



COMMITTEE ON FORESTRY

Twenty-seventh Session

22 - 26 July 2024

The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030 and mainstreaming biodiversity in forestry

Thank you Chair.

1. Tanzania speaks on this agenda item 8.3 and is in full support of the Africa Regional Group statement and position.
2. The ARG supports the FAO initiative in addressing ecosystem degradation through promotion of restoration actions for 10 years. Landscape's degradation affects biodiversity both flora and fauna and a result affects human wellbeing.
3. We note that Biodiversity, ecosystems, species, and genetic resources are the basis of society and a sustainable economy. While the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) estimated that 1.6 billion people depend directly on forest for their livelihoods especially on developing nations such as those in Africa the rate of ecosystem degradation and biodiversity losses in forests in increasing.
4. As the committee put substantial efforts in addressing issues related to collection and dissemination of evidence-based management practices to effectively address human-wildlife conflict urging members to collaborative on Sustainable Wildlife Management we urge the committee to;
 - a) Urge member countries to strengthen measures to curb increasing illegal transboundary wildlife trade for many purposes. This is

because the trafficking and unsustainable trade in wildlife commodities such as elephant ivory, rhino horn, pangolin scales, tiger bone, bear bile, and rosewood are causing unprecedented declines in some of the world's most charismatic wildlife species in the continent.

- b) Urge members to collaboratively restore landscapes using natural systems and native species to avoid the growing threats of invasive species in our forest landscapes and protected wildlife areas. We propose that this intervention should as well come clearly in the proposed “comprehensive FAO Global Programme on Biodiversity Mainstreaming in Forestry, with a planned duration of five years (2024-2028).

We thank you