



## Economic and Social Council

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### United Nations Forum on Forests

#### Organizational session

12 and 16 February 2001

Agenda item 6

#### Adoption of the report of the Forum on its organizational session

### Draft report

*Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur:* Knut Øistad (Norway)

## I. Introduction

1. By its resolution 2000/35 of 18 October 2000, the Economic and Social Council decided to establish the United Nations Forum on Forests as a subsidiary body of the Council. The main objective of the international arrangement on forests is to promote the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests and to strengthen long-term political commitment to this end. The United Nations Forum on Forests would, inter alia, within five years, consider, with a view to recommending to the Economic and Social Council and through it to the General Assembly, the parameters of a mandate for developing a legal framework on all types of forests. The Forum would also take steps to devise approaches towards appropriate financial and technology transfer support to enable the implementation of sustainable forest management.

## II. Organization of the session

### A. Opening and duration of the session

2. In accordance with paragraph 7 (a) of Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35, the United Nations Forum on Forests held its organizational session at United Nations Headquarters on 12 and 16 February 2001. The Forum held \_\_ meetings (1st to \_\_).

3. The session was opened by Mr. Mubarak Hussein Rahmtalla (Sudan).



4. The Coordinator and Head of the Secretariat for the United Nations Forum on Forests delivered an opening statement on behalf of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs.

## **B. Attendance**

5. 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 States members of the specialized agencies with full and equal participation. Representatives of the following States attended the session:

[To be included]

6. The following United Nations offices and organs were represented:

[To be completed]

7. The following specialized agencies were represented:

[To be completed]

8. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented:

[To be completed]

9. The following non-governmental organizations were represented:

[To be completed]

## **C. Election of officers**

10. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 12 February 2001, the Forum elected the following officers by acclamation:

*Chairman:*

Mubarak Hussein Rahmtalla (Sudan)

*Vice-Chairmen:*

Slamet Hidayat (Indonesia)

Alexey Kornienko (Russian Federation)

Gustavo Suarez de Freitas (Peru)

*Vice-Chairman-cum Rapporteur:*

Knut Øistad (Norway)

## **D. Agenda**

11. At its 2nd meeting, on 12 February, the Forum considered its provisional agenda for the session (E/CN.18/2001/1).

12. The representative of Norway proposed that a new item be inserted to read "Progress towards the establishment of the collaborative partnership on forests".

13. The Forum then adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/CN.18/2001/1, as orally amended. The agenda, as amended, was as follows:

1. Election of officers and determination of the duration of their terms of office.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Consideration of all proposals and options on the location of the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests.
4. Progress towards the establishment of the collaborative partnership on forests.
5. Other matters.
6. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its organizational session.

#### **E. Documentation**

14. The Forum had before it the following documents:

[To be completed]

#### **F. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its organizational session**

[To be completed]

### **III. Consideration of all proposals and options on the location of the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests**

15. At the 2nd meeting, on 12 February, the Forum considered item 3, entitled “Consideration of all proposals and options on the location of the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests”. Presentations of offers to host the secretariat were made by the representatives of Costa Rica and Switzerland, and by the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

16. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Nigeria (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and Sweden (on behalf of the European Union).

[To be completed]

### **IV. Progress towards the establishment of the collaborative partnership on forests**

17. At its 2nd meeting, on 12 February, the Forum considered agenda item 4 entitled “Progress towards the establishment of the collaborative partnership on forests”, and heard a statement by the Assistant Director-General of the Forestry Department of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, on behalf of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Forests.

18. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Costa Rica, Nigeria (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and Sweden (on behalf of the European Union).

[To be completed]

**Annex**

**Decisions taken at the organizational session**

[To be completed]

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