i>	<i>Priority (high, medium, low or de-emphasis)</i>	<i>Type (new or continued)</i>	<i>Level of action (subregional/regional/global)</i>	<i>Strategic Objective</i>
Continuing to develop the online course on wildfires (FAO–Chilean National Forest Corporation (CONAF))	High	Continued	Regional	5
Promoting online and face-to-face meetings of LACFC members during the intersessional period	High	Continued	Subregional	2
Resuming work on defining and revising concepts and expanding the glossary of forestry terms	High	Continued	Global	2
Supporting upgrading of the platform for exchanging information and experience on forest health and implementation of the cooperation mechanism (training among country experts)	High	Continued	Subregional	2

AMAZON SUBREGIONAL GROUP

Programme of work for the biennium		
<i>Issue</i>	<i>Anticipated outcome</i>	<i>Lead country</i>
Based on the Commission document addressing sustainable-production and food-security issues as the framework of discussion for this working group		
Food production without illegal deforestation: reducing illegal deforestation should not mean reducing food production; agriculture should not expand at the expense of forests; there is no desire to buy products from illegally deforested areas.	<p>Outcome: Influencing public policies to promote sustainable agricultural production with no adverse impact on forests.</p> <p>To achieve this outcome, it is necessary to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document experiences of sustainable food production that does not encourage illegal deforestation; identify incentives and disincentives to sustainable production of agricultural and wood products and lessons learned. • Analyse markets for alternative products, including agricultural products (coffee, cocoa, soybean, palm); assess the impact of an economically viable and socially inclusive form of sustainable production. 	Peru
Responsible and competitive local and international markets: responsible and competitive local/international markets for sustainably produced products (legal timber, agricultural products, seeds, fruits, resins). Informal production (timber, fuelwood market)	<p>Outcome: Spreading the responsible consumption message: values, critical consciousness.</p> <p>To achieve this outcome, it is necessary to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement clear and simple traceability mechanisms for sustainably produced forest and non-forest products. • Promote competitive markets in these sustainably produced agricultural and wood products and diversification of production. • Facilitate legal production and more effective entry into the formal system through incentives that facilitate this process. 	Ecuador

Environmental services in integrated production systems	<p>Outcome: Documenting and creating opportunities for dialogue to promote production systems that integrate sustainable practices guaranteeing the provision of environmental services.</p> <p>Creating opportunities for coordination between ministries of agriculture/production/tourism/(intersectoral) and environment and for the private sector to incorporate ecosystem services into sustainable production efforts. Less punitive and more proactive. Role of the state, role of private enterprise.</p>	Colombia	
RFC recommendations for the attention of COFO (issues to be considered for inclusion in the Agenda)			
<i>Priority issues for COFO's consideration</i>	<i>Anticipated outcome (information/discussion/decision)</i>	<i>Possible follow-up activities for COFO and FAO</i>	<i>Reference to other RFC recommendation</i>
<p>Fair trade in crop, livestock, fishery and forestry products, and ensuring that products are legally sourced (certification and costs, national certification)</p> <p>Para-tariff barriers impacting on the food security of food producing countries and on markets governed by WTO rules</p>	<p>Influencing regional discussions on para-tariff barriers and their impact on the food security of Latin American and Caribbean countries. Overpriced certificates that impact on producing countries.</p>	<p>Highlighting this issue and its impact on food security (natural/planted forest and wood and non-wood forest products)</p>	
<p>Highlight the real contribution of forests to food security and to hunger and poverty eradication. Increased forest investment could generate income in communities that will have a positive impact on hunger eradication, poverty alleviation and the purchase of other services, such as health and education.</p> <p>Many people engage in illegal deforestation to ensure their food security</p>	<p>Generating production and value added that provides producers with formal access to health services and education. SOCIAL INCLUSION.</p> <p>Spreading information highlighting these links.</p>	<p>Production of data and information.</p> <p>Strengthening communication and spreading of the message.</p>	<p>Resuming the work of the Summit on food security and forests and monitor FAO's work on the issue</p>
<p>Forests contribute to dietary diversification, increasing nutrition security</p>	<p>Relationship between forests and nutritional health</p>	<p>Production of data and information production</p> <p>Strengthening communication and spreading of the message</p>	

RFC recommendations for the attention of the Regional Conference				
Priority issues for consideration by the Regional Conference	Anticipated outcome (information/discussion/decision)			Possible follow-up activities for FAO
Market for agricultural products produced sustainably and not at the expense of forests (soybean, cocoa, coffee, meat)	Promoting markets for sustainably produced agricultural products			
Synergy between forests and agriculture: valuation of forests with food and nutritional security, highlighting environmental services associated with agricultural production, water, soil and pollinators, apart from providing income from harvesting forest products	Forests/plantations for social inclusion			
Contribution of forests/plantations/trees to food security				
RFC recommendations for the FAO Programme of Work in Forestry related to the agenda of the current session				
Area/action for FAO Programme of Work	Priority (high, medium, low or de-emphasis)	Type (new or continued)	Level of action (subregional/regional/global)	Strategic Objective
Contribution of planted forest to sustainable development and food security	High	New	Global	1 and 2
Integrated fire management to prevent wildfires: biodiversity, benefit to local communities	High	Continued	Regional/global	2 and 5
Climate finance for forest issues (Green Fund, multilateral banks, agencies); stakeholder mapping to improve transparency	High	New	Regional	2 and 5

MESOAMERICAN SUBREGIONAL GROUP

Programme of work for the biennium		
Issue	Activities/anticipated outcome	Lead country
Forest protection (fire management and forest health)	Regional forest health strategy developed (consulting (United States Forest Service), workshops (FAO)), focal points appointed by each country. Countries have fire management action plans, as part of the regional fire management strategy. Regional training courses, fire management (Mexico).	
Forest inventory and monitoring	By 2017, all countries have a national forest inventory. Online courses via the REDD/CCAD-GIZ centre of excellence (Mexico). Consolidation of the regional database on forest resources (REDD/CCAD-GIZ, <i>a little uncertain right now; a further phase being negotiated until 2019</i>). Countries generate data from indicators identified in the Regional Strategic Programme for Forest Ecosystem Management (PERFOR).	
Governance	Improving and integrating systems that ensure legal forestry in the region. Activities related with Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT). Workshop on illegal trade and traceability systems (FAO-FLEGT/EFI),	

	participation of various stakeholders (forestry, CITES, customs, etc.), => generate road map, next steps, etc.			
Restoration	Countries have national strategies for forest landscape restoration. Mesoamerican workshop to discuss progress with national restoration strategies.			
RFC recommendations for the attention of COFO (issues to be considered for inclusion in the Agenda)				
<i>Priority issues for COFO's consideration</i>	<i>Anticipated outcome (information/discussion/decision)</i>	<i>Possible follow-up activities for COFO and FAO</i>	<i>Reference to other RFC recommendation</i>	
Landscape restoration	Discussion on how to integrate the forest sector with other sectors present in the landscape that manage land use			
Impact of climate change on forests (drought, pests, fire)	Discussion of the issue			
Global forest fund and links with international agreements on forests	Discussion of the issue			
Illegal trade in forest products	Discussion of the issue			
RFC recommendations for the attention of the Regional Conference				
<i>Priority issues for consideration by the Regional Conference</i>	<i>Anticipated outcome (information/discussion/decision)</i>	<i>Possible follow-up activities for FAO</i>		
Promoting institutional efforts to develop cross-sector agendas that link agriculture/livestock issues with forestry/environmental issues, taking a holistic territorial approach. (PERFOR can serve as an example of a subregional agenda, endorsed by both the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD) and <i>Codex Alimentarius</i> Commission (CAC)).	The Conference recommends that FAO support countries on this issue			
Increase the visibility of the forest sector in the context of rural development agendas and food security	The Conference recommends that countries take into account the forest sector in rural development agendas, with FAO support via country plans			
RFC recommendations for the FAO Programme of Work in Forestry related to the agenda of the current session				
<i>Area/action for FAO Programme of Work</i>	<i>Priority (high, medium, low or de-emphasis)</i>	<i>Type (new or continued)</i>	<i>Level of action (subregional/regional/global)</i>	<i>Strategic Objective</i>
Defining indicators to assess the forest sector's contribution to food security	High	New	Global	1
Support for implementing PERFOR in the subregion	High	Continued	Subregional	All

CARIBBEAN SUBREGIONAL GROUP

Working programme for the biennium			
<i>Issue</i>	<i>Anticipated outcome</i>		<i>Lead country</i>
Prepare the Caribbean Subregion to become REDD ready as a regional initiative	<p>A Caribbean Strategy to enable the Caribbean countries to participate in benefit from REDD initiatives. The following intermediate results are agreed upon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each country will compile past forest inventories information, including a list of established permanent sample plots. • Design a concept paper of national requirements for forest inventories. • In cooperation with the International Institute of Tropical Forestry (IITF) prepare a draft regional concept paper for a regional methodology for a forest inventory sufficient to enter the REDD programme. 		JAMAICA
Capacity-building for improved forest management	<p>1. Each country will conduct a capacity needs assessment identifying:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The medium-term requirement for professional and technical staff. • In-service training needs for staff currently on board. <p>2. A regional strategy to address forestry related training needs in the Caribbean taking into consideration available training opportunities (IITF and Forestry Schools in Trinidad and Guyana)</p>		INDIVIDUAL countries. Saint Lucia will collate regional needs.
FC recommendations for the attention of COFO (issues to be considered for inclusion in the Agenda)			
<i>Priority issues for COFO to consider</i>	<i>Anticipated outcome (information/discussion/ decision)</i>	<i>Possible follow up activities for COFO and FAO</i>	<i>Reference to other RFC recommendation</i>
Define sustainable forest management (SFM) in the context of green economy	Policy statement on SFM for the green economy	<p>Documentation of case studies or good examples of ways in which SFM led to the development of green economy (FAO).</p> <p>Development of best practices for the inclusion of SFM towards the development of green economies.</p>	
Identify synergies between SFM and the various multilateral environmental bodies/agreements	Consolidate reporting for international conventions, effective and efficient use of resources, improved synergies	<p>Collaborative partnership on Forestry (COFO).</p> <p>FAO should communicate this through CPF.</p>	
Support valuation of forest-based ecosystems	Standard methodology developed for forest resource valuation	Development of practical guidelines to support the valuation of forest services	

RFC recommendations for the attention of the Regional Conference (forum for Agri. People)				
<i>Priority issues for the RC to consider</i>	<i>Anticipated outcome (information/discussion/decision)</i>		<i>Possible follow up activities for FAO</i>	
The Caribbean Subgroup recommends promoting the inclusion of trees in family farming systems to facilitate income generation, soil conservation and safe guarding of water resources; and mitigation of extreme climate conditions in rural and urban areas.	Increased: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food security • Safe water supplies • Soil conservation • Climate amelioration • Income opportunities 		Revive support for agroforestry in the region	
RFC recommendations for the FAO Programme of Work in Forestry related to the agenda of the current session				
<i>Area/action for FAO Programme of Work</i>	<i>Priority (high, medium, low or de-emphasis)</i>	<i>Type (new or continued)</i>	<i>Level of action (subregional/regional/global)</i>	<i>Strategic Objective</i>
Support the development of forest-based livelihoods (inclusive of non-timber products) through community based initiatives. (see examples from Dominica and St Vincent)	High	Continued	Subregional	2
Support monitoring and evaluation of alien invasive species	High	Continued	Subregional	5

CONSOLIDATED WORK PLAN

RFC recommendations for the attention of COFO (issues to be considered for inclusion in the Agenda)				
<i>Priority issues for COFO's consideration</i>	<i>Anticipated outcome (information/discussion/decision)</i>	<i>Possible follow-up activities for COFO and FAO</i>		<i>Reference to other recommendation</i>
Integration of the forest sector with other land management sectors, as part of a social inclusion process	Discussion	Promote discussion on forests and the green economy		
Highlight the contribution of forests to food security and to hunger and poverty eradication	Discussion/information	Case study		
Climate change and forests, associated with the issues of forest health, wildfires and intensification of natural disasters	Discussion	Development of toolkits for valuing forest ecosystem services		
Global forest fund to support countries in implementing international agreements on the issue	Discussion/decision	Promote synergies between agreements and multilateral organizations working on environmental and forest issues. Identify funding sources for the participation of delegates from developing countries and small island states in the Caribbean.		
RFC recommendations for the attention of the Regional Conference				
<i>Priority issues for consideration by the Regional Conference</i>	<i>Anticipated outcome (information/discussion/decision)</i>	<i>Possible follow-up activities for FAO</i>		
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	Discussion/information	Prepare specific analyses based on Regional Conference instructions		
Cross-sector agendas that link agriculture/livestock issues with forestry/environmental issues, taking a holistic approach	Discussion			
Access to international markets for sustainably produced agricultural and livestock products that encourage conservation and sustainable forest management	Discussion/information			
RFC recommendations for the FAO Programme of Work in Forestry related to the agenda of the current session				
<i>Area/action for FAO Programme of Work</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Type (new or continued)</i>	<i>Level of action</i>	<i>Strategic Objective</i>
Methodologies for assessing the contribution of planted forest to the production of environmental goods and services for sustainable development and food security	High	Continued	Global	2
Training in fire-fighting and management by local communities	High	Continued	Regional	5

Defining and revising concepts and expanding the glossary of forestry terms	High	Continued	Global	All
Building national and subregional capacity in the areas of forest health and invasive species control, as well as setting up cooperation mechanisms	High	Continued	Subregional	5
Programmes to help develop and improve the livelihoods of local communities, including the forest component	High	Continued	Subregional	2