



- 1- Preparations for UNFF19
  - a. Update by the Chair and UNFFS Director on their meetings with senior government, and relevant stakeholder representatives regarding the UNFF19 High Level Segment (HLS)
  - b. Preparation of the zero draft UNFF19 HLS Declaration, and its finalization; required steps and timelines
  - c. Issues to be included in the UNFF19 omnibus resolution, required steps and timelines
- 2- UNFF intersessional activities on the preparations for the IAF midterm review
  - a. Update on the preparations for the open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc expert group (AHEG) on the preparations for the IAF midterm review, its program, and outcome
  - b. Preparations of the zero-draft outcome on the IAF midterm review after AHEG
- 3- Update by the UNFF19 Vice-Chair (Islamic Republic of Iran) on his participation in the ECOSOC Management Segment meeting (8 June 2023) on behalf of UNFF19 Chair
- 4- Update on the discussions and outcome of the CPF Retreat
- 5- Other matters

Ambassador Maniratanga, Chair of the UNFF19 Bureau, opened the meeting, and welcomed the Bureau members, the UNFF Secretariat and the UNFF Secretary to the second meeting of UNFF19 Bureau. He introduced the provisional agenda for the meeting, which was adopted by the Bureau.

The Chair and UNFF Secretariat Director briefed the Bureau on meetings held with DESA Under-Secretary General Li Junhua and the President of ECOSOC, Ambassador Lachezara Stoeva (Bulgaria), regarding UNFF19 and to request their support in encouraging high-level participation from member states. The Bureau also agreed that a meeting should be arranged with the incoming President of ECOSOC to follow-up on this matter. In addition to the letter from the President of ECOSOC, the official invitation by the Secretary General to UNFF19, which is in the form of a Note Verbale, will be sent in advance of the session and would encourage high level participation in the Forum.

The UNFFS Director also informed the Bureau of bilateral meetings held with senior officials from France, Cameroon, and Germany in conjunction with the International Conference of Ministers on Transboundary Transhumance, organized from 10 to 12 July in Yaoundé by the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP). She emphasized the strategic value of engaging regional and sub-regional bodies such as the African Forest Forum and the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization as a point of entry for contacts with member states regarding UNFF19. She also informed that letters have been sent to the Chair of the G77 and China and the Head of the Delegation of the European Union, with the intention of setting up a meeting in September to encourage participation of the senior officials of their membership in the UNFF19 HLS.

In reference to the discussions during the first meeting of the Bureau, including the need for agreeing on the HLS declaration in advance of UNFF19, the UNFF Secretariat proposed a series of steps for preparing the UNFF19 zero draft HLS Declaration. To ensure a transparent and inclusive consultation process, it was suggested that the Chair could send a letter to members of the Forum to request their input on the topics which they would consider important for inclusion in the zero-draft declaration. Based on the received inputs, the Bureau would then develop a preliminary zero-draft and conduct informal consultations on this draft, with the view to finalizing it by the end of March 2024. The informal consultations would be held in New York in a hybrid format. It was also proposed that the informal consultations be led jointly by two members of the Bureau, with consideration for North-South and gender balance. As for the timeline, it was suggested that the Bureau set a deadline at the end of September for submission of inputs from member states.

The Bureau agreed with the proposed course of actions. In response to the invitation by the Chair, Ms. Leticia Zamora accepted to be one of the co-chairs to conduct the informal consultations on the draft HLS declaration. The Chair is consulting with the Bureau on who will take the role of the second co-chair for these informal consultations.

The UNFF Secretariat recalled that the UNFF19 would have two negotiated outcomes: the HLS declaration and an omnibus resolution. Currently, there are three main categories of issues for inclusion in the UNFF19 omnibus resolution, namely, the International Arrangement on Forests midterm review (IAF-MTR), the quadrennial programme of work of the Forum for 2025-2028, and decisions on routine and operational issues related to the work of the Forum, such as monitoring and reporting (MAR), and the activities of the Global Forest Finance Facilitation Network (GFFFN).

To facilitate the discussions during UNFF19, it was proposed that the Chair could request inputs from Member States and UNFF partners and stakeholders on issues which they consider important to be included in the quadrennial programme of work

Mr. Javad Momeni briefed the Bureau on his participation in the roundtable discussion on Transformation is possible: Actions from the ECOSOC System during the ECOSOC Management Segment meeting on 8 June. The discussion was aimed to collect key messages from ECOSOC Subsidiary Bodies to feed into the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development convened under the auspices of the Council. Mr. Momeni participated on behalf of the UNFF18 Chair. His intervention underlined the importance of healthy forests in achieving sustainable development, and the need to unite behind the goal of reversing forest loss and degradation. He also