Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations New York

30 January 2015

No. 035

The Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat, and has the honor to submit herewith Brazil's contribution to the Ministerial Declaration of the Eleventh Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests.

The Permanent Mission of Brazil avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat the assurances of its highest consideration.

Submission to the Ministerial Declaration and the Resolution of the High Level Segment of the Eleventh Session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (30 January 2015)

The Brazilian Government presents its compliments to the UNFF Secretariat and has the honor to submit its inputs on elements of the building blocks for the UNFF-11 Ministerial Declaration.

The following bullet points present the main issues that Brazil would like to see reflected in the final text of the Declaration:

- The UNFF is an essential platform for policy discussions on all types of forests. Both the UNFF and the CPF have important roles for the global cooperation and coordination in order to implement actions to promote sustainable forest management.
- It is necessary to strengthen the UNFF and its Secretariat so that they can better fulfill their roles.
- The UNFF should have resources that are commensurate with the tasks that are expected from it. The lack of resources and political support undermine the ability of the Forum to meet the expectations on its performance.
- The Forest Instrument is a valuable and comprehensive guiding document for the development of policies and actions to implement sustainable forest management.
- The "post-2015 IAF" should provide conditions for the implementation and monitoring of the Forest Instrument and goals already agreed on forests, such as the Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs).
- The achievement of the GOFs is a work in progress and they should become "permanent concerns".

- The effective implementation of sustainable forest management by the countries is critically dependent upon adequate resources, including financing, capacity development and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies.
- It is important that the UNFF help to catalyze political commitment to provide adequate financial support to sustainable forest management initiatives and to enable countries to access existing funds to implement the Forest Instrument.
- The "post-2015 IAF" should provide means to address the forest issues in a comprehensive manner and not just under a fragmented prism of climate change, biodiversity, water resources or any other particular bias.
- It is important to raise awareness on the relevance of forest issues
 and to engage not only the main stakeholders but also actors outside the forest sector for the implementation of the Forest Instrument and the GOFs.