



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# 32<sup>nd</sup> NAFC

NORTH AMERICAN FOREST COMMISSION

# Input to FAO Governance

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Secretary, Committee on Forestry  
FAO

Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada 25 - 27 September 2023



# Committee on Forestry

## Mandate:

- ❑ periodic reviews of forestry problems of an international character
- ❑ review the programmes of work of the FAO on forestry
- ❑ advise the Director-General on the future programmes of work on forestry

(Basic Text, Rule XXXI)





# 27th Session of the Committee on Forestry (COFO)

**22-26 July 2024, FAO HQ, Rome**

- ❑ **123 FAO Members**
- ❑ **All NAFC Members are COFO Members**

<https://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/committee-fo/en/>

# Items arising from COFO 26 recommendations

## Agriculture and forestry linkages (item to be presented to COFO 27 and to COAG 29)

- recommended FAO to continue collecting and analysing necessary science- and evidence-based data on agriculture and forestry interdependencies, including on the direct and underlying drivers of deforestation and land degradation, by further enhancing consistency between agricultural and forest data sets, and **compiling case studies and good practices which should be reported at COFO 27.**
- a global assessment of the status and scaling-up potential of agroforestry, including agroecological principles and practices and other innovative approaches, to update the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) categories covering production systems integrating trees and forests, and **to report on progress to COFO 27**

## FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031

- called on FAO to provide regular updates to the Governing Bodies on the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031 through its Action Plan.
- FAO biennial Theme for 2024-25 **Water resources management for the four betters: better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life, to achieve Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals**”

## New emerging items relevant to the mandate of COFO





**North American Forest  
Commission (NAFC)**  
25-27 September 2023

**European Forestry Commission (EFC)**  
20-24 November 2023

**Near East Forestry and Range  
Commission (NEFRC)**  
10-23 September 2023

**African Forestry and  
Wildlife Commission  
(AFWC)**

TBD (End of October/Beginning of  
November) 2023

**Asia-Pacific Forestry  
Commission (APFC)**  
2-6 October 2023

**Latin American and Caribbean  
Forestry Commission (LACFC)**  
26-30 June 2023

## **Regional Forestry Commissions (statutory bodies art .VI.)**

- Provide inputs from the regions to COFO agenda
- Chairpersons of the RFCs act as members of the COFO Steering Committee (Vice-chairs of COFO)
- Report to the Regional Conferences
- Identify regional priorities for FAO's work in forestry

# Recommendations to COFO 27 agenda

## The Latin American and the Near East Regions

### **FCLAC33:**

- Sustainable forestry management and restoration
- Bioeconomy and value chains
- Forests and agrifood systems
- Forest financing
- Integrated fire management.

### **NERFC26:**

- Agriculture and forestry linkages (forest and rangeland resilience, restoring silvopastoral systems, drought management)
- Sustainable wood production and planted forests in drylands.

A person's hand is visible on the left side of the slide, holding a white marker and writing on a whiteboard. The background is a blurred meeting room with other people and lights.

# Lessons learned from COFO26

(based on feedback received through the COFO 26 survey and interviews)

- 1. Assuring a more focused substantive agenda and time for debate in plenary**
- 2. Prioritize items for discussion with guidance sought from the Committee**
- 3. The Written Correspondence Procedure (WCP)**



# Input to the Regional Conference

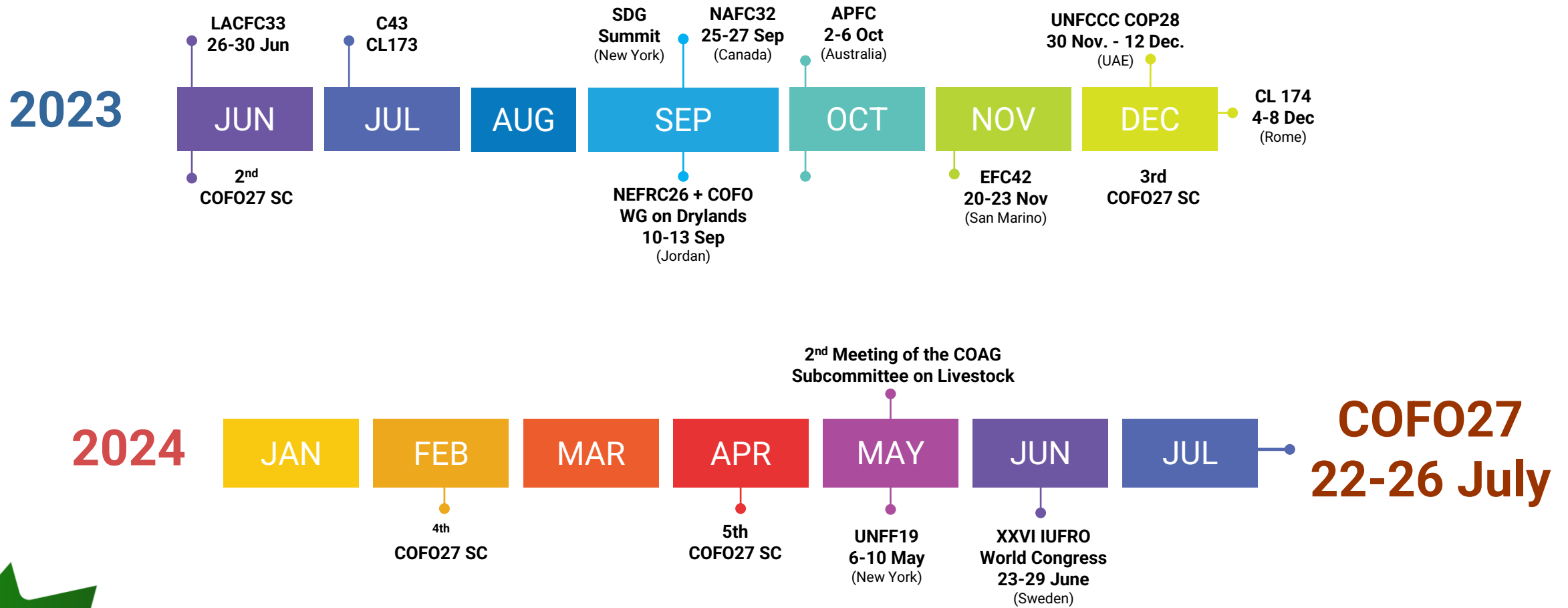
## 8th Informal Regional Conference for North America

**2-4 April 2024**

- RFCs “to have a more policy-relevant role in the FAO Regional Conferences, and invited FAO to support further integration of important regional forest-related matters”
- Bringing forest issues to the focus of regional policy dialogues.



# Provisional timeline towards COFO 27 and important international meetings June 2023 – July 2024





## **The Commission is invited to encourage Members to:**

- continue to actively support the Regional Forestry Commission as the main instrument in forestry for linking the global and regional levels under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31;
- develop recommendations for the Regional Conference, for the COFO agenda, and the programme priorities, in particular regional, for FAO in forestry.

## **The Commission is invited to recommend FAO to:**

- ensure that recommendations are presented to the secretariats of COFO, RFCs and the Regional Conferences.



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**Thank you**

Dr Malgorzata Buszko-Briggs  
Secretary, Committee on  
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