

## 26th Session of the Committee on Forestry

Item 5. Forests and sustainable production of wood and non-wood forest products - meeting demands and supporting resilient local economies

The document COFO/2022/3 Rev.1 builds on the conclusions of the *State of the World's Forests 2022 (SOFO 2022)* and the outcomes of the XV World Forestry Congress. It highlights the sustainable use of forests and the role of sustainable wood and non-wood forest products' value chains, as well as sustainable wood energy, in helping the world to meet the urgent need to achieve resilient and carbon-neutral economies. The document suggests actions to unlock the full potential of forests as suppliers of renewable carbon-neutral materials, in compliance with good practices regarding legality and sustainability.

The Committee is invited to:

- take note of the outcomes of the XV World Forestry Congress and to consider the proposed actions outlined in the Ministerial Call on Sustainable Wood to advance sustainable wood value chains and increase their contributions to climate neutrality;
- strengthen policies, legal and institutional arrangements as well as financial mechanisms that enable and support smallholders, family farmers, producer associations, women, youth, and related small and medium enterprises, to enhance sustainable production of wood and non-wood forest products;
- promote sustainable wood products as part of national strategies to address climate change and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and include them, as appropriate, in Nationally Determined Contributions as well as in strategies, plans and projects associated with the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and economic recovery programmes; and
- promote the development of non-wood forest product (NWFP) value chains to safeguard nutrition, health, and livelihoods of rural communities and to conserve biological diversity.

The Committee may wish to recommend FAO to:

- support Members, upon request, with technical expertise to improve sustainability, legality, and productivity of wood and non-wood forest products' value chains oriented to both domestic and international markets, including on policy, legal and institutional frameworks as well as data and evidence for informed policy and investment decision making;
- support Members to enhance and facilitate access of family farmers, producer organizations, including women, youth, and their small and medium enterprises to innovation and finance as well as to create enabling conditions for access to markets and inclusion in value chains;
- promote and strengthen policy dialogue, technical exchange and capacities to deliver collaborative solutions to achieve climate neutrality and increased resilience, including through the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) Joint Initiative Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World;
- engage with Members, public and private sectors, international organizations and research institutions to collect, assess, and disseminate good practices promoting the sustainable production and trade of charcoal and other forms of wood energy, and support the transition from traditional use to modern use of wood fuels to help meet the SDG targets of sustainable energy for all in 2030 and net zero emissions by 2050; and

- continue supporting Members to accelerate actions aimed at supporting the sustainable and equitable use of NWFP, including on wildlife and on wild plants and their value chains for improved food security, nutrition, health and livelihoods.

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