



**Minister of Environment and Forestry
Republic of Indonesia
Intervention at the COFO-26
Item 8.3. Global Forest Resources Assessment and Remote Sensing Survey
2021-2022 (COFO/2022/6.3)**

Rome, Italy, 5 October 2022 at 14.30-19.30

Thank you Chair,

Indonesia would like to convey its commitment to continuously support the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) reporting process and has confirmed FRA National Correspondents and alternates for the compilation of the FRA 2025 Country reports.

As one of the countries blessed with abundant forests and years of experience in managing the forests through Sustainable Forest Management (SFM), we would like to re-emphasize Indonesia's strong commitment to the betterment of sustainable forests management. Therefore, we are of the view that well-planned preparations should be made to improve the 2025 FRA.

However, there is an issue that has been an Indonesia's concern on the FRA reporting system. It is related to the terms used to express the extent of forests since Indonesia's regulations differentiate between forest areas and forest covers. Forest areas refer to the status of the land and does not necessarily linking to the existence of forest cover or other high woody vegetation. In addition, the status of the land refers to the administrative and legal definition. On the other side, forest cover refers to the biophysical information generated from remote sensing and represent the physical condition of the land. In this regard, the FRA should not interchangeably use the two terms and only use one of them, especially Indonesian forest covers, to be translated into FRA information.

Considering FAO's areas of strength, Indonesia believes that FAO should continue assisting members to narrow technical capacity gaps, such as in land-use planning, terrestrial forest inventory and the use of remote sensing, as well as providing technical support to promote economic valuation of forest resources.

For those reasons, Indonesia supports FAO's efforts to further develop the FRA platform featuring a user-friendly digital data entry and allowing the development of improved guidelines and tools for more consistent reporting, including the use of remote sensing for data collection, given the specific condition of and existing system developed by each country.

We acknowledge the importance of The FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment and encourage partners and stakeholders to step up their collaboration and cooperation in improving the FRA platform for transparent reporting on forest resources, management, and uses.

Thank you Chair.