

Statement
of the European Union and its 27 Member States

26th session of the FAO Committee on Forestry
Rome, 3-7 October 2022

Agenda item 3. Designation of the Drafting Committee

Mr Chair,

1. I am honoured to speak on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.
2. The EU and its Member States disassociate themselves from the nomination of the Russian Federation to the COFO Drafting Committee.
3. The EU and its Member States wish to reaffirm their strong condemnation of Russia's unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine.
4. In the decision adopted by the FAO Council at its 169th session, the Council 'affirmed that the aggression against Ukraine by the Russian Federation, with the involvement of Belarus, is in violation of the objectives and purposes of the Organization as set out in the Preamble of the Constitution and of the obligations accepted by the Russian Federation and Belarus as Members of the Organization'.
5. We request that this disassociation be reflected in the report of this session, through a footnote.

Thank you, Mr Chair.