

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
of 3 March 2020
on the Conservation, Use and Equitable sharing of Forest Ecosystems

MEMBER STATES,

- *Recognizing* the impact of climate change on forests and sustainable forest management, as well as the contribution of forests to addressing climate change,
- *Recognizing* that forests and trees outside forests provide multiple economic, social and environmental benefits, and emphasizing that sustainable forest management contributes significantly to sustainable development and poverty eradication,
- *Reaffirming* the special needs and requirements of countries with fragile forest ecosystems, including those of low-forest-cover countries,
- *Stressing* the need to strengthen political commitment and collective efforts at all levels, to include forests in national and international development agendas, to enhance national policy coordination and international cooperation and to promote inter-sectoral coordination at all levels for the effective implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests,
- *Emphasizing* that effective implementation of sustainable forest management is critically dependent upon adequate resources, including financing, capacity development and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies, and recognizing in particular the need to mobilize increased financial resources, including from innovative sources, for developing countries, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition,
- *Also emphasizing* that implementation of sustainable forest management is also critically dependent upon good governance at all levels,

- *Noting* that the provisions of this instrument do not prejudice the rights and obligations of Member States under international law, in particular the sovereign right to exploit natural resources,

Have committed themselves as follows:

Article 1
(Objectives)

The objectives of the Convention on International Convention on the Conservation, Use and Equitable Sharing of Forest Ecosystems, referred to as the Convention, to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions, are the conservation of forest ecosystems, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of forest ecosystems, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding.

Article 2
(General Measures for Conservation and Sustainable Use)

Each Contracting Party shall, in accordance with its particular domestic conditions and capabilities:

- (a) Develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of forest ecosystems with their national jurisdiction or adapt for this purpose existing strategies, plans or programmes which shall reflect, inter alia, the measures set out in this Convention relevant to the Contracting Party concerned;
- (b) Integrate, as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of forest ecosystems into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies; and

- (c) Measure changes to the extent and quality of forest ecosystems and report these changes annually to a global registry on forest health and ecosystem benefits.

Article 3
(Authentic texts)

The original of this Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized to that effect, have signed this Convention.