

Input/statement EU item 4 bullet 2 (GFFFN)

The Global Forest Financing Framework Network (GFFFN) has a paramount role to play to facilitate the mobilization of resources for sustainable forest management. In order to ensure concrete outcomes of the GFFFN and to avoid duplication of efforts with existing financial frameworks and instruments, the EU and its Member States believe that the SP should define for the GFFFN clear priorities on the basis of the functions of the Facilitative Process (see E/2009/118-E/CN.18/55/2009/2, para. 3 and E/2011/42-E/CN.18/2011/20, para. 2) by focusing on capacity-building for strategic forest finance planning and for effective resource mobilization at the national level in countries with special needs and circumstances. This should include close collaboration with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and enhance coordination among the various means of implementation aspects of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development, the Rio Conventions and other relevant processes to offer synergy, coherence and mutual support among all these processes. There should be a phased approach in terms of elements, location and associated budget. In the second term of the SP, an OLI/CLI should be carried out to identify major challenges and opportunities for access to major financial sources.

Statement EU item 4, 5-th bullet

a) Institutional matters

The SP should provide a clear and precise description of the institutional set-up of the IAF and accurately clarify the respective roles and responsibilities of UNFF, CPF, Member countries for implementation of the SP.

The Forum, assisted by the UNFF secretariat, adopts the SP and will remain the entity with the overall responsibility to monitor its implementation and review as appropriate. The SP should describe how the annual sessions of the Forum with their alternate focus on "science and review" and "policy development" will be used to deliver on the SP. The SP should also describe how the UNFF secretariat will prioritise its activities in order to deliver its work within existing resources.

Member Countries retain the primary responsibility to implement SFM in their territory. They will continue to report on a voluntary basis on implementation of the Forest Instrument and of the SP. Additionally, implementation and reporting from countries should be strengthened.

To strengthen implementation, an approach for voluntary reporting could be used (seeking synergies with the UNFCCC NDCs) in which Member States set and report on their own commitments, based on the goals and targets described in the SP, activities and results.

CPF continues to provide technical and scientific advice and prepares, submits and supports coherent approaches to forest-related issues. Through its 14 members the support function of CPF within the

IAF is rooted in a broad and balanced array of forest-related institutions, organizations and secretariats. The role of the CPF should be clarified and the work of CPF should be prioritized. With a strengthened role and modus operandi of the CPF within the IAF, it will develop multi-year joint workplans, with a clear timeline and role-division amongst CPF members, in line with the SP and the guidance provided by the Forum. Linked specifically to the technical and scientific UNFF sessions, the regular CPF report will enable the Forum to deliberate on the findings and proposals submitted and take them into account when shaping future recommendations and decisions. The SP may also describe the way in which individual CPF Members, as decided by the relevant governing body, may want to take the lead on implementation of specific areas of the SP. The needs for support of the CPF need to be defined (landscape approach vs. REDD+, FLEGT and UN forest instrument; logical framework; criteria and indicators for SFM).

Major Groups and other stakeholders should strengthen their relevant and important participation within the work of the IAF has supported by ECOSOC resolution E/2015/42-E/CN.18/2015/14 in order to strengthen IAF's visibility, credibility and impact on the ground. Reliable procedures and clear incentives are developed how to further engage Major Groups and other stakeholders both in advisory work and in implementation, and in the end in funded activities. The UNFF Secretariat should promote a modus operandi on how to facilitate Major Group engagement.

The IAF should promote synergies with private sector commitments to eliminate deforestation related to the supply chain of commodities both within and outside the forest sector, including agricultural commodities .

Next to the actors of the IAF, the roles of the private sector in achieving SFM should be defined in the SP.

b) Regional dimension

The SP should identify clearly the role of existing regional organizations and processes in the implementation of the SP, as well as the manner in which the regional organizations and processes will feed into the global discussion.

Furthermore, the SP should inter alia also encourage to:

- involve the other relevant forest policy setting CPF members when it concerns forests, as CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD, ITTA, to have a joint approach and implementation for forests in the region;
- make use as much as possible of existing regional organizations and processes with the involvement of the relevant stakeholders/major groups of that region.