

## Questionnaire on the Forum's 4POW 2021-2024

### INPUT FROM CANADA

1. Thematic priorities: The 4POW 2021-2024 consists of two technical-policy biennium: 2021-2022 and 2023-2024. Consistent with Annex II of ECOSOC resolution 2017/4, the Forum's odd- and even-year sessions for each biennium will be thematically linked on the basis of the GFGs and targets, taking into account the post-2020 programme of work of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). In order to carry out this guidance, would it be useful for the work programme to (check one):
  - a.  Identify three GFGs and associated targets as thematic priorities for a technical exchange of experiences among Member States and partners and a subsequent policy review in each biennium (progress on all GFGs are reviewed in the four-year period), taking into account the post 2020 HLPF programme of work? OR
  - b.  Leave the decision on which GFGs will be the themes for each biennium to the Bureau (current practice) in order to take into account, the post-2020 HLPF programme of work, which is expected to be agreed upon before the end of 2019? OR
  - c.  Other (please explain- Maximum 100 words)
 

Canada sees the value in Option A with the proviso that every technical exchange include an external stakeholder from another land use sector. This is an excellent opportunity to initiate dialogue outside of the UN and forest arena. Member States (beyond the Bureau) could help organize specific panels.
  
2. Operational priorities: The 4POW 2021-2024 represents the Forum's contribution to implementing the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 (UNSPF). In your view, what are the Forum's main operational priorities in support of the UNSPF during this timeframe (check all that apply):
  - a.  Means of implementation for sustainable forest management (including GFFFN operations and resources)
  - b.  MAR (follow up on the flagship publication and timing for 2nd round of national reporting)
  - c.  VNCs (announcements, implementation support and follow up)
  - d.  Communication and outreach (including International Day of Forests)
  - e.  \*\*\*\*\_Preparations for mid-term review of the International Arrangement on Forests in 2024<sup>1</sup>
  - f.  Preparations for the High-Level Segment at the Forum's session in 2024,
  - f. Other (please list)

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<sup>1</sup> Consistent with section XII of ECOSOC resolution 2015/33 and paragraph 66 of the UNSPF 2030

\*\*\* - The IAF segment should be a 10 minute issue, not the subject of protracted discussion. It is a technical requirement to address it and should not take time away from forward looking discussion.

3. Other elements: In addition to the Forum's thematic and operational priorities, what other elements should be reflected during 4POW 2021-2024 (check all that apply):

- a.  Contribution of CPF and its member organizations to UNSPF 2030 implementation,
- b.  Contribution of regional/subregional and Major Group partners to UNSPF 2030 implementation
- c.  Post-2020 global framework for biodiversity under the Convention on Biological Diversity
- d.  The initial global stock-taking under the Paris Agreement (to be conducted in 2023) \*\*
- e.  Other (please list)

Contribution of the private and philanthropic communities to achieving the GFGs and SDGS

\*\* While this is an important topic and very relevant to the work of the UNFF, we should have clear understanding of what the objectives are for paying attention to this issue. All Member States are aware of the role of forests in relation to climate change and the Paris Agreement. What do we want to do with the information on the stocktaking exercise?

4. Technical sessions: Based on the experience of the 4POW 2017-2020, how could the Forum's technical sessions in 2021 and 2023 be organized to enhance the exchange of experiences and interaction among Member States, CPF and its member organizations, and regional/subregional and Major Group partners, and to address the science-policy interface (check all that apply):

- a.  Reduce the number of panels to allow more time for exchange of experiences among participants
- b.  Include a panel on the science-policy interface on the thematic priorities identified for each biennium
- c.  Minimize/eliminate the time allocated for opening general statements
- d.  Provide space for exhibits and/or training activities to highlight best practices
- e.  Other (please list)
  - Consider inclusion of presentations on lessons learned and failures. We spend a lot of time talking about our successes, but often the most valuable information comes from sharing what hasn't worked.
  - Develop a permanent, rotating youth position on the Bureau. The representative could be ex-officio but would bring in another perspective. Their participation could be virtual so there would be no costs associated with this additional representation.