

## **27th Session of the Committee on Forestry - Written Correspondence Procedure**

### **Item 8.6 Decisions and recommendations of FAO Bodies of interest to the Committee (COFO/2024/6.6)**

#### **Secretariat response to written inputs from Members**

The secretariat expresses its appreciation for the comments from Members on Item 8.6 Decisions and recommendations of FAO Bodies of interest to the Committee (COFO/2024/6.6).

The secretariat took note of Japan's support of FAO's efforts to submit a Voluntary Code of Conduct for the sustainable use and management of plastics in agriculture (VCoC) at the 29th Committee on Agriculture (COAG 29) and Japan's recommendation to share information about the COAG discussions on the VCoC during the 27th Session of COFO.

The secretariat took note of the comment of the United States of America on the use of the term "forest-based bioeconomy approaches". The secretariat wishes to note that item 6 of the COFO 27 provisional agenda: *Enhancing the contribution of forestry to bioeconomy – opportunities and challenges* will allow for opportunities to discuss the subject in depth.

The secretariat appreciates the United States of America's suggestion for COFO and FAO be part of the global conversation on agriculture and forestry linkages. At the 27th Session of COFO this topic will be considered by the Committee under Item 5 of the provisional agenda: Scaling up actions on agriculture and forestry linkages. Relevant document for this item is COFO/2024/3, which includes update on progress in policy and global actions, and on FAO's work on agriculture and forestry linkages in the relevant Programme Priority Areas (PPAs) under the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31, including, among others, "Better Nutrition 1: Healthy diets for all" (BN1), "Better Nutrition 2: Nutrition for the most vulnerable" (BN2), "Better Life 3: Achieving sustainable urban food systems" (BL3), and "Better Environment 2: Bioeconomy for sustainable food and agriculture" (BE2). Further information on the implementation of the COFO 26 recommendations including on paragraph 17 of the Report of the 26th Session of COFO can be referred to in the document COFO/2024/INF/5.

The secretariat took note of New Zealand's recommendations with regard to the decisions and recommendations of FAO Bodies of interest to the Committee, to be considered by the Committee when addressing the items 5, 9.2 and other relevant items of the Committee's provisional agenda.

The secretariat took note of Mexico calling on FAO to support its Members to improve complementarity between the agriculture and forest sectors and in achieving sustainable and resilient development. The secretariat recalls that in particular items 5 and 7 of the provisional agenda would allow for Members further discussion and guidance on the subject.

The secretariat took note of the request of the Russian Federation to take into account and to indicate in the conclusions of this agenda item the voting nature of a number of decisions and recommendations of the 171st, 172nd, 174th Sessions of the FAO Council, the 28th Session of the COAG and the 24th Session of the Regional Conference for Europe. The secretariat also took note of the Russian Federation's support to FAO's participation in the UN inter-agency work on the implementation of the Five-Year Action Plan within the scope of FAO's mandate, and the request to refer to related decisions by the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission in the conclusions.