



ROYAL NORWEGIAN  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

Unitet Nations Forum on Forests

Your ref

Our ref

Date

06/263-

10.12.2013

**Norwegian submission - IAF**

Reference is made to the letter from the UNFF director with an invitation to submit views on IAF. Please find enclosed the submission from Norway

Yours sincerely,

  
Frode Lyssandtræ  
Deputy Director General

  
Silje Trollstøl  
Senior Adviser

*This document has been signed electronically and therefore it is not signed by hand*

Country/Organization: NORWAY

Date of Submission: 9.12.13

**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**.

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<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 Agriculture and Food, Norway

Name of official submitting the views: Silje Trollstøl

Address: p.o. box 8007 Dep, 0030 OSLO

Phone/Fax:

E-mail:

**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) We do not want to elaborate on our preferences for the future, as they will depend on the ongoing review and on the development of other processes towards 2015. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**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: UNFF has been positive as a policy forum of the UN. It has been valuable to have forests on the agenda at this level in the UN system. The development of the NLBI was important for providing policy advice, and for a common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management. The UNFF sessions preceding the adoption of the NLBI has covered different issues as set out in the work programme.

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>: The NLBI is the major achievement of the UNFF.

<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: Reference is made to A1.

B.4 Please describe the potential roles for UNFF in implementing the UN post-2015 development agenda and the SDGs: Reference is made to A1.

B.5 Please describe the role and impact of Country-Led Initiatives and ad hoc expert groups in the work of the UNFF: These groups have given input to the countries and provided discussion on certain items.

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: It is important that any international arrangement on forests is open and inclusive, and facilitates participation of stakeholders, be it as major groups or as other types of stakeholder groups.

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: The International Year of Forests gave an opportunity to show off the forest sector.

**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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GOF2:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GOF3:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GOF4:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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:

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: We think this Question is premature. We will have to develop the goals before describing how the forest instrument and the GOFs can contribute to these.

#### **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: In its present form, we do not see the need for strengthening the UNFF secretariat.

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: The CPF has been a valuable partnership and an important part of the IAF, as a framework in its effort to enhance sustainable forest management

#### **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:

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