

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil

Environment Department

Biodiversity Division

Brazil's statement on COFO Item 6 – SOFO 2024

I. Suggested actions:

C) Brazil believes that bioeconomy transcends the realm of forests and even agrifood systems, with a variety of sectors, approaches and stakeholders involved that far exceed FAO's mandate. Therefore, our proposal aims to strengthen the treatment of the theme within the FAO, in a members-led manner, under the specific mandate of the Committee on Forestry. In that sense, we do not favor FAO initiating a multistakeholder bioeconomy partnership.

D) Brazil could accept FAO convening an international conference on the role of the forest sector in the bioeconomy, provided members have clarity and control over the final outcome envisaged for said conference.

II. Draft paragraphs on Brazilian proposal:

In accordance with Paragraph 10 of Rule XXXI of FAO's Basic Texts, the Committee established an Ad Hoc Working Group on Principles of Sustainable Forest-based Bioeconomy and invited the FAO Council at its 176th Session to endorse the Ad Hoc Working Group. The Committee adopted the Statutes for the Ad Hoc Working Group, as given in Appendix __ to this report.

The Committee should consider at its next session the intersessional work of the Working Group.

The Committee tasked the Ad Hoc Working Group to draft principles of sustainable forest-based bioeconomy for food and agriculture.

The Committee took note of the budgetary implications of holding sessions of subsidiary bodies and recommended that the FAO Council request FAO, subject to the availability of extra-budgetary resources, to convene the Ad Hoc Working Group before the Twenty-eighth Session of the Committee.

DRAFT STATUTES OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON SUSTAINABLE FOREST-BASED BIOECONOMY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Article I – Terms of Reference

The Ad Hoc Working Group on Sustainable Forest-based Bioeconomy for Food and Agriculture (Ad Hoc Working Group) shall draft principles of sustainable forest-based Bioeconomy for food and agriculture.

Article II – Composition

Each region may appoint through its Steering Committee Member up to five representatives as Members of the Ad Hoc Working Group.

Article III – Officers

The Ad Hoc Working Group shall elect two Co-Chairs from among the representatives of Members of the Working Group at the beginning of each session. Both Co-Chairs shall preside over the meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group and exercise such other functions as may be required to facilitate its work.

Article IV – Observers

Representatives from members of the Committee on Forestry may attend meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group as observers.

Article V – Application of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee on Forestry

The provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee on Forestry shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to all matters not specifically dealt with under the present statutes.