



Economic and Social Council

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United Nations Forum on Forests

Eighteenth session

8–12 May 2023

Agenda item 8

Adoption of the report of the Forum on its eighteenth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. İsmail **Belen** (Türkiye)

Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The United Nations Forum on Forests held its eighteenth session at United Nations Headquarters on 13 May 2022 and from 8 to 12 May 2023. The Forum held ___ plenary meetings (1st to ___).
2. At the 1st plenary meeting, on 13 May 2022, the Chair pro tempore and Chair of the seventeenth session of the Forum, Miriam Mac Intosh (Suriname), opened the eighteenth session.
3. At the 2nd plenary meeting, on 8 May 2023, the Chair of the eighteenth session, Zéphyrin Maniratanga (Burundi), resumed the session and made an opening statement.
4. At the same meeting, the President of the Economic and Social Council, Lachezara Stoeva (Bulgaria), addressed the Forum.
5. Also at the same meeting, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Li Junhua, made a statement.

[To be completed]

B. Election of officers

6. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 13 May 2022, the Forum elected, by acclamation, Zéphyrin Maniratanga (Burundi) as Chair, as well as Javad Momeni (Islamic Republic of Iran) and İsmail Belen (Türkiye) as Vice-Chairs, of its eighteenth and nineteenth sessions.



7. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 8 May 2023, the Forum elected, by acclamation, Leticia Zamora Zumbado (Costa Rica) and, by secret ballot, _____ as Vice-Chairs of its eighteenth and nineteenth sessions.

8. At the same meeting, the Forum appointed İsmail Belen (Türkiye) to serve concurrently as Rapporteur of its eighteenth and nineteenth sessions.

C. Agenda and organization of work

9. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 8 May 2023, the Forum adopted the provisional agenda ([E/CN.18/2023/1](#)) for the session, which read:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Technical discussions on the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030:
 - (a) Thematic priorities for the biennium 2023–2024, in support of the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030;
 - (b) Contributions of members of the Forum to implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030:
 - (i) New announcements of voluntary national contributions;
 - (ii) Updates on voluntary national contributions and their follow-up related to the thematic priorities;
 - (c) Contributions of and enhanced cooperation with partners to achieving the thematic priorities:
 - (i) Contributions of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, its member organizations and the United Nations system to achieving the thematic priorities, and progress on the workplan of the Partnership;
 - (ii) Contributions of regional and subregional organizations and processes to achieving the thematic priorities;
 - (iii) Contributions of major groups and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and the philanthropic community, to achieving the thematic priorities, and progress on major group workplans;
 - (d) Interlinkages between the global forest goals and targets and the Sustainable Development Goals under review by the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2023, the work towards the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and other international forest-related developments;
 - (e) Implementation of the communication and outreach strategy of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, including activities regarding the International Day of Forests in 2023;
 - (f) Means of implementation, including operations and resources of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network;

- (g) Monitoring, assessment and reporting:
 - (i) Global core set of forest-related indicators;
 - (ii) Preparations for the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2025;
- (h) Update on the preparations for the 2024 midterm review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests, including the communication and outreach strategy of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030.

4. Trust fund for the United Nations Forum on Forests.
5. Emerging issues.
6. Date and venue of the nineteenth session of the Forum.
7. Provisional agenda of the nineteenth session of the Forum.
8. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its eighteenth session.

10. Also at its 2nd plenary meeting, the Forum approved the provisional organization of work for the session, as circulated in an informal paper in English only, on the understanding that further adjustments may be made, if necessary, during the course of the session.

11. At the same meeting, the Chair of the Forum recalled that the session was a technical session for implementation and technical advice and that a Chair's summary of the discussions during the session would be transmitted as an input of the Forum to the 2023 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council.

D. Attendance

12. In accordance with paragraph 4 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35, the Forum is composed of all States Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies, with full and equal participation. The list of participants will be issued as document [E/CN.18/2023/INF/1](#).

E. Documentation

13. The documentation considered by the Forum at its eighteenth session is available from the website of the Forum at <https://www.un.org/esa/forests/forum/index.html>.