

area as a contribution to the Forum's deliberations at its thirteenth session and the Forum's input to the high-level political forum in 2018;

27. *Invites* members of the Forum, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its member organizations, United Nations system partners, regional and subregional organizations and processes, major groups and other stakeholders to undertake initiatives to highlight the significance of forests to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development¹ and to present the outcomes of those initiatives to the thirteenth session of the Forum;

28. *Decides* that the Forum, at its thirteenth session, will finalize its substantive input to the high-level political forum in 2018, taking into account the inputs provided to the Forum.

Annex

Guidelines for initiatives led by countries, organizations, regions and major groups

The overall purpose of any initiative led by a country, organization, region or major group is to support the work of the United Nations Forum on Forests. Thus, the organizers may wish to consider the following guidelines when planning such initiatives:

(a) Initiatives shall be directly related to the priorities of the United Nations Forum on Forests as defined in the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017-2030 and the Forum's quadrennial programme of work for the period 2017-2020;

(b) Initiatives shall be informal in nature, transparent and participatory, strive for balanced representation, including gender representation, and be open to participation by all States members of the Forum, members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and representatives of major groups, as well as other interested stakeholders;

(c) Proponents of an initiative should bring their interest in convening an initiative to the attention of the Bureau and the secretariat of the Forum, in writing, stating the objectives of the initiative, its relevance to the work of the Forum, the proposed venue and date and the estimated level of participation;

(d) The secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests shall participate in the committee established to support the initiative;

(e) The cost of such initiatives shall be borne by the hosts or donors or financed from other sources. The United Nations regular budget shall not cover the cost of such initiatives. Funds from the United Nations Forum on Forests Trust Fund may be used for such initiatives only if specifically earmarked for that purpose by a donor;

(f) The Bureau member from the region in which the initiative is being held shall be invited to attend;

(g) The travel and expenses of one member of the Forum secretariat shall be covered by the initiative;

(h) Following the conclusion of an initiative, the organizers shall submit a report for presentation to the Secretary-General, to be made available on the website of the United Nations Forum on Forests; the organizers shall also present the outcome of the initiative to the subsequent session of the Forum, for its consideration;

¹ General Assembly resolution 70/1.

(i) In the interest of registering and acknowledging the contribution of all those involved in the initiative, including in terms of their financial support, the proponents of the initiative may wish to include such information in the report to be submitted to the Secretary-General;

(j) Countries, organizations, regions and major groups are invited to consider the present guidelines, which shall apply to the initiatives announced after the twelfth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests.

Resolution 12/2

Term of office of the officers of the Forum

The United Nations Forum on Forests,

Recalling paragraph 7 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35 of 18 October 2000, in which the Council decided that the United Nations Forum on Forests would, inter alia, determine the duration of the term of office of its officers,

Recalling also Council resolution 2015/33 of 22 July 2015, in which the Council decided that the Forum would dedicate its even-year sessions to policy discussions and its odd-year sessions to discussions on implementation and technical advice,

1. *Decides* that, starting at its fourteenth regular session, the Forum shall elect its officers for a two-year term of office with a view to ensuring continuity between policy and technical sessions of the United Nations Forum on Forests;

2. *Recognizes* that this decision shall not be used as a precedent for other functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

C. Decisions brought to the attention of the Council

3. The following decisions adopted by the United Nations Forum on Forests at its twelfth session are brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council:

Decision 12/101

Dates and venue of the thirteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

The United Nations Forum on Forests, recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/33 of 22 July 2015, decides that the thirteenth session of the Forum will be held at Headquarters from 7 to 11 May 2018.

Decision 12/102

Documentation considered by the United Nations Forum on Forests at its twelfth session

The United Nations Forum on Forests takes note of the following documents considered at its twelfth session:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on monitoring, assessment and reporting on progress towards implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017-2030, including the United Nations forest instrument and voluntary national contributions (E/CN.18/2017/3);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation, coordination and engagement on forest-related issues (E/CN.18/2017/5).