
Advisory Committee on Sustainable Forest-based Industries (ACSFI)

Article 1 - Membership

1. The Committee shall consist of not less than 15 and not more than 30 leading experts, familiar with problems of forest industries, designated by the Director-General, serving in their personal capacity and at their own expense, reflecting broadly the interests of producer and consumer countries and representative of all the regions.
2. Representatives of international financial institutions, civil society, including the private sector may be invited by the Committee to attend a session of the Committee and may, with the approval of the Chairperson of the Committee, participate in the discussion of one or more specific items of the agenda of a session. Representatives shall be invited to a session - because of their special qualifications and any other considerations relevant to the work of the Committee.

Article 2 - Objectives

1. The Committee shall advise the Director-General on FAO's programme in the field of sustainable production and consumption of forest industry products, and on consistent support on related policy work and regulatory matters.
2. The Committee shall assist the Organization in identifying key issues across the forest industry value chains related to the economic, environmental, social and cultural aspects of private forest ownership, sustainable forest management, harvesting, processing, investments, trade, consumption, and associated benefits in carbon balance and in other ecosystem services.
3. The Committee shall seek to maximize the potential of multiple forest sector benefits from innovations and more efficient small, medium and large-scale processing of mechanical, chemical and energy products of roundwood, logging residues, recycled forest products and industry waste.
4. The Committee shall aim at improving communication, knowledge and information exchange and training on best practices between Members, private sector experts and the Organization.

Article 3 - Terms of Reference

The terms of reference of the Committee shall be:

- a) to advise the Director-General of the Organization on concepts, projects policy work and fundraising in relevant forest sector activities through bilateral or multilateral donor institutions, International Financial Institutions and private sector organizations in accordance with the FAO Strategy on Partnerships with the Private Sector;
- b) to advise and provide guidance on how FAO may better serve Member Nations at their request to solve specific problems in forestry, forest products and forest industries;
- c) to suggest new activities for the Organization, and review studies and statistical data compiled by the Organization on forests, products and forest industries;
- d) to suggest and organize jointly with FAO international meetings and events; and
- e) to provide input to assist the Organization in formulating future work programmes and in identifying priority areas of work in order to incorporate the private sector perspectives.

Article 4 - Steering Committee

1. The Committee shall elect its own Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson from among its members, who shall remain in office until the election of a new Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.
2. The Committee shall elect a Steering Committee from among its members, which, in addition to the Chairperson, shall consist of four to six members.
3. Between sessions, the Steering Committee shall assist the Chairperson of the Committee, and facilitate consultation with members in relation to agendas and other matters, and perform other actions as the implementation of the work programme of the Committee may require.

Article 5 - Sessions

The Director-General of the Organization in consultation with the Chairperson of the Committee shall convene periodic sessions of the Committee and shall determine their site and date.

Article 6 - Secretary

1. The Secretary of the Committee shall be appointed by the Director-General according to the Rules and Regulations of the Organization and shall be administratively responsible to him.
2. The necessary secretariat expenses for the Committee shall be borne by the Organization.

Article 7 - Working Groups

1. The Committee may establish working groups on matters of major importance or of specialized nature.
2. Establishment of any working groups shall be subject to the availability of the necessary Resources, including financial and human resources.

Article 8 - Reporting

1. The Committee shall submit to the Director-General reports on its activities, recommendations and conclusions including, when appropriate, statements of minority views, at such appropriate intervals as to enable the Director-General to take them into consideration when preparing the Programme of Work and Budget of the Organization and other submissions to the governing bodies of the Organization, including the Committee on Forestry.
2. Recommendations having policy or programme implications for the Organization shall be brought by the Director-General to the attention of the Committee on Forestry.
3. The Director-General may invite the Committee to report on its work and in particular on the views of the private sector at each sessions of the Committee on Forestry (COFO).

Article 9 - Other matters

The provisions of the General Rules of the Organization apply *mutatis mutandis* to all matters that are not specifically dealt with under these Statutes.