United Nations Forum on Forests
Ninth session
New York, 24 January - 4 February 2011
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda
1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Assessment of progress made on the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests and towards the achievement of the four global objectives on forests.
4. Regional and sub-regional inputs.
5. Forests for people, livelihoods and poverty eradication:
   (a). Community-based forest management;
   (b). Social Development and indigenous and other local and forest-dependent communities, including forest land tenure;
   (c). Social and cultural aspects.
7. Emerging issues.
8. High-level ministerial segment and policy dialogue with heads of international organizations.
10. Enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination, including the provision of further guidance to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.
11. Means of implementation for sustainable forest management, including report of AHEG1

13. Other matters

14. Dates and venue for the tenth session of the Forum.

15. Provisional agenda for the tenth session of the Forum.

16. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its ninth session.

Annotations

1. Election of officers

Rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) provides that, at the commencement of the first meeting of a regular session, the United Nations Forum on Forests shall elect, from among the representatives of its members, a Chairperson and such other officers as may be required (see E/5975/Rev.1). In accordance with Council resolution 2000/35, which established the Forum, the Bureau of the Forum shall consist of a Chairperson and four Vice-Chairpersons, one of whom shall also act as the Rapporteur, in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical distribution. By its decision 2007/273, the Council decided that, commencing with its eighth session, officers elected to the Bureau shall hold office for a term of two years.

At the first meeting of its ninth session, on 1 May 2009, the Forum elected Mr. Ndiawar Dieng (Senegal), Mr. Ingwald Gschwandtl (Austria), Mr. Raymond Harold Landveld (Suriname) and Mr. Zainol Rahim Zainuddin (Malaysia) as members of the Bureau for the ninth session of the Forum. It postponed the election of the member from the regional group of Eastern European States, as well as the Chairperson and the designation of a Rapporteur, to a later meeting. Since the first meeting, the Secretariat has received the nomination of Mr. Arvids Ozols (Latvia) on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States for the remaining position of the Bureau. The Forum may wish to elect the remaining official to the Bureau.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

In accordance with rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of ECOSOC, the Forum shall, at the beginning of the session, adopt the agenda and organization of work for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotation (E/CN.18/2011/1)

3. Assessment of progress made on the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests and towards the achievement of the four global objectives on forests

The General Assembly, by its resolution 62/98 of 17 December 2007, adopted the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests. The multi-year programme of work of the Forum, adopted at its seventh session, stipulates that at each session, the Forum will
focus, inter alia, on progress towards the achievement of the four global objectives on forests and implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests.

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on assessment of progress made on the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests and towards the achievement of the four global objectives on forests. (E/CN.18/2011/2)

4. **Regional and sub-regional inputs**

By paragraph 2 (c) of ECOSOC resolution 2006/49, the Forum was tasked with several new principal functions, one of them being to strengthen interaction between the Forum and relevant regional and subregional forest-related mechanisms, institutions, and instruments, organizations and processes to facilitate enhanced cooperation and effective implementation of sustainable forest management (SFM), as well as to contribute to the work of the Forum. In operative paragraph 11 of the resolution, forest-related regional and subregional bodies, mechanisms and processes were further invited to strengthen their collaboration with, and to provide input to, the work of the Forum. The Forum’s multi-year programme of work for the period 2007-2015 calls for the provision of an interactive platform for dialogue with regional and subregional forest-related and other relevant processes, mechanisms, instruments and organizations. Additionally the Forum in its resolution at the eighth session invited regional and subregional organizations and processes to provide input to the Forum at its ninth session on the theme of Forests for people, livelihoods and poverty eradication, including sharing of regional perspectives, approaches and experiences.

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on regional and sub-regional inputs (E/CN.18/2011/3)

5. **Forests for people, livelihoods and poverty eradication:**

   (a). Community-based forest management;
   
   (b). Social development and indigenous and other local and forest-dependent communities, including forest land tenure;
   
   (c). Social and cultural aspects..

In accordance with its multi-year programme of work for the period 2007-2015, the Forum, at its ninth session, is scheduled to consider, under the overall theme of Forests for people, livelihoods and poverty eradication, the following sub-themes: (a) community-based forest management; (b) social development and indigenous and other local and forest-dependent communities, including forest and land tenure; and (c) social and cultural aspects. The deliberations on these three sub-themes will be within the context of the main task of the Forum session as well as the cross-cutting issues and common agenda items as listed in the multi-year programme of work.
6. **International Year of Forests 2011**

The General Assembly, by its resolution 61/93 of 20 December 2006, proclaimed 2011 as the International Year of Forests (Forests 2011) and further requested the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to serve as the focal point for the implementation of the year in collaboration with Governments, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), regional and subregional organizations and processes, as well as relevant major groups. Forests 2011 will be launched during the high-level segment of the Forum’s ninth session.

**Documentation**


7. **Emerging issues**

In accordance with its multi-year programme of work for the period 2007-2015, the Forum may include in the agenda of any of its sessions emerging issues of global significance that are related to and/or have an impact on forests and sustainable forest management and which are urgent, unexpected and not already addressed in the agenda of the respective session. In this context, the Bureau of the ninth session has decided to incorporate relevant emerging issues to be discussed in the context of the overall theme of the session as well as in the discussions of the high-level segment.

8. **High level ministerial segment and policy dialogue with heads of international organizations**

In accordance with Economic and Social Council 2000/35, the Forum should hold high-level ministerial segments and should include a policy dialogue with the heads of organizations participating in the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, as well as other forest-related international and regional organizations and instruments. In accordance with the Forum’s multi-year programme of work for the period 2007-2015, high-level ministerial segments will be held in 2011 and 2015.

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on the high-level segment (E/CN.18/2011/8).
9. Multi-stakeholder dialogue

The Forum has valued the participation of Major Groups in its work and has incorporated multi-stakeholder dialogues, involving the nine major groups identified in Agenda 21, in its multi-year programme of work. At each session since its second session in 2002, the Forum has organized multi-stakeholder dialogues, which provide a platform for the exchange of ideas and information between Member States, members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and major groups on the Forum’s work. The Secretariat maintains contact and frequent consultations with major groups on the planning of the multi-stakeholder dialogues. The multi-stakeholder dialogue of the ninth session will focus on seeking multi-stakeholder perspectives on the overall theme and its sub-themes of the session that include (a) Community-based forest management, (b) Social development and indigenous and other local and forest-dependent communities, including forest land tenure, (c) Social and cultural aspects.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the multi-stakeholder dialogue (E/CN.18/2011/9) and its addenda, the discussion papers submitted by various major groups.

10. Enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination, including the provision of further guidance to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.

The United Nations Forum on Forests decided at its first session, in 2001, to develop and maintain contact, cooperate, and carry out active efforts to develop synergies with the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, as well as other relevant international and regional processes and organizations, institutions and instruments. The Forum may wish to consider approaches for further enhancing cooperation, including policy and programme coordination and, in particular, providing guidance to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination (E/CN.18/2011/10)

Collaborative Partnership on Forests Framework 2009 and 2010 (E/CN.18/2011/11)

11. Means of implementation for sustainable forest management

In accordance to the Forum’s multi-year programme of work (MYPOW) sub-item (a) means of implementation will be a recurring “crosscutting issue” for each session. In addition, “means of implementation” was dealt with as a specific agenda item in the eighth session of the Forum and decided to complete consideration of relevant bracketed draft text developed in informal consultations during its eighth session, at its ninth session. Pursuant to ECOSOC decision 2009/240, the Council noted that the Chair of the ninth session of the Forum intended to undertake informal consultations in order to reach agreement on the substantive issues in the bracketed draft text and authorized,
should agreement be reached on those issues, the holding of a one-day special session of 
the ninth session of the Forum, in 2009, for the purpose of adopting the agreed text. As 
a result, at the special session of the ninth session, held on 30 October 2009, the United 
Nations Forum on Forests adopted a resolution on means of implementation for 
sustainable forest management (E/2009/118-E/CN.18/SS/2009/2), through which the 
Forum established an open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc expert group (AHEG) and a 
Facilitative Process.

In its decision 2009/268, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the 
special session. In accordance with this resolution, the AHEG should hold two meetings, 
one before the ninth session and one before the tenth session of the United Nations 
Forum on Forests. Accordingly, the Forum will consider the report of the first meeting 
of AHEG, AHEG1, which was held from 13 to 17 September 2010 in Nairobi, Kenya. 
Under this agenda item, the Forum will also review the performance of the facilitative 
process.

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on means of implementation for sustainable forest 
management  (E/CN.18/2011/12)

The report of the first meeting of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Ad Hoc Expert 
Group on Forest Financing and its annex that contains Co-Chairs summary of discussion 
during AHEG1  (E/CN.18/2011/13)

Note by the Secretariat to the first meeting of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Ad 
Hoc Expert Group on Forest Financing (E/CN.18/2010/2)

**12. The Forum trust funds**

In the Forum’s multi-year programme of work for the period 2007-2015, the Forum 
secretariat is to report at each session on the operation of the Forum’s trust fund, 
including on the amount and source of contributions and a description of how funds 
have been expended.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat on United Nations Trust Funds to Support the United Nations 
Forum on Forests (E/CN.18/2011/14)

**13. Other matters**

The Forum may wish to consider any matters raised for discussion under this item.

**14. Date and venue for the tenth session of the Forum**

The Forum shall decide the date and venue for the tenth session.

**15. Provisional agenda for the tenth session of the Forum**
The Forum shall recommend to the Economic and Social Council for adoption a provisional agenda for the tenth session.

16. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its ninth session

In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Forum shall submit to the Council a report on the work of its session.