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The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST

ቀን 4/12/2013  
Date  
ቁጥር 3/1.1/1523  
Ref.No.

Mr. Macharia Kamau  
Chair of the UNFF11 Bureau  
New York, NY 10017

Dear Sir,

We thank you for requesting to complete the Format for Soliciting Views and Proposals on the international Arrangement on Forests (IAF). From the background of the format we do understand that several sessions of meetings/discussions have been conducted and decisions were made since its establishment. We also do understand that the format need to be completed based on the performances and achievements of the series of decisions made before.

Indeed, our office the Ministry of Environment and Forest is new and on restructuring. Formerly, the forestry sector was just a unit /small unit/ in the Ministry of Agriculture. For reasons of staff turnover and many other cases, we found it difficult to know about what has been going with regard to the subject we are here requested.

However, referring to one of the experts remaining in the office, and because he has reported to participate in one of the meetings, we are here trying to fill the questionnaire from his says and 5 pages attached herewith. This has some incompleteness, and we are very sorry for all the inconveniencies. We only can guarantee now we would try to be in the best of our capacity for the future.

Sincerely,

**Kebede Yimam**  
**State Minister**



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Country/Organization: Ethiopia

Date of Submission: 29 November, 2013

**UNFF Intersessional Activities on the International Arrangement on Forests  
Format for Soliciting Views and Proposals on the International Arrangement on Forests  
United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat  
July 2013**

1. According to the multi-year programme of work adopted in 2007, the overall theme of the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF11) in 2015 will be "Forests: progress, challenges and the way forward for the international arrangement on forests (IAF)." At this session, the Forum will review the effectiveness of the IAF and decide on its future.<sup>1</sup>

2. In preparation for UNFF11 in 2015, the Forum has made a number of decisions during the last fourteen years.<sup>2</sup> Most recently, Member States through Resolution 10/2 of UNFF10 decided to undertake several intersessional activities to ensure UNFF11 has a strong basis to review the effectiveness of the IAF and make a decision on the future of the IAF.

3. One of the three components of the intersessional activities on the IAF, as outlined in Resolution 10/2 of UNFF10, is to solicit views from Member States and other relevant stakeholders on the IAF. Specifically, the Resolution invites countries, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, its member organizations, other relevant organizations, relevant regional and subregional forest-related mechanisms, institutions, instruments, organizations and processes, major groups and other stakeholders to submit views and proposals to the Forum's Secretariat on the six key issues set out in paragraph 5 of the same resolution, and the full range of options on the future international arrangement on forests. The UNFF Secretariat should provide the compilation of these views and proposals to the first meeting of the ad hoc expert group (AHEG1) on the IAF<sup>3</sup>.

4. This format has been prepared by the Forum's Secretariat to facilitate submission of the inputs on the IAF to AHEG1. The electronic version of this format is available at: (<http://www.un.org/esa/forests/docs/Views-on-IAF.doc>). Member States and other relevant stakeholders are invited to download this format and use it to submit their views and proposals in English. The explanation in each box should not exceed 150 words. Member States and other stakeholders are kindly requested to submit the original copy of the completed format in word processing software, with a scanned copy of the official letter from their respective organization/ministry/mission, via email to: [unff@un.org](mailto:unff@un.org), with copy to Mr. Hossein Moeini-Meybodi at: [moeini-meybodi@un.org](mailto:moeini-meybodi@un.org), and Ms. Thida Sam at: [sam2@un.org](mailto:sam2@un.org). All inputs should be sent to the UNFF Secretariat by **30 October 2013**.

<sup>1</sup> Resolution 1 of UNFF7 and its annex (E/2007/42), please see:

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N07/349/31/PDF/N0734931.pdf?OpenElement>

<sup>2</sup> ECOSOC Resolutions 2000/35 and 2006/49, Resolution 1 of UNFF7 and its annex (E/2007/42) and Resolution 2 of UNFF10 and its annex (E/2013/42)

<sup>3</sup> OP 5 and 6 of Resolution 2 of UNFF10 and paragraph 2 of its annex- Please see:

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N13/321/90/PDF/N1332190.pdf?OpenElement>



**Format for Soliciting Views and Proposals on the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF)  
July 2013**

**Ministry / Organization:** Ministry of Environment and forest

Name of official submitting the views: Ato Tefera tadesse, Director, NRM on behalf of HE Ato Kebebe Yimam, State Minister of Forest Sector

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**Section A: Full range of options for the IAF**

A.1 Please select (with X in front of the options below) and explain the preferred option for the future of the IAF:

- A legally binding instrument on all types of forests
- Strengthening of the current IAF
- Continuation of the current IAF
- Other options (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

**Section B: Performance of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and its processes since 2000, and future options for UNFF**

B.1 Please explain if you consider the current UNFF structure and its biennial sessions as sufficient to take necessary actions and to provide policy advice and guidance on all issues related to all types of forests and at all levels: The current UNFF structure and its biennial sessions are sufficient enough to take necessary actions related to all types of forests.

B.2 Please describe the UNFF's performance and list its key achievements in implementing its principal functions, as stated in ECOSOC resolutions 2000/35 and 2006/49<sup>4</sup>: UNFF has performed better. Among its principal functions, the achievements of UNFF in facilitating implementation of forest-related agreements and provision of continued policy development and dialogue among Governments and international organizations ranked first.

<sup>4</sup> Please see these documents at:

- [http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/2000\\_35\\_E.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/2000_35_E.pdf)
- [http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/iaf/2006\\_49\\_E.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/pdf/iaf/2006_49_E.pdf)



B.3 Please provide your view on the future options for the UNFF: UNFF should continue for the future as the issue of forests is not a one time go and still there are different forest related issues needing further consideration.

B.4 Please describe the potential roles for UNFF in implementing the UN post-2015 development agenda and the SDGs: As UNFF is a forum established to undertake forest related issues, it will have a potential role to play both in the Post-2015 development agenda as well as SDGs; in the area of environmental sustainability and conservation of resources for development.

B.5 Please describe the role and impact of Country-Led Initiatives and ad hoc expert groups in the work of the UNFF: The role and impact of country-led initiatives and ad-hoc expert groups UNFF were important for the forum as in-depth discussions of some of the very complex and politically sensitive issues during regular sessions of each processes were managed by them.

B.6 Please indicate how effective you consider the engagement of major groups in the work of the UNFF and provide suggestions on their further engagement: The engagement and participation of major groups in the work of the forum were adequate and effective.

B.7 Please explain the role and impact of the International Year of Forests and the International Day of Forests in promoting greater awareness and strengthening political and public commitment for forests: Both the IYF and International Day of Forests were important experiences in connection to forests. They were important in raising public awareness on the socio-economic and environmental roles of forests. They were also a good opportunity to showcase success stories, build partnerships between different stakeholders, encourage public participation at all levels, and build awareness on important forestry issues.

**Section C: The Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests (Forest Instrument) and the four Global Objectives on Forests (GOFs)**

C.1 Please indicate progress in the implementation of the forest instrument:

Adequate  
 Inadequate  
 Not sure

C.2 Please provide suggestions on how to improve progress:

C.3 Please indicate progress in achieving the GOFs:

	Adequate	Inadequate	Not sure
GOF1:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GOF2:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GOF3:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GOF4:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



C.4 Please provide suggestions on how to improve progress:

C.5 Please explain how implementation of the forest instrument has contributed to the implementation of forest-related international conventions, and vice versa: It created fertile ground for negotiation and international conventions.

C.6 Please describe how the forest instrument and the GOFs can contribute to the post-2015 UN development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals: The forest instrument and GOFs will contribute to the environmental sustainability dimension of Post-2015 development agenda and to the conservation of resources for development in SDGs.

**Section D: The Forum's Secretariat**

D.1 Please indicate if you consider the structure, human and financial resources of the compact Secretariat of the UNFF adequate to fulfill its mandates:

Adequate  
 Inadequate  
 Not sure

Additional explanation:

D.2 Please provide suggestion(s) on strengthening the Secretariat of the Forum to enable it to fulfill its functions more effectively: -

D.3 Please provide suggestion(s) on how the Forum Secretariat's role, as a CPF member and as CPF secretariat, should be strengthened: -

**Section E: CPF and CPF Member Organizations**

E.1 Please explain the impacts and sufficiency of the programs and actions taken by CPF and CPF member organizations in implementing resolutions and supporting the work of UNFF since its inception:

E.2 Please describe how the CPF and its member organizations can further contribute to the work of the UNFF, and how to ensure availability of necessary resources for its activities in support of the work of the Forum:

**Section F: Financing options and strategies**



F.1 Please provide views on financing options and strategies, including the creation of a voluntary Global Forest Fund, to generate resources from all sources for sustainable management of all types of forests and trees outside forests: The availability of voluntary Global Forest Fund will be very important to attain SFM objective; however, it should not be overlapping with REDD+ international fund mechanism being under discussion at the UNFCCC.

F.2 Please suggest concrete steps that UNFF, CPF members and other organizations should undertake to develop forest financing options: -

