



# COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY

## WORKING GROUP ON DRYLAND FORESTS AND AGROSILVOPASTORAL SYSTEMS

### Inaugural Session

Rome, 16-17 July 2019

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

## I. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

1. The Working Group on Dryland Forests and Agrosilvopastoral Systems is a subsidiary body of the Committee on Forestry, established on the basis of Rule XXXI, paragraph 10, of the General Rules of the Organization.<sup>1</sup>
2. The Working Group will operate in accordance with the General Rules of the Organization and the Rules of Procedure of the Committee on Forestry ("the Committee"), as applicable.

## II. TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE WORKING GROUP

3. The Working Group on Dryland Forests and Agrosilvopastoral Systems shall:
  - a) review and report to the Committee on Forestry on the status, trends, issues and developments in dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems, and make recommendations to the Committee on these matters;
  - b) as guided by the Committee, contribute to developing a comprehensive understanding of dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems and the people who depend on them;
  - c) as guided by the Committee, promote scaling –up of the adoption of good practices for the protection, sustainable management and restoration of drylands forests and agrosilvopastoral systems, enhancing also environmental and socio-economic resilience and sustainable livelihoods;

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.fao.org/3/a-mp046e.pdf#page=117>

d) report to the Committee on any other of its activities, in accordance with Rule VII (3) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee

### **III. ACTIVITIES OF THE WORKING GROUP**

4. To achieve its mandate as described above, the Working Group will undertake the following activities:

- assess and follow, in cooperation with relevant partners, the status of dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems, and facilitate the use of this information for well-informed decision-making and policy development to address the challenges faced in these systems;
- assess current capacities and gaps, and advise on capacity development needs for the sustainable management, restoration, assessment and monitoring of dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems;
- identify tools and approaches appropriate for dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems and support their dissemination and adoption;
- share knowledge and lessons learnt on sustainable management, restoration and monitoring of dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems, and promote their uptake into policy, investments and implementation;
- identify opportunities for collaboration and scaling-up of sustainable management and restoration practices within the Committee, as well as with other FAO Technical Committees and with relevant other partners;
- provide advice in support of implementation in dryland forests and agrosilvopastoral systems of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and decisions adopted within the framework of other international instruments, processes and initiatives, in particular the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;
- undertake such other tasks as may be delegated to it by the Committee.

### **IV. MEMBERSHIP**

5. Membership in the Working Group is open to all Members of the Committee on Forestry whose territories are situated wholly or partly in drylands or that are interested in contributing to the objectives of the Working Group.

6. Each Member of the Committee shall designate its representative from appropriate sectors and disciplines.

### **V. OFFICERS**

7. The Working Group shall elect a Chairperson and two Vice-Chairpersons from among the representatives designated in accordance with paragraph 6 above at the end of each session, who shall remain in office until the election of the new Chairperson and new Vice-Chairpersons at the next session. When electing its officers, the Working Group shall give due consideration to the desirability of ensuring equitable rotation of the offices among the regions and to gender balance.

### **VI. SESSIONS**

8. The Working Group shall normally hold one session every two years, unless otherwise requested by a majority of the Members of the Working Group.