Statement by the Scientific and Technological Major Groups for the 2020 High Level Segment

The Scientific and Technological Major Group welcomes the invitation to submit inputs/building blocks for the segment declaration and hereby submit the following brief statement for consideration.

Science and Technology is crucial for our understanding of the dynamics of forests and pivotal for the achievement of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM). The central vision of the UNSPF is to achieve sustainable management of all types of forests. The six Global Forest Goals embodied in the UNSPF are the key interventions to achieve SFM and contribute to sustainable development.. When SFM is achieved remarkable welfare would be brought to mankind through direct contribution to poverty alleviation (SDG 1), food and nutrition security (SDG 2), health and wellness (SDG3), dean water (SDG 6), sustained supply of forest-based biofuels (SDG 7), climate change mitigation and adaptation (SDG 13), biodiversity conservation and reversal of land degradation and desertification (SDG 15).

Among the common principles underpinning the UNSPF and the post-2015 Development Agenda is the need for evidence-based framework for Monitoring, Assessing and Reporting.

We urge member states to scale up national scientific activities and encourage collaboration across scientific and policy communities.

We also urge the scientific communities to redesign the national and regional scientific research agenda to reflect the relevant goals and targets of the UNSPF and the SDGs to ensure the timely achievement of the goals. The forum should actively promote the application of science and technology for sustainable management of all types of forests.