



AFRICAN FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

Forests and Wildlife: Africa's diversity for shared prosperity and security

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REPORT ON FAO ACTIVITIES IN RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 21ST SESSION OF THE AFRICAN FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

1. The Twenty-first Session of the African Forestry and Wildlife Commission (AFWC), convened in Dakar, Senegal, in June 2018, made several recommendations to FAO. This note presents a brief account of actions taken on these recommendations. The Commission may wish to review the progress made so far and develop further recommendations to FAO.

2. The Commission:

Requested FAO's guidance in establishing a mechanism to help countries in the reporting of process on its recommendations.

3. The Secretariat developed a reporting template (in English and French) with inputs from members of the AFWC Executive Committee (AFWC bureau members). The reporting template was discussed and finalized during the 2nd meeting of the Executive Committee, held in Accra, Ghana on February 2019.

4. In September 2019, the reporting template was submitted by the Secretariat to AFWC members (Heads of forestry and wildlife) through an electronic survey and by direct email. Over 30 respondents from 20 member countries: Angola, Benin, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Eswatini, Mauritius, Morocco, Guinea, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda and Zambia provided their feedback. The template and the full report compiling the responses are presented in the Secretariat document: FO/AFWC/2020/2.2.

Requested FAO's support in developing a Multi-year programme of work for AFWC.

5. This request was also discussed during the 2nd meeting of the AFWC Executive Committee. The meeting involved bureau members and invited partners active in forestry and wildlife sectors in the region. It reviewed the global and regional policy processes, and their influence on the sustainable forest and wildlife governance in Africa. As a result, priorities for the AFWC Multi-year programme of work (called AFWC action programme) were identified.

6. Furthermore, the Secretariat took advantage of the electronic survey to capture country forestry and wildlife-related priorities and challenges, to feed into the AFWC action programme development. The draft AFWC action programme is described in the document: FO/AFWC/2020/8 and will be presented for review and validation by the Commission at its 22nd Session.

Urged FAO to ensure that specific recommendations related to African forests be included in and supported by the different UN Conventions' Conferences of Parties (ex. UNCCD, UNFCCC, CBD) and UNFF.

7. FAO has played a key role, with support of the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and partners, in promoting African forests in the agenda of global processes. This resulted in profiling African forests and forestry in different decisions and recommendations.

8. At the last Conference of the Parties (COP14) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), held in New Delhi, India, commitments were made for a range of issues relevant to Africa, including gender and health, ecosystem restoration, taking action on climate change, biodiversity conservation, private sector engagement, and Peace Forest Initiative. Sustainable forest management and restoration were key in the agenda to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality targets.

9. FAO has contributed to the profiling of African forests as part of Nature-based solutions for climate action (adaptation and mitigation) during the first Africa Climate Week, held in Accra, Ghana, in March 2019 and the UN Climate Summit in September 2019 in New York. FAO is spearheading the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration as well as the UN Secretary-General priority initiatives, including an initiative on halting deforestation. FAO is also contributing to mobilize resources and advocacy for the Great Green Wall, and AFR100 (see documents FO/AFWC/2020/3 and FO/AFWC/2020/5).

10. Through the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030) - the implementation of which is led by FAO and UNEP in collaboration with partners - FAO has been able to promote the needs in restoration investments and scaling up for Africa. Furthermore, FAO and partners have supported member countries in the formulation of the Pan-African Agenda on Ecosystem Restoration for Increased Resilience, which was endorsed by the Ministerial Conference at the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP15 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, November 2018, and further endorsed as Africa's contribution to the UN Decade, by the African Ministerial Conference for Environment (AMCEN) at its 17th Session, held in Durban, South Africa in November 2019.

11. FAO has been a strong advocate of African forests and forestry globally as part of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests¹. FAO is playing a key role in mainstreaming biodiversity (including forest biodiversity) in agricultural sectors through its Biodiversity Platform and the international and regional dialogues organised between 2018 and 2019. FAO has been also active at the Conference of Parties of the CBD and the CBD consultative processes, including through its participation in the CBD Regional Consultation Workshop for Africa, held in Addis Ababa, in March 2019 in support to the development of the Post-2020 CBD global framework. FAO, along with UNEP

¹ <http://www.cpfweb.org/96926/en/>

and other UN agencies and partners, is a member (through its senior forestry officer for Africa) of a Biodiversity support group on the side of the newly established Biodiversity Group of negotiators.

12. FAO mobilized technical and financial resources to support the African Union Commission and its member states in developing the Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) Framework for Africa (2020-2030) (AFWC Miscellaneous document). This document published and launched in February 2020 at the margins of the AU summit, draws global and regional attention to the importance of Africa's forest resources to achieve Agenda 2030 and AU Agenda 2063, as well as to the investment priorities for their sustainable management and restoration.

13. With the same objectives and also to inform on the status of Africa's forest resources, FAO produces publications and communication materials: (i) Trees, forest and land use in drylands: the first global assessment, launched at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate (UNFCCC) COP23 in Madrid, December 2019; (ii) The UNASYLVA and Nature & Faune journals; (iii) The State of the World Forests (to be launched in June 2020); (iv) The Global Forest Resource Assessment reports (the next one to be published in June 2020); (v) The active participation in the Global Landscape Forum, organized in Bonn (Germany) and Accra (Ghana).

14. FAO, through the AFWC Secretariat, reported to UNFF on FAO's contributions to the implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests.

Requested FAO's support to: refine the approach to monitoring and reporting on indicators.

15. FAO, through its Open Foris² Initiative responds to the urgent need for innovative systems that enable accurate and efficient monitoring and reporting on forests, and forest indicators under SDG 15 (Life on Land), UNFCCC, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and CBD. Open Foris consists of free and open source technical solutions, which are now used in over 160 countries (openforis.org).

16. The Open Foris Initiative includes a platform called SEPAL³ (System for Earth Observation Data Access, Processing and Analysis for Land Monitoring), which is an innovative cloud-based super computing platform with more than 4 300 active users, generating critical forest and land cover information that supports efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change, as well as to monitor and report on indicators.

17. Furthermore, in early 2018, FAO released an on-line platform⁴ for the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2020 data collection and review. It has a specific section for SDG indicators 15.1.1 (forest area as a percentage of total land area) and 15.2.1 (progress towards sustainable forest management) and it provides FRA National Correspondents access to the latest geospatial data and tools supporting the reporting. This work will continue in 2020 and 2021 through the strengthening of existing functionalities with additional modules for data dissemination.

Requested FAO's support to enhance countries' capacities to measure the role of forests for food security, energy and climate change adaptation and in SDGs implementation to help them advocate for greater investments for their sustainable management.

18. FAO's Open Foris is advancing the availability of accurate, transparent and up-to-date data on natural resources for African countries, for supporting evidence-based policies and practice, as well as for tracking SDGs. In addition, increased transparency is facilitating better monitoring of progress towards the Nationally Determined Contributions of the Paris Agreement.

² <http://www.openforis.org/>

³ <https://sepal.io/>

⁴ <http://fra-platform.herokuapp.com/login/>

19. In December 2018, FAO published an on-line e-learning module on SDG indicators 15.1.1 and 15.2. and organized two regional workshops to provide technical assistance for the compilation of the FRA 2020 Country reports and to train the participants on using the FRA reporting methodology and the new on-line reporting platform. These workshops took place: (i) in Gabon (03-06 September 2018) for francophone African countries and; (ii) in Tanzania (18-20 September 2018) for the Anglophone African countries.

Requested FAO to continue the development of the global core set of forest-related indicators, as well as the completion and implementation of the new FRA on-line platform to allow annual submissions, reviews and reporting.

20. The Global Core Set of forest related indicators was presented to UNFF13, UNFF14 and COFO24. Both fora welcomed the results, encouraged use of the Global Core Set and requested further work in particular on Tier 2 and Tier 3 indicators. An expert meeting was held at FAO in November 2018 to discuss the socio-economic indicators and another global meeting was held in October 2019 to deal with Tier 2 and Tier 3 indicators and make a recommendation to the CPF Task Force for further work. The maintenance and implementation of the FRA on-line platform has continued and a feasibility study on moving towards more continuous reporting will be conducted in 2020.

Urged FAO to make the country-specific remote sensing datasets available for national validation and to provide the necessary tools and support, including through tailor-made capacity development workshops on remote sensing data analysis and management.

21. Since 2018, 25 technical trainings on Open Foris were carried out in Africa targeting 68 female and 249 male individuals. These trainings were primarily focused on the use of Collect Earth and SEPAL for cloud-based processing of satellite imagery and data analysis. FAO has supported the production of forest cover change maps and derived statistics from stratified sampling approaches (used for calibration and validation of map data). In 2019, for the first time daily high resolution data from Planet Labs was made available through SEPAL for Ghana, Mozambique and Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

22. During the period October 2018 – March 2020, FAO has organized national and regional remote sensing survey workshops in the African region. More specifically, these workshops have taken place in: (i) Zimbabwe on 10-18 October 2018; (ii) Mozambique on 8-13 July 2019; (iii) Tanzania on 29 July-03 August 2019; (iv) DRC on 10-15 December 2019; (v) Madagascar on 03-06 February 2020; (vi) Tanzania on 03-08 February 2020; (vii) Cameroon on 24-29 Feb 2020. The main objectives of these trainings were to build the capacity of countries to use remote sensing for the estimation of forest area and to derive independent regional and global estimates on the forest area and its changes. The data used to derive the global and regional estimates are collected by national experts using the Collect Earth on-line tool and the countries have full access to the data collected for their territory.

23. In addition, training on advanced Collect Earth tool was conducted for land use and forest assessment for the Southern Africa subregion in 2019 with support from FAO.

24. FAO in collaboration with the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and ECOWAS launched in 2019 an initiative on “Global Transformation of Forests for People and Climate: a focus on West Africa”. This initiative includes a component on knowledge of the state of forest ecosystem dynamics, with the aim of “providing quality data to support decision-making and sustainable forest and land resources management at national and sub-regional level”. The data will be hosted on a Web portal and made accessible to countries.

Requested FAO to expand its technical assistance to other countries for the preparation of forest inventories.

25. FAO has accompanied Cote d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Liberia, Sudan, and Tunisia on the preparation of their National Forest Inventories.

26. FAO through a Technical Cooperation Programme, supported the Government of Seychelles with capacity building for preparation and implementation of the National Forest Inventory. Mozambique was also supported at sub national level for conducting a national inventory to support local forest management plans.

27. Through the FAO-Sida-ECOWAS Initiative on “Global Transformation of Forests for People and Climate: a focus on West Africa, FAO is contributing to the implementation of the ECOWAS Forest Convergence Plan for West Africa, including increasing knowledge on forest resources through support to the preparation of forest inventories.

Invited FAO to further strengthen the Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CFRQ) and consider options for expanding it towards supporting regional monitoring processes and developing synergies with other assessment and monitoring initiatives in Africa.

28. FAO has continued its work on strengthening the CFRQ partnership. During 2018-2020, work was focused on the pan-European region. Within the coming biennium, more efforts will be dedicated to further develop regional monitoring processes in Africa.

Requested FAO to identify, document and disseminate best practices regarding food security and nutrition mainstreaming in forestry and to develop guidelines for their inclusion in forest policies and in forest management practices.

29. Cross-sectoral forestry and Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) country assessments were undertaken in The Gambia (2015), Tanzania (2017) and Equatorial Guinea (2018). A Technical Cooperation Programme facility project is ongoing in Tanzania to develop a training module on the links between forests, food security and nutrition and on the ways to enhance the cross-sectoral coordination.

Recognized the critical role of forests and forestry for achieving SDG 2 “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture” and requested FAO to facilitate a high-level cross-sectoral dialogue between forestry and relevant sectors on this matter at country and regional levels

30. FAO organized, in collaboration with the Government of Rwanda, the African Union Commission and the CBD, a Regional Multisectoral Dialogue for Africa on mainstreaming biodiversity across agriculture sectors, in Kigali, Rwanda in November 2019. The role of forest biodiversity, its sustainable management and restoration was highlighted as key for ending hunger, contributing to food security and nutrition. The outcomes of the dialogue can be found in the Information note: FO/AFWC/2020/inf.5.

31. An international conference (Beating Famine in the Sahel⁵) was also organized by FAO in collaboration with EverGreening Alliance, World Vision, ICRAF and others in February 2019 in Bamako, Mali. This dialogue targeted mainly Sahel countries.

⁵ <https://beatingfamine.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Conference-Declaration-Beating-Famine-Bamako-English.pdf>

Invited FAO to ensure that the new strategic document focuses on its comparative advantages and provide clear operational guidance regarding its implementation at the country level.

32. Eight thematic priority areas for FAO's work in forestry in 2018- 2021 were endorsed by COFO24 in June 2018. These include the following: (1) Halting deforestation globally, particularly from agriculture; (2) Addressing forest degradation and promoting sustainable forest management; (3) Increasing forest cover through restoration, reforestation and afforestation; (4) Improving forest-based livelihoods, prosperity and human well-being; (5) Mitigation of and adaptation to climate change and strengthening resilience of ecosystems and communities to climate change through forests; (6) Policy coherence. i.e. mainstreaming forests through cross-sectoral and interagency approaches at all levels; (7) Increased means of implementation from all sources; and (8) Good governance frameworks at all levels.

33. COFO stressed the need for a complementary and integrated approach for agriculture and forests. It requested FAO to: (i) include sustainable integrated land use as well as forest degradation among the thematic priority areas under the Strategic Framework, and to address them at the next meeting; (ii) continue to place a high priority on its work on global forest data and capacity-building for countries to gather and manage forest-related information; (iii) better articulate its work related to forest fire management; (iv) further develop long-term scenarios and solutions for sustainable supply and demand of forest products, especially wood, in collaboration with CPF partners.

34. All the priorities above match the priorities identified under the Sustainable Forest Management for Africa (2020-2030), responding therefore to member countries needs and priorities.

Encouraged FAO to consider forestry and wildlife related education as one of the elements of its new strategic document, with a view to make forests, wildlife and forestry more attractive to the youth.

35. Forestry education is high on the agenda of FAO Forestry and the CPF work. A conference will be organized on 27-29 April 2020, in Rome, Italy to guide FAO and partners' work in this endeavour.

36. A regional survey is underway and will inform on ongoing activities, key actors, objectives and achievements on all levels of forest education as well as existing approaches and potential new options for activities in the three dimensions of forest education. The regional studies will highlight the trade-offs of different types of interventions and their efficiency in addressing gaps in forest education and build the basis for decision making on creating a comprehensive and attractive online platform for forest education and on future investments and implementation approaches to address the identified challenges.

37. Given this request, AFWC22 includes in its agenda the organization of a High level Dialogue on Forestry and Wildlife Education and Profession for Youth and Women to guide the Commission and FAO's work in the region. Results of the survey and outcomes of this High level Dialogue will feed the discussions during the upcoming International Conference on Forest Education in April 2020, in Rome.

38. At the subregional level, FAO has facilitated the formulation of the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) forestry policy and strategy document, to be endorsed in March 2020. At the broader regional level, the SFM Framework for Africa (2020-2030) of the African Union, supported by FAO, highlights education as one of its expected priority outcomes: Strengthened regional multidisciplinary forestry research and education to meet economic, social and environmental challenges.

Recommended that the new strategy be aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals and the UN strategic plan for forests.

39. The strategic priorities stated above, are in line with the SDGs and the UN Strategic plan of forests.

Requested FAO to support countries in the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for forest concessions in the tropics and adapting and expanding their use to other forest types including in the Mediterranean Africa.

40. Implementation of the voluntary guidelines is taking place in Mozambique under the Forest Investment Plan project supported financially by the World Bank as well as in the Congo Basin, under the sustainable forest value chain work as part of the Sustainable Wood for Sustainable World (SW4SW) Initiative. Under this same initiative, two regional policy dialogues were organized by FAO on Sustainable Wood Value Chains: in May 2019, in Cameroon, for the Francophone countries and in October 2019, in South Africa for the Anglophone countries.

41. Through the implementation of the FAO-EU-FLEGT⁶ programme in Africa, 37 projects are carried out in 10 countries (Cameroon, Central African Republic, Cote d'Ivoire, DRC, Gabon, Ghana, Liberia, Congo, Mozambique, and soon Uganda). The topics range from support to policy and legal frameworks' reform to regulate the exploitation and trade of timber, to improving transparency in the forest sector. Timber traceability systems are also being developed for export and domestic markets, formalization of timber private sector associations, supporting community forestry and private sector's participation to foster more inclusive forest governance, but also to find alternative and sustainable ways to increase their livelihoods out of legal and rightful exploitation of their forest resources.

42. More broadly, the response to this request is reflected in the new policy frameworks that were developed with FAO support and recently endorsed, such as: (i) The Sustainable Forest Management Framework for Africa (2020-2030); (ii) The IGAD Forestry Policy and Strategy aligned with the AU SFM framework. At the country level, Mauritius, Tanzania and Seychelles are being supported in the review of their forest policy and legislation for the modernization of their forest sector.

Called for FAO's support in identifying sustainable fuelwood and charcoal production systems and technologies.

43. FAO in collaboration with partners held the 3rd Dialogue on 'Forest Landscape Restoration and Bioenergy' during the Global Landscape Forum⁷, in Accra on 30 October 2019. The Interactive Session focused on key success factors and best practices in Africa that determine a positive contribution of sustainable wood energy to forest landscape restoration. In particular, the event provided an insight into successful examples of synergies between Sustainable Wood Energy and FLR in the continent of Africa, in order to understand what approaches are effective, how and when these can be scaled-up and replicated elsewhere.

44. Consultations with stakeholders were carried out on capacity development opportunities for sustainable wood fuel supply and demand characterization in Eastern Africa. The outcomes and recommendations to enhance the sustainability of both the production and consumption of fuelwood in Eastern Africa will be published in a report in 2020.

45. Consultations at country level, through National Dialogues on Wood Energy and forest Landscape Restoration have been organized. In Ghana, the Dialogue provided an opportunity to share knowledge on best practices that could favour synergies between the bioenergy and the forest and

⁶ <http://www.fao.org/in-action/eu-fao-flegt-programme/en/>

⁷ <http://www.globalbioenergy.org/events/gbep-events-2019/working-group-on-capacity-building/pt/>

landscape restoration sectors, as well as to raise awareness on the current activities and on the results achieved so far at country level. A full report is available⁸.

46. The AFWC22 agenda features one item for discussion on 'Forest value chains for sustainable development, energy and food security' (see document: FO:AFWC/2020/4.2).

Requested FAO's support in the preparation of restoration plans, in the formulation of national and transboundary projects, and in resource mobilization to support the implementation of their commitments to AFR100.

47. FAO supported the development and implementation of a regional technical cooperation programme (TCP) project to support AUDA-NEPAD and member countries in the implementation, resource mobilization and monitoring of AFR100. Through other country level TCP projects, FAO supported Guinea, Comoros, Lesotho and Mauritius with restoration/agroforestry initiatives.

48. In response to countries' requests, FAO is also developing GEF and GCF projects that contribute to AFR100 planning and implementation. These include Great Green Wall Sahelian countries and SADC countries, as well as Benin, Togo, Uganda, Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire. For further information, see document: FO/AFWC/2020/5.

Requested the secretariat to include AFR100 as a standing item in the agenda of future sessions of the Commission.

49. This request has been implemented (see AFWC22 provisional agenda and document: FO/AFWC/2020/5).

Requested that FAO disseminate information and tools for a better assessment and monitoring of drylands and related management and restoration initiatives, in particular, within the framework of the GGW, to track progress and impacts.

50. As part of the FAO Action Against Desertification project in support to the Great Green Wall Initiative, Eastern Africa countries' capacities were enhanced on the use of Collect Earth. In this regard, the workshop held in Addis Ababa in May 2019 brought together fifteen national experts from Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia and the Sudan, as well as experts from partner organizations. The experts were trained to assess, analyse and report on land uses and desertification levels, using the customized Collect Earth tool.

51. As a result of continuous capacity development and collaboration with member countries, regional partners among others on monitoring dryland forests and restoration, FAO has prepared publications including: (i) Forestry Paper: Trees, forests and land use in drylands: the first global assessment - Full report⁹, launched at UNFCCC COP in Madrid, Spain 2019; (ii) Building on the Action Against Desertification project's successful approach, lessons learnt and results, a manual "Restoration in action against desertification" was published in January 2020¹⁰, in both English and French, highlighting methodologies and lessons learnt for scaling up large-scale restoration to support rural communities' resilience; (iii) a guide to identify priorities and indicators for restoration monitoring that was developed with WRI and published in 2019¹¹.

52. FAO has established, under its Committee on Forestry, a Working group on Dryland Forests and Agrosilvopastoral Systems¹², which aims to develop a comprehensive understanding of dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems and to promote the scaling and adoption of good practices for

⁸http://www.globalbioenergy.org/fileadmin/user_upload/gbep/docs/2020_events/Ghana/Workshop_Summary_Report.pdf

⁹ <http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/ca7148en>

¹⁰ <http://www.fao.org/publications/card/en/c/CA6932EN>

¹¹ <http://www.fao.org/in-action/forest-landscape-restoration-mechanism/resources/detail/en/c/1253837/>

¹² <http://www.fao.org/forestry/95962/en/>

their protection, sustainable management and restoration, while enhancing and contributing to environmental and socio-economic resilience and sustainable livelihoods. The inaugural meeting of the Working Group was held in Rome, Italy in July 2019. It is chaired by Tanzania.

Requested FAO to enhance its support to African countries to develop projects and programmes on sustainable forest management and restoration, including those of regional and transboundary nature, for GEF-7 and GCF funding.

53. FAO is supporting resource mobilization efforts of countries. It is worth to mention for example the GEF 7-Impact Programme on SFM/ Drylands Sustainable Landscape Impact Programme. Six countries (Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe) are directly supported with the formulation of dryland forests programme totalling over US\$40 million. FAO is also working with SADC Secretariat to enable the finalization of the SADC Great Green Wall (SADC GGW) strategy, as well as on resource mobilization in support of its implementation. Other countries including Cote D'Ivoire, Benin, Togo, Madagascar and Guinea are supported in the formulation of GEF projects.

54. Four countries in Southern Africa (Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Tanzania) and six countries in the Sahel (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal) are being supported with development of GCF projects, with focus on resilience, restoration and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Recommended that FAO facilitate and provide a platform to exchange good practices and lessons learned from initiatives dealing with human-wildlife conflicts (HWC) and illegal hunting.

55. FAO organized an Africa Regional Multisectoral Dialogue and Learning Event to address issues at the human-wildlife-livestock-ecosystem interface, in Accra, Ghana, from 30 September to 3 October 2019. The Multisectoral Dialogue was attended by 45 participants. The technical government experts were officials from Ministries in charge of Natural Resources, Environment, Forestry, Wildlife, Agriculture, Livestock and Public Health, in their respective countries.

56. The Dialogue took stock of current efforts to manage HWCs and diseases at the human-wildlife-livestock-ecosystem interface and practical experiences at different levels; identified country-specific priorities, including areas of cross-sectoral actions; and helped to design next steps at national and transboundary levels. The dialogue clearly demonstrated the great awareness of the African countries of the threats posed by HWCs, and the conflict associated with livestock, and diseases transmitted among livestock, wildlife and people as well as their strong determination and clear vision to address the related challenges. The Dialogue also confirmed the timeliness and necessity of FAO to facilitate cross-sectoral dialogue among stakeholders at country, transboundary and regional levels to address the main issues at the human-wildlife-livestock-ecosystem interface (see report in document: FO/AFWC/2020/Inf.4). The outcomes will also be reported at the 22nd Session of the AFWC (see document: FO/AFWC/2020/7).

57. FAO in partnership with the Government of Japan is implementing a project (GCP/ZIM/032/JPN) to address the sustainable management of human wildlife conflict and promote appropriate agricultural practices among vulnerable, food and nutrition insecure communities in Zimbabwe.

Recommended that FAO facilitate capacity development on sustainable wildlife management, including the provision of technical assistance on transboundary and community-based wildlife management.

58. Under the global EU-ACP Sustainable Wildlife Management Programme, projects aiming to develop and test replicable models and practices of community-based wildlife management have been launched in DRC, Congo, Gabon and Madagascar and in the Kaza (Zimbabwe and Zambia) transboundary area in 2018 (see document: FO/AFWC/2020/7).

59. Legal diagnostic tools, for both statutory and customary law were developed. These will allow a more in-depth understanding of existing and applicable legal frameworks regulating the different aspects/components of the sustainable wildlife management value chains to inform governments on ways for improvement, including capacity building priorities

60. FAO through TCP/BOT/3601 is implementing a project to 'Improve the Food Security of Communities in Wildlife Dominated Landscapes in Northern Botswana'. This project has also supported a follow-up project on wildlife: 'Outscaling of Sustainable Wildlife Management in KAZA' by collecting baseline data and extending wildlife community based management activities in Botswana and Namibia with the financial support of the French Government.

Recommended that FAO continue to promote SWM and its contributions to achieving the SDG targets through the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management.

61. The key issues related to the sustainable wildlife management were the major focus of the second Wildlife Forum that was organized by the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management¹³ and the African Union Commission at the margins of the UN Biodiversity Conference, COP14, in November 2018, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. The Forum allowed participants to share their experiences and identify creative solutions on issues related to health and security of people and wildlife, wild meat crisis, and the unsustainable use of and illegal trade in wildlife. The Forum also offered a venue to the international community to stimulate debate in order to advance policy dialogues and define priorities on sustainable wildlife management for the post-2020 period and SDGs.

¹³ <http://www.fao.org/forestry/wildlife-partnership/en/>