UN FORUM ON FORESTS (UNFF)

About UNFF
The UN Forum on Forests was established by ECOSOC in 2000, with the objective to promote “… the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests and to strengthen long-term political commitment to this end …”. The Forum has universal membership, and is composed of all Member States of the UN and specialized agencies.

UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2030
The UN Strategic Plan for Forests (UNSPF 2030) was adopted by ECOSOC resolution 2017/4 and GA resolution 71/285, in 2017. Aligned with the SDGs, the Plan set six Global Forest Goals to be achieved by 2030 to sustainably manage all types of forests and trees, halt deforestation and forest degradation and increase forest area by 3%. The Plan provides a global framework of forest-based actions to contribute to the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement, among others. The Forum is the main intergovernmental body to monitor progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

16th session of the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF16)
UNFF16 was held virtually in April 2021. At the session:

- Member States, international and regional organisations, and stakeholders took stock of implementation of the UNSPF 2030, and held a High-level Round Table on major forest-related developments.
- The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on forests and the forest sector were assessed and recommendations were made on how to minimize the impacts.
- The ‘Global Forest Goals Report 2021’ was launched, as the first assessment of progress towards the achievement of the six Global Forest Goals and 26 targets of the UNSPF 2030.
- The Clearing House for the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network was launched, featuring three online databases on funding opportunities, learning materials and good practices related to accessing resources for sustainable forest management.
- Policy proposals were identified for consideration at the Forum’s 2022 policy session.
- The Forum’s programme of work for 2022-24 was adopted.
- Input was provided to the 2021 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.