



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations



INPUT TO FAO GOVERNANCE

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Secretary, Committee on Forestry

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31st
Session

North American
Forest Commission

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The 25th Session of Committee on Forestry (COFO)

- Stressed the importance of the Regional Forestry Commissions and the need for them to have a more policy-relevant role in the FAO Regional Conferences
- Requested FAO to consult with the Regional Forestry Commissions on the need for them to have more policy relevant role
- Invited FAO to explore options to further link the work of the Statutory Bodies to increase their relevance, effectiveness, and efficiency



North American Forest Commission (NAFC)
17-19 November 2021

European Forestry Commission (EFC)
22-25 November 2021

Near East Forestry and Range Commission (NEFRC)
19-21 October 2021

Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) 2022

Latin American and Caribbean Forestry Commission (LACFC)
6-10 September 2021

African Forestry and Wildlife Commission (AFWC) 2022

Regional Forestry Commissions

(statutory bodies art .VI.)

- Provide inputs from the regions to COFO agendas
- Chairpersons of the RFCs act as members of the COFO Steering Committee (ultimately act as Chair/vice chair of COFO)
- Report to the Regional Conferences
- Identify regional priorities for FAO's work in forestry

Other forest-related statutory bodies

- Advisory Committee on Sustainable Forest-based Industries (**ACSEFI**)
- International Commission on Poplars and Other Fast-Growing Trees Sustaining People and the Environment (**IPC**)
- AFWC/EFC/NEFRC Committee on Mediterranean Forestry Questions “**Silva Mediterranea**”
- Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Forest Genetic Resources (**ITWG-FGR**)

Measures taken to improve the effectiveness of statutory bodies

Strategic Evaluation of the forest-related Statutory Bodies (2011-12):

- better coordinate the agenda of FAO's statutory bodies on a global level
- inputs from RFCs were made to FAO's Regional Conferences.

COFO has continued to encourage actions to improve the effectiveness of the RFCs and other forest-related Statutory Bodies:

- COFO22, 2014: encouraged the RFCs to provide guidance on regional priorities in forestry
- COFO23, 2016: recognized the RFC's valuable role in helping the FAO Forestry Program, the relevance of ACSFI in private sector collaboration
- COFO24, 2018: encouraged Member Nations to streamline the RFC meetings' outcomes into Regional Conferences,
- COFO25, 2020: increasing the RFCs involvement in preparing UNFF technical sessions.



Points for consideration 1/2

The Commission may wish to:

- Develop its recommendations for the Informal Regional Conference, COFO and the programme priorities and request the Secretariat to share them with other Commissions as well as the secretariats of the Informal Regional Conference and COFO;
- Consider ways to further enhance the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of the Regional Forestry Commissions and other FAO forest-related Statutory Bodies;
- Invite the Chairperson of the Informal Regional Conference to give adequate attention to the recommendations of the Commission in the agenda of the Conference.



Points for consideration 2/2

Regarding the COFO agenda the Commission may wish to:

- Identify the topic, the suggested action by COFO and, to the extent possible, the follow-up action recommended for the Committee and/or FAO.

Regarding the recommendations for the programme of work:

- Request the Secretariat, under the guidance of the Commissioners, should regularly translate the outcome of the discussions on the different agenda items into possible actions and present these for the Commission's consideration, linking them clearly with FAO's Strategic Objectives, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the Global Forest Goals of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests.

THANK YOU!

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