

Fifth Session of the Assembly
25-27 October 2021, Hybrid

Agenda Item 9.3

Engagement plan for the UN General Assembly, UN Conventions, and other meetings and fora in 2022

1. Recalling that AFoCO was granted Observer status by the UN General Assembly in December 2020, AFoCO is receiving a standing invitation to participate as Observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly. In 2019, the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) included AFoCO as an accredited intergovernmental organization. In October 2021, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) recognized AFoCO and granted accreditation for its participation at CBD meetings. In 2021, the Secretariat submitted for accreditation to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which is due for consideration at the UNFCCC COP 27 in 2022. At this backdrop, the Secretariat will start following and engaging in UNFF discussions and explore involvement at the UN General Assembly events, and meetings of relevant conventions where appropriate. The following meetings will be considered.

- Side event with FAO at the UNFF, 9-13 May 2022
- High-Level segment for the UN General Assembly, 13-27 September 2022
- Update on the accreditation to UNFCCC COP 27, possible side event at COP27, 7-18 November 2022
- Second part of the CBD COP 15, April 2022
- UNCCD COP 15, May 2022

2. As AFoCO was first proposed through the ASEAN-ROK platform, the Secretariat has been regularly invited to the meetings of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF) to share updates from AFoCO and its activities. Participation at the ASOF meeting in 2022 will be considered.

3. In November 2019, the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration (GPFLR) granted membership to AFoCO. Also, an initial discussion with the Collaborative Partnership on Forest (CPF) was organized in September 2021 on possible areas of cooperation. The Secretariat will keep follow-up communications for potential joint activities with the GPFLR and CPF in line with the UN Decade of Ecosystems Restoration.

Points for consideration

4. The Assembly may wish to take note of the plan, and endorse the participation of the Secretariat to meetings, forums, and relevant events of UN Organization and Conventions, and other international organizations, as appropriate.
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