



of the COVID-19 pandemic across all SDGs and the integrated, indivisible, and interlinked nature of the Goals.

Moreover, in accordance with the general guidance provided in annex I to Economic and Social Council resolution 2020/14 of 17 July 2020, the proposals contained in the Chair's summary of the discussions of the sixteenth session of the Forum will be submitted for consideration by UNFF17. Among the proposals is " (g) Emerging issues: impact of COVID-19 on forests and the forest sector" .<sup>4</sup> The UNFF Secretariat is currently conducting a global assessment of the challenges faced by countries, and the strategies, recovery measures and best practices implemented for reducing the impact of COVID-19 on forests and the forest sector. The assessment will identify and elaborate on:

- a. the challenges faced by countries in addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on forests and the forest sector;
- b. the strategies and recovery measures being adopted by countries in combatting the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on forests and the forest sector; and
- c. best practices adopted by countries and other stakeholders for reducing the impact of COVID-19 on forests and the forest sector.

### Objective

The main objective of the meeting is to mobilize and strengthen engagement with major groups, regional and subregional partners, and other stakeholders in support of the implementation of the UNSPF, and to prepare for the forthcoming UNFF17 session. The main issues raised by the stakeholders will be forwarded to UNFF17 for consideration.

### Format

The meeting will have a facilitator and be comprised of two main presentations: the linkages between the GFGs and targets and the SDGs under review by HLPF 2022, as well as international forest-related developments; and the current state of the COVID-19 impact assessment. A highly interactive discussion with participants on both issues will be encouraged and facilitated, with the support of the UNFF secretariat.

### Outcome

The meeting will result in a summary of interactive discussions, including views expressed by the participants and their findings and conclusions. It will serve as an input to the Note by the UNFF secretariat to UNFF17.

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<sup>4</sup> [N2112062.pdf \(un.org\)](#)

