

## **26th Session of the Committee on Forestry - Written Correspondence Procedure**

### **Item 8.1 Decisions and recommendations of FAO bodies of interest to the Committee**

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

The Secretariat expresses its appreciation for the comments from Members on Item 8.1 Decisions and recommendations of FAO bodies of interest to the Committee.

The secretariat took note of the comment by Japan regarding the results and effects of structural changes in FAO, which makes reference to the recommendation of COFO25. The FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 intends to achieve a transformation to MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems for *better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life*, leaving no one behind. With a more modular and flexible organizational structure that allows for optimal cross-sectoral collaboration, FAO is well equipped to achieve the objectives of the Strategic Framework and to focus more strongly, and in a more coordinated way, on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Positive results of these changes are visible in the integrated approach taken at the current round of sessions of the Technical Committees, through joint agenda items on climate change, biodiversity, science and innovation and intersectoral linkages, including forestry and agriculture, based on new, organization-wide strategies on these cross-cutting issues.

The Secretariat appreciates the support of New Zealand to its work on the interlinkage between forests and food security as well as strengthened coordination between COFO and COAG and welcomes the request to integrate forestry in its work on agrifood systems. Through its work on non-wood forest products, FAO is promoting the sustainable use of biodiversity and is supporting the development of diverse and sustainable value chains, particularly for smallholders. In this context, the Secretariat also appreciates the emphasis by New Zealand on new technologies and digital innovation in forestry that is accessible to all communities and Indigenous Peoples.

The Secretariat took note of the support of Argentina to further strengthening the coordination between COFO and COAG and to more intersectoral work by FAO.

The Secretariat also took note of the appreciation of the Russian Federation of the summary of decisions and recommendations of FAO bodies of interest to the Committee.