

Statement by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

For agenda item 4 State of the World's Forests 2024

Your excellencies,

Distinguished delegates

We thank FAO for producing the State of the World Forest 2024 report and welcome its outcomes that provide an analytical foundation for planning and the implementation of the KMGBF. As properly managing forests sustains 80% of terrestrial biodiversity including within protected areas the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of forests is crucial if we want to achieve transformation across all the Goals and all of the Targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework.

The global and regional trends that underpin forest biodiversity conservation and sustainability pathways laid out in the SOFO report will be highlighted at the Forest Day at the CBD COP16 in Colombia, Cali in October this year.

At the COP16 the country Parties will decide on the revision of Programmes of Work including on Forest Biodiversity. The analysis and data contained in the SOFO report will assist in this important process.

Finally, the CBD Secretariat highly appreciates the collaboration with FAO Forestry on further enhancement of the Framework of Ecosystem Restoration Monitoring and capacity-building efforts for the countries to set up, monitor and implement the national restoration targets and the National Biodiversity Strategies and Actions Plans. This technical and scientific support is invaluable to countries as they work towards their biodiversity goals.

Thank you, Chair.