Updated roadmap for the negotiation process

Note by the Bureau

I. Introduction

1. At the first meeting of the third session held in Antalya 28 January – 1 February 2013 the Committee considered the Updated roadmap for the negotiation process (Document 3/INC3).

2. The Committee noted that a clear updated roadmap is needed from now to INC4, from INC4 to the extraordinary FOREST EUROPE ministerial conference, and as appropriate, for the period after that conference. Upon the request of the Committee the secretariat updated the roadmap (Document 3/INC3R), taking into account Chair's Summary of the of discussions at the First Week of the Third Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe. Based on this the presented note was prepared by the Bureau.

3. At the third resumed session in St. Petersburg the Committee is expected to address the revised roadmap as presented in this document.

II. Sessions of the Committee in 2013

A. Third Resumed Session (3-5 April 2013)

4. At the first meeting of the third session held in Antalya 28 January – 1 February 2013 the Committee agreed to continue at its resumed session detailed consideration of the Draft negotiating text for a legally binding agreement on forests in Europe, 1 February 2013 (Document 2/INC3R). The Committee is expected to further advance the draft negotiating text by concluding the formulation of paragraphs where possible. The Committee is expected to address compliance; terms and definitions; finance and secretariat arrangements, including possible interim solutions; and possibilities for bringing the agreement under the United Nations umbrella as well as any other pending issue. The Committee is also invited to consider the draft Annex on arbitration.

5. At the first meeting of the third session the Committee also discussed the Analytical document on some of the key aspects involved in deciding on bringing the legally binding agreement under the United Nations umbrella (Document 5/INC3) and its Annexes. The Committee agreed to further consider key issues for deciding on bringing the agreement under the United Nations umbrella at the resumed session in St. Petersburg. The Committee may wish to formulate recommendations on this issue.
6. According to the provisions of the Oslo Mandate, the Committee should present its results to an extraordinary FOREST EUROPE Ministerial Conference, which would take place within six months of the conclusion of negotiations, for consideration, possible adoption and opening for signature. During the third session held in Antalya 28 January – 1 February 2013 the Committee consented that the resumed session in St. Petersburg should discuss and decide whether and when the INC would draft a resolution for presenting the results of the negotiations to the extraordinary FOREST EUROPE ministerial conference to be held later this year in Madrid.

B. Fourth Session (10-14 June 2013)

7. The fourth session will take place on 10–14 June 2013 in Warsaw, Poland. At the fourth session the Committee should conclude its work on the entire draft negotiating text, including any parts left pending in preceding sessions and elaborate relevant recommendations for consideration by the extraordinary FOREST EUROPE ministerial conference. If decided at the third resumed session, the Committee should also draft a resolution for presenting the results of the INC to an extraordinary ministerial conference to be held later this year.

III. Period from INC4 to the extraordinary FOREST EUROPE ministerial conference

8. The current mandate of the Committee, its Chair and Bureau will expire by the date of the extraordinary FOREST EUROPE ministerial conference, to which the Committee will report on its results. The multi-donor project under which secretariat support is provided to the process is expected to be concluded on 31 December 2013. The last session of the Committee is planned to be held in June 2013, according to the timeframe set in the Oslo Mandate. The Committee may wish to consider measures necessary for delivering the draft of the legally binding agreement to the extraordinary FOREST EUROPE ministerial conference, and give guidance to the Bureau and the secretariat for any action needed in this regard.

IV. Consideration of the interim period after the extraordinary FOREST EUROPE ministerial conference

9. The extraordinary FOREST EUROPE ministerial conference would need to consider the immediate period after the conference, including the adoption of the agreement, the opening of the agreement for signature and it’s coming into force (and until the first Conference of the Parties). The extraordinary ministerial conference would need to decide on necessary arrangements to be implemented during that period. These arrangements could include, inter alia, preparing for the adoption of the agreement, the opening of the agreement for signature and it’s coming into force, the first Conference of the Parties and the corresponding preparatory measures between these steps. The decision regarding bringing the agreement under the UN umbrella may impact some of these arrangements.

10. The Committee may wish to initiate a discussion on recommendations to the extraordinary FOREST EUROPE ministerial conference for establishing timely effective interim arrangements after the conference, including interim governing and servicing arrangements.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preliminary date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Expected results/milestones</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 2011 – December 2011</td>
<td>Inception phase Organization of the secretariat, nomination of Bureau members; preparatory Bureau meetings</td>
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| 27 February 2012 – 2 March 2012     | INC1  
1. Organizational matters  
2. Providing guidance on developing a first draft negotiating text  
3. Discussion on the work plan of the Committee, intersessional activities and modalities for stakeholder participation | Guidance on developing a first draft negotiating text  
Decision on a work plan (roadmap)  
Decision on intersessional activities and modalities for the participation of stakeholders |
| March 2012 – May 2012               | First draft of the negotiating text prepared                            | First draft of negotiating text prepared on the basis of INC1 guidance                        |
| 1 June 2012                         | Draft negotiating text (English version only) circulated                 | Draft negotiating text (English version only) circulated                                       |
| April 2012 – August 2012            | Any other work requested by the Committee  
Preparations for INC2 |                                                                                               |
| 3–7 September 2012                  | INC2  
1. First reading of the draft negotiating text  
2. Detailed consideration of the amended draft negotiating text  
3. Consideration of the possibility of bringing agreement under the UN umbrella (24.g.)  
4. Consideration of organization and streamlined secretariat arrangements (24.f.) | Draft negotiating text considered and views incorporated into advanced version  
Conclusion of all possible elements of draft negotiating text  
Updated work plan (roadmap) |
| September 2012 – December 2012      | Intersessional work as requested by the Committee  
Preparations for INC3 |                                                                                               |
| October 2012                        | Distribution of the advanced draft of the negotiating text (IC2 Report and Annex D) |                                                                                               |
| 27-28 November 2012                 | CLI Expert meeting on terms and definitions, Madrid, Spain | Report to with background information to be submitted to the Secretariat by Spain, to be made available six weeks in advance of INC3 |
| 28 Jan 2013 – 1 Feb 2013            | INC3  
1. Further consideration of the draft negotiating text, including:  
   - compliance;  
   - terms and definitions;  
   - finance and secretariat arrangements, including possible interim solutions;  
   - and possibilities for bringing the agreement under the UN umbrella | Parts/chapters of negotiating text concluded by Committee |
| March 2013                           | Distribution of the advanced draft of the negotiating text                |                                                                                               |
| 3-5 April 2013                      | Resumed Session of INC3  
1. Further consideration of the draft negotiating text, including:  
   - compliance;  
   - terms and definitions;  
   - finance and secretariat arrangements, including possible interim solutions;  
   - and possibilities for bringing the agreement under the UN umbrella | Parts/chapters of negotiating text concluded by Committee  
Recommendation on whether to bring the agreement under the United Nations Umbrella |
| February 2013 – June 2013            | Any other work requested by the Committee  
10-14 June 2013 | Conclusion of negotiating text and all organizational components |
<p>| INC4                                |                                                                 |                                                                                               |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To be determined at the Resumed INC3 Session</th>
<th>Final reading of the negotiating text</th>
<th>Preparatory work prior to the Ministerial Conference, to be determined</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To be determined</td>
<td>Final reading of the negotiating text</td>
<td>FOREST EUROPE Extraordinary Ministerial Conference</td>
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