



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
9 May 2025

Original: English

United Nations Forum on Forests

Twentieth session

New York, 5–9 May 2025

Agenda item 9

Adoption of the report of the Forum on its twentieth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Maria Sokolenko (Russian Federation)

Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The United Nations Forum on Forests held its twentieth session at Headquarters on 10 May 2024 and from 5 to 9 May 2025. The Forum held ___ meetings.
2. At the 1st meeting, on 10 May 2024, the Chair pro tempore and Chair of the nineteenth session of the Forum, Zéphyrin Maniratanga (Burundi), opened the twentieth session.
3. At the 2nd meeting, on 5 May 2025, the Chair of the twentieth session, İsmail Belen (Türkiye), resumed the session and made an opening statement. Statements were also made by the President of the Economic and Social Council, Robert Rae (Canada) (pre-recorded video), the President of the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly, Philemon Yang, and the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

[To be completed]

B. Election of officers

4. At its 1st meeting, the Forum elected, by acclamation, İsmail Belen (Türkiye) as Chair and Javad Momeni (Islamic Republic of Iran), Abderrahim Houmy (Morocco) and Andrés Napurí Pita (Peru) as Vice-Chairs of its twentieth and twenty-first sessions.
5. At the same meeting, the Forum elected, by secret ballot, Maria Sokolenko (Russian Federation) as Vice-Chair of its twentieth and twenty-first sessions.
6. At its 2nd meeting, the Forum appointed Ms. Sokolenko to serve concurrently as Rapporteur of its twentieth and twenty-first sessions.



C. Agenda and organization of work

7. At its 2nd meeting, the Forum adopted its provisional agenda, as contained in document [E/CN.18/2025/1](#).

8. At the same meeting, the Forum approved the provisional organization of work for the session, as circulated in an informal paper in English only, on the understanding that adjustments might be made, if necessary, during the session.

9. Also at the same meeting, the Chair recalled that the session was a technical session for implementation and technical advice and that a Chair's summary of the discussions would be transmitted as an input of the Forum to the 2025 and 2026 sessions of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council.

D. Attendance

10. In accordance with paragraph 4 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35, the Forum is composed of all States Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies, with full and equal participation. The list of participants will be issued as document [E/CN.18/2025/INF/1](#).

E. Documentation

11. The documentation considered by the Forum is available at www.un.org/esa/forests/forum/index.html.
