

MEMBER STATES,

- *Recognizing* the stipulations of Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant United Nations declarations relating to forests,
- *Emphasizing* the impact of climate change on forests and sustainable forest management, as well as the contribution of forests to addressing climate change,
- *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* the relevance of the United Nations 2030 Development Agenda and the United Nations

Sustainable Development Goals,

- *Noting* that the provisions of this instrument do not prejudice the rights and obligations of Member States under international law,

Have committed themselves as follows:

Article 1

Invites Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to sign this Protocol on Reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation;

Article 2

Invites Parties to further strengthen and support ongoing efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation on a voluntary basis;

Article 3

Encourages all Parties, in a position to do so, to support capacity-building, provide technical assistance, facilitate the transfer of technology to improve, inter alia, data collection, estimation of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, monitoring and reporting, and address the institutional needs of developing countries to estimate and reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation;

Article 4

Further encourages Parties to explore a range of actions, identify options and undertake efforts, including demonstration activities, to address the drivers of deforestation relevant to their national circumstances, with a view to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and thus enhancing forest carbon stocks due to sustainable management of forests;

Article 5

All Parties should collectively aim at halting forest cover loss in developing countries by 2030 at the latest and reducing gross deforestation in developing countries by at least 50 per cent by 2025 compared to current levels.

Article 6

Funding shall be based on an appropriate and effective international funding mechanism. The Conference of the Parties shall, at its 15th session, establish such a funding mechanism. At its 16th session, the Conference of the Parties shall supplement the relevant principles, modalities, rules and guidelines for funding of all phases, including decisions on linkage to the carbon-market under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and pursuant with Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.