



EUROPEAN UNION
DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
Head of Delegation

New York, 26 October 2015

Dear Mr. Sobral Filho,

I am pleased to send the submission on behalf of the European Union and its 28 Member States in

[REDACTED]

23rd October 2015

**SUBMISSION BY THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ITS MEMBER STATES
ON
INITIAL VIEWS AND PROPOSALS ON THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE PERIOD
2017-2030**

1 Introduction

This submission by the European Union (EU) and its Member States is a response to the invitation by the UNEP to develop and present the development of an International Assessment Report (IAR)

[REDACTED]

2 Elements of a strategic plan for the IAF

The EU and its Member States propose the following indicative outline for the SP, as well as, matters that could be included in its various sections.

2.1 Introduction/context

The EU and its Member States support having an introductory section that should:

Highlight the purpose of the SP, as defined in paragraph 38 of the UNFF11 resolution, which states that the SP should enhance “coherence of and guide and focus the work of the IAF and its members”;

Clearly indicate in a concise manner key messages regarding the importance of forests, like its multi-

world forests, including continued alarmingly high deforestation and forest degradation rates, loss of

Operational targets could also be identified to guide the activities of the IAF and the actions of all stakeholders and partners with a view to supporting the attainment of the above-mentioned mission, vision and substantive objectives/goals. Operational targets could cover issues identified in the UNFF11 resolution,

[REDACTED]

such as, inter alia:

- Enhancing cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies on forest-related issues at all levels, including by strengthening the CPF
- Promoting the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, in

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Major Groups and other stakeholders should continue their relevant and important stakeholder involvement 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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

and in implementation, and in the end in funded activities.

The **Global Forest Financing Framework Network (GFFFN)** has a paramount role to play to facilitate the

Make better use of existing MAR systems on forests

To limit member states' reporting burden, existing reporting processes and formats (e.g. UNFF, FAO
FRA-CRD, ITTO, UNECC, REDD+, Forest Europe, Montreal process, UNECE etc.) should be

used as far as possible;

Streamlining and harmonization of reporting vis-a-vis other reporting processes;

The reporting cycle could be synchronized with other relevant forest related reporting processes.

The EU and its MS would like to see the following elements regarding MAR in the Strategic plan:

Concerning monitoring of the implementation of the IAE strategic plan and its different components