Country: Republic of Armenia	-
Date of submission: 23 September 2014	

Voluntary National Report to the 11th Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

Background

The eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF11) will be held from 4 to 15 May 2015 in New York. In accordance with the Forum's Multi-Year Program of Work for 2007-2015, the overall theme of UNFF11 is *Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward on the international arrangement on forests (IAF)*. The UNFF11 will, *inter-alia*:

- Review progress towards the achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs) and implementation of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (hereinafter referred to as the "Forest Instrument"), and
- 2. Review the contribution of forests and the IAF, including the Forest Instrument, to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The submission of national reports by UNFF Member States on the above items will provide a crucial input to the Secretary-General's analytical, consolidated report to UNFF11 on the progress and trends in the above-mentioned areas, as well as to the Forum's deliberation on the future of the IAF.

Pursuant to Resolution 10/1 of the tenth session of the Forum¹, the UNFF Secretariat (UNFFS) in collaboration with the CPF member organizations and in close consultations with countries, revised and streamlined the reporting format. The attached revised format builds on and further simplifies the UNFF10 reporting format. Specifically, the number of questions has been reduced by consolidating previous areas of overlap, and Member States are asked to submit only information that is not currently provided to CPF member organizations, or that is unavailable in other international databases.

The UNFF11 reporting format is presented in two parts. Part I includes questions related to the progress on the implementation of the Forest Instrument, including achievement of the GOFs. Part II includes questions on the contribution of forests and SFM to the achievement of the MDGs.

To the extent possible, the information submitted by countries to the UNFFS will be supplemented with quantitative data, *inter alia*, from the following international data providers:

- FAO, Forest Resources Assessment (FRA)/Collaborative Forest Resources Questionnaire (CRFQ) - FAO, Forest Europe, UNECE, ITTO, Montreal Process and OFAC
- Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (JFSQ) FAO, ITTO, UNECE, EUROSTAT
- FAO, State of the World's Forests (SOFO) 2014
- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC).

¹ Resolution 10/1 of UNFF10 requested the UNFF secretariat (UNFFS) to further streamline the guidelines and format for voluntary national reporting to the eleventh session of the Forum including a technical discussion on reporting methodology with relevant experts of Collaborative Partnership on Forest member organizations, taking into account types of information provided to Collaborative Partnership on Forest member organizations and through criteria and indicators and other regional processes and balanced regional workshops depending on available resources.(United Nations Forum on Forests, Report on the Tenth Session -8 to 19 April 2013, E/2013/42 _E/CN.18/2013/18, Page 6)

Reporting Guidelines and Format

Member States are kindly requested to:

- Submit their completed national report electronically (in MS Word) in English, French or Spanish to unff@un.org, by 30 September 2014, at the latest. Early submissions will greatly facilitate the Secretariat's preparation of the analytical, consolidated Secretary-General's report to UNFF11. Please note that the MS Word file of the reporting format can also be downloaded from the UNFF website at: http://www.un.org/esa/forests/ /unff11_reporting_template.doc
- 2. Submit, in a separate electronic file, a scanned version of the official, signed letter conveying their submission from their respective Ministry, or a note verbale from their Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York.
- 3. Submit any graphic elements included in their national report, as separate electronic files.
- 4. Check all boxes that apply to questions that have multiple-choice components. In addition to the "Yes" or "No" answers, countries are encouraged to provide brief descriptive narratives, as this provides context and background. Please also note that space provided for the descriptive information is limited to 250 words per question.

In view of the cross-cutting nature of issues related to forests and sustainable forest management (SFM), respondents are encouraged to consult with experts from relevant national ministries to complete the reporting format, including, for example, the ministries of environment, economic development, finance and agriculture. Respondents are also strongly encouraged to consult with the national focal points for the FAO Forest Resources Assessment (FRA), the Rio Conventions, other CPF member organizations and C&I processes, where applicable.

Please note that the Year 2007 – the year of the adoption of the Forest Instrument (2007), is used as a baseline throughout the document.

All terms used in this document are consistent with the FAO/FRA Working Paper 180 "Terms and Definitions FRA 2015": http://www.fao.org/docrep/017/ap862e/ap862e00.pdf

Abbreviations

C&I Criteria and Indicators processes

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FLEGT Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade

FRA FAO's global Forest Resources Assessment

GOF Global Objectives on Forests

ITTO International Tropical Timber Organization

MDGs Millennium Development Goals
NFP National Forest Programme

ODA Official Development Assistance
SIDS Small Island Developing States

SFM Sustainable forest management

UN United Nations

UNFF United Nations Forum on Forests

General information

UNFF national focal point

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Person to contact concerning the national report, if other than the UNFF national focal point

Name:	
Title:	
Address:	
Organization:	
Phone:	
Fax:	
Email:	

PART I:

<u>Progress on the implementation of the Forest Instrument,</u> <u>including achievement of the Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs)</u>

	en forest-relate	d policies, legisl	ation, and law enfor	cement in support	
	-	New	Amendment of e	existing	
Forest policy					
Forest legislation					
National forest programme					
Forest land tenure					
Other actions					
None					
Please provide furt	her information o	on these and/or ot	her actions:		
At present, the d		-	s and addenda in th	ne RA Forest Code	
N316-N decision made by the RA government, February 2, 2012 "On making amendment in N806-N decision made by the RA government May 24, 2007. The decision is about the order of granting usage rights of state forests and forest lands.					
To what extent have these actions been effective in advancing implementation of the Forest Instrument?					
mondinone.	Effective	Partially effective	Not effective	Not in place	
Forest policy					
Forest legislation	\boxtimes				
NFP					
Forest land tenures					
Other actions					
Please provide 2-3 examples of effective actions in support of the Forest Instrument and web-link(s) to relevant document(s):					
A number of key changes have been included in the RA Draft Bill "On Making amendments and addenda in the RA Forest Code" which will allow us to apply stable forest management principles in the practical dimension, in particular: 1. Principles of forests' classification					
2. The multi	functional forest	zoning			
3. Planning of long-term (forest management plans (10 years) and short-term (annual					

actions plans of implementation of forest management measures) forestry management.4. The certain period of time of the implementation of forest rehabilitation in a certain

area and so on.

The cases of giving forests for rent and without renting, are clarified by N316-N decision made by the RA Government, February 2, 2012, requirements about each type of the logging and the order of competition implementation for giving forests for rent are defined as well.

2.	Since 2007, what steps has your government taken to prevent and reduce international trafficking in illegally-harvested forest products such as timber, wildlife and other biological resources?
	New legislation New legislation
	☐ Improved enforcement of existing legislation
	☐ Export controls
	☐ Import controls
	☐ Bilateral agreements between exporting/importing countries
	None
	Other, e.g. public procurement policies, public-private partnerships. Please list below:
	"The order of wood storage in state and communal forests" is established by N80-N decision made by the Minister of Agriculture, May 6, 2013.
	Please provide 2-3 examples and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):
	-
3.	Since 2007, what steps has your government taken to raise the importance of forests and SFM in national development plans, poverty reduction strategies or other equivalent plans?
	Forests/SFM are now included in national development plans/strategies
	Forests/SFM now have a higher priority in national development plans/strategies
	The contribution of forests/SFM to poverty eradication, food security, water security,
	employment is an ongoing subject of discussionOther, please list below:
	The decision according to which the improvement of the sphere of preservation, protection, reproduction and the use of forests of the republic through appropriate state programs will also be one of the most important policy priorities of the RA Government, is summarized in N511-A decision "On The RA Government Program" made by the Ra Government, May 19, 2014.
	Assurance of the balanced ecological environment, maintenance of human health and enhancement of the quality of life in the environmental sphere are the basis for the RA Government Policy.
	The measures which are planned to this aim include the assurance of the future growth of the volumes of afforestation and reforestation, prevention of illegal logging, struggle against

desertification, maintenance of biological and landscape diversity and improvement of t mechanisms for their management, full implementation of development programs specially protected forest and nature areas, etc.				
activities ☐ More domestic ☐ Increased awar	Development Assist public resources deness of the importances of the importances of the importances.	evoted to SFM- tance of forests	related activities /SFM to sustainat	ole development
Please describe these	steps and if no	ossible provide	2-3 examples a	and weh-link(s) to
relevant document(s): Development of the R Code".		·	•	, ,
ministries and departments whose policies have an impact on or may affect fores and SFM? Yes No If Yes, please specify which ministries and/or departments are involved and how effect these measures have been in implementing SFM:				
	Effective	Partially effective	Not effective	Not in place
Agriculture/Rural Development	\boxtimes			
Climate Change				
Environment				
Mining				
Energy				
Water				
Tourism				
Other				
Please provide 2-3 exarelevant document(s):	amples of cross-se	ectoral coopera	tion and, if possi	ble, web-link(s)

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	Ministe - Counce Deputy - Steeri	r, establis il to Mitig PrimeMin	shed in 2004. ate Actions to Help ister of Armenia, es ittee of the Clima	Address Proble tablished in 200	ems Associate	velopment Fund, led and with Illegal Logging, led in Armenia funded by	led by the
5.			rnment's nationa und and quantifie			or national forest propertion	rogramme
		\boxtimes	Yes	No			
			the targets and da s) to relevant docu		hey are to b	e achieved and, if pos	sible,
	Govern RA Na timefra 1. The rehabil use for manag 2. The a) Plar lands in Forest b) Pror c) Stim d) Supple) Imp	ment of Fitional Forme: Short-te Mid-tern Long-ter main air itate degreest resoruted and important objectives and imported the coulate cooport the irrelement of the coulate cooport the irrelement of the cooport of the irrelement of the irre	RA Decision N 123 rest Program measures rm measures rm measures rm of the National aded forest ecosy urces in a continu- rategy. s of the National F blement activities in the National d strategy. development of of peration at national roolvement of inter	32-N from 21 casures are en asures area en asures area en asures area en area en asures asur	ram of RA rient manne of RA are a tainable ma hity and othe ional levels; hal investme	er types of ownership:	cosystems, able forest
6.						rtaken to reverse the	
		\boxtimes	Afforestation	1977.9	ha		
		\boxtimes	Reforestation	13093.4	ha		
			Restoration	137.8	ha		
	Introduc	tion or en	forcement of:				
		_	legislation aimed	at reduction	of deforesta	tion and/or support af	forestation
		New leg		reduction of o	deforestation	n and/or support of af	forestation

New legislation and actions aimed at conservation and protection of forests Subsidies for forest owners to prepare and implement management plans

Subsidies for forest protection

Other, please list below:

Reduced/deferred taxes for forest land

Low-interest loans for forest activities/management

forest/SF	Des of mechanis M policy formula Coundtables/comm Orest authorities inem arise Other, please list be	ntion, planning nittees have bee meet with stake	and implement on established w	ation? hich meet regularl	у
How effe	ctive are these med	chanisms in pro Effective	omoting consens Partially effective	us approaches: Not effective	Not in place
Private s					
	mmunities ous communities				
General Please pr	Public ovide 2-3 example	⊠ es, and, if possib	ble, provide web	☐ -link(s) to relevant	document(s
-	<u> </u>				

Please provide 2-3 examples how local and indigenous communities are benefiting from goods and services produced by forests and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

According to the RA Forest Code, Article 44, Part 1, citizens have the right to freely, without any permission visit the forests owned by state or community for rest, collection of wild fruit, berries, nuts, mushrooms and plants for personal use, except the cases provided by the law or other legal acts.

9.	Since 2007, has your government develop SFM and to implement the Forest Instrum	ped or updated financing strategies to achieve ent?			
	☐ Yes ⊠ No				
	If Yes, what is the timeframe of these strateg	ies?			
	2-5 years				
	5-10 years				
	☐ 10-20 years				
	Other, please specify:				
	These strategies take into account:				
	Domestic public funding				
	Domestic private funding				
	Public international (includi	ng ODA and REDD+)			
	External private funding				
	Please provide 2-3 examples, and, if possible	e, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):			
10					
10.		r more systems/mechanisms for payment for rests?			
10.	. Has your government established one o ecosystem services (PES) provided by fo Yes No				
10.	ecosystem services (PES) provided by fo Yes No				
10.	ecosystem services (PES) provided by fo Yes No If Yes, please specify, and, if possible, provisince 2007:	rests?			
10.	ecosystem services (PES) provided by fo Yes No If Yes, please specify, and, if possible, prov	vide the estimated total value of these payments			
10.	ecosystem services (PES) provided by fo Yes No If Yes, please specify, and, if possible, provisince 2007: Watershed protection/water supply	rests? vide the estimated total value of these payments USD			
10.	ecosystem services (PES) provided by fo Yes No If Yes, please specify, and, if possible, provisince 2007: Watershed protection/water supply Carbon storage (including REDD+)	vide the estimated total value of these payments USD USD			
10.	ecosystem services (PES) provided by formula Yes No If Yes, please specify, and, if possible, provisince 2007: Watershed protection/water supply Carbon storage (including REDD+) Nature conservation	vide the estimated total value of these payments USD USD USD			
10.	ecosystem services (PES) provided by formula Yes No If Yes, please specify, and, if possible, provisince 2007: Watershed protection/water supply Carbon storage (including REDD+) Nature conservation	vide the estimated total value of these payments USD USD USD			

Please provide 2-3 examples of PES and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):

			has your government been a urces for the implementation of		
			·	2007	2013
			Domestic public funding	USD	USD
			Domestic private funding	USD	USD
			Public international funding (including ODA and REDD+)	USD	USD
			External private funding	USD	USD
	If there	has be	en no increase, please describe th	e main challenge	s in mobilizing funds:
	Lack	of financ	cial means		
12.			what steps has your governn SFM and forests?	nent taken to e	encourage private sector
		Policy	and legal reforms that encourage	greater private in	vestment
		-	cial incentives, such as credit guara	•	
			ishment of markets for ecosystem	•	•
		forests	,		
		Develo SFM	opment and improvement of infrast	ructure and other	public services related to
		Other;	please list below:		
	Please	provide	2-3 examples, and, if possible, pr	ovide web-link(s)	to relevant document(s):
13.	ls you	r goverı	nment engaged in international o	cooperation to p	romote SFM?
		\boxtimes	Yes 🗌 No		
	If Yes,	please	specify with whom:		
			Government		
			Intergovernmental Organization		
			Private sector/philanthropy NGOs		
			Others		
	Type o	f coope			

Are these progra	ms directed at:
	Forest owners
	Timber companies/forest products industry
	State agencies
	Local communities
	Indigenous communities
	NGOs
	General public
Since 2007, has	funding for forest-related science and research increased?
	Yes 🛛 No
Please describe,	and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):
	has your country undertaken to increase public awareness of the fits provided by forests?
_	Published broadcasts on TV and/or Radio
	Published materials, e.g. brochures, pamphlets, leaflets, or/and posters, etc.
<u> </u>	Meetings with the general public
<u>=</u>	Art events/Exhibitions
_	Activities in support of the International Day of Forests
	Other
_	-3 examples, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):
	enia, REC-Caucasus Branch in Yerevan and «Hayntar» SNCO organized an
event dedicated	
	ear of Forests – 2011, held on March 21st, 2011. The event aimed at f the outputs of forest
	projects under implementation by UNDP, REC-Caucasus and «Hayntar»
SNCO. Represe	entatives of
•	stakeholders, environmental NGOs, EU Delegation to Armenia, German ther international
•	ere present at the event.
The following	ng measures have been carried out for the public awareness about the role of
forests and thei	·
	ts were printed, through which the public has been informed about the forest
	ays to prevent them, about the role of the forests and damages caused by guidelines of timber acquisition from forest and about "State Forest
	ter" State Non-Commercial Organization.
	lition to the aforementioned booklet, another booklet was printed about the
	ber acquisition, the role and importance of monitoring. Posters about the
	gal and illegal logging were made and posted in a number of communities, as
	ignboards were made, on which texts about fire safety are written and which
were installed o	n the roads leading to forest.

16. What sets of criteria and indicators (C&I) for SFM are used in your country:
National set of C&I
Regional/international set of C&I (e.g. ITTO, Forest Europe, Montreal
Process, Taraporto etc.)
Other
Please describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to relevant document(s):
In the future, the composition of forest management standards and indicators are planned to be developed by GIZ SMB Program.
Are these C&I used to:
Generate information to national reports on forest conditions and management
Monitor and assess and monitor forest conditions and management
Review and develop national forest policies and tools for SFM
Communicate with society and carry out dialogue with stakeholders
Report on forests to regional and international organizations If so, which ones:
Report of forests to regional and international organizations if so, which ones.
17. Has your country translated the Forest Instrument into another language (not including the official UN languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish)?
-
18. Please give examples of your country's success stories and lessons learned related to the implementation of the Forest Instrument, including contributions towards the four Global Objectives on Forests:
During the last years Armenia has an active cooperation with a number of International
Organizations.
GIZ – Sustainable management of bioresources in South Caucasus
FAO – Afforestation and Reforestation
WB – Natural Resources Management and Poverty Reduction
SIDA – Institutional reforms in forest sector
NFG – Community forest management in Armenia
FLEG 2 - "Improving Forest Law Enforcement and Governance in the European
Neighbourhood Policy East Countries and Russia"
UNDP-GEF – "Developing the Protected Areas System of Armenia" WWF-Armenia - Increasing the resilience of forest ecosystems against climate change in the
southern caucasus through forest traansformation.

PART II

Contribution of forests and SFM to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

The aim of Part II of this reporting questionnaire is to learn how forests and SFM have contributed to achieving the MDGs in your country, particularly with respect to poverty and hunger eradication (MDG1), environmental sustainability (MDG7) and developing a global partnership for development (MDG8).

in your country?	adicatin	g extrem	e poverty	and hun	ger (MDG1)
Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest)	scale of	1-5 (1 be	eing the lo	west and	5 being the
Ву:	1	2	3	4	5
Improving livelihoods					
Supporting subsistence needs, including fuel wood, fodder and shelter			\boxtimes		
Contributing to food security, including through agroforestry systems		\boxtimes			
Providing employment, including employment in informal economy		\boxtimes			
Other:					
20. How have forests/SFM contributed to en your country?	suring	environm	ental sus	4 a l a la 1114.	
Please rate the scale of contribution on a	scale of				
Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest)		1-5 (1 be	eing the lo	west and	5 being the
Please rate the scale of contribution on a	scale of				
Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest)		1-5 (1 be	eing the lo	west and	5 being the
Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest) By:	1	1-5 (1 be	eing the lo	west and	5 being the
Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest) By: Providing habitat Supporting ecosystem, species and genetic	1	2	eing the lo	west and 4	5 being the 5
Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest) By: Providing habitat Supporting ecosystem, species and genetic diversity	1	2	eing the lo	west and 4 □	5 being the 5
Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest) By: Providing habitat Supporting ecosystem, species and genetic diversity Stabilizing soils and slopes	1	2	eing the lo	west and 4 □	5 being the 5
Please rate the scale of contribution on a highest) By: Providing habitat Supporting ecosystem, species and genetic diversity Stabilizing soils and slopes Safeguarding water resources	1	2	athe lo	west and 4 □ □ □	5 being the 5

Please describe, and, if possible, provide a web-link to relevant document(s):

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highest) By:				nd 5 be	, III IQ
	1	2	3	4	;
Engaging in regional and international collaboration of issues related to improved governance	on 🗆			\boxtimes	[
Through trade agreements involving forest products (e.g. bilateral/sub-regional/regional/inter-regional free trade agreements, EU voluntary partnership agreements, etc.)	· 🖂				[
Fostering partnerships with the private sector					[
Attracting foreign investment in the forest sector					[
Fostering bilateral and international financial cooperation		\boxtimes			[
Fostering north-south, and south-south technical, technological and scientific partnerships					[
Other					[
lease describe, and, if possible, provide web-link(s) to re	elevant do	cument	(s):		
iodoo doombo, and, ii poooibio, provide web link(a) to re					
iodoo doodibo, and, ii poodibio, provide web link(a) to re					

MDG3: Promoting gender equality and empowering women

	-
MC	DG4: Reducing child mortality
	-
ME	DG5: Improving maternal health
	-
MC	DG6: Combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
	-